

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The First Sunday of the Spring Term
The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, January 31, 2016

PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES UPON ENTERING
THE SANCTUARY OF THE MEMORIAL CHURCH.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in G major, Op. 37, No. 2

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

HYMN

No. 1, verses 1 & 4, “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

Old Hundredth

The congregation standing

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: God alone is our refuge and hope,
Our shelter and protection.

All: From our very first breath to our last,
God’s love and compassion never fails.

Minister: Come and lift your voices in praise to God.
Bear witness to God’s acts of mercy and love.
Proclaim God’s glory to all who will listen.

All: Let us worship God together.

Inspired by Psalm 71

HYMN

No. 187, “The Spacious Firmament on High”

Creation

The congregation standing

INVOCATION

CONFESSION

In unison:

Holy God, we confess that we are too reluctant to speak and to live according to your truth. We grow comfortable with the way things are, passively condoning injustice. We see ourselves as insiders and exclude those we consider outsiders. We find it easier to pluck up and pull down, to destroy and overthrow, than to build and to plant. Forgive us, O God, for being timid disciples. Empty us of fear and shame, and fill us with love that is humble and patient and kind. Forgive us and heal us, through Jesus Christ, your love incarnate. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE PEACE

All are invited to join in the singing of Hymn No. 27, verse 1.

GREETINGS

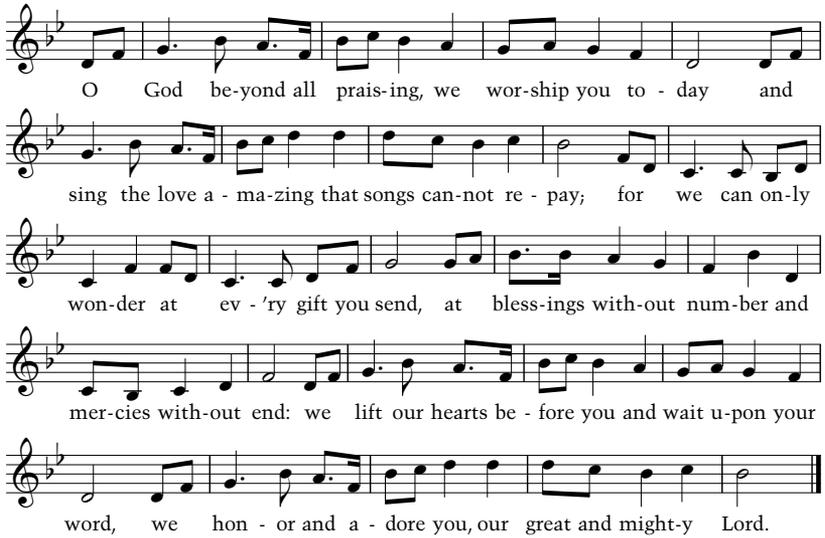
Children now join their teachers in the Church School.

OFFERTORY

Fugue in G minor, K. 401

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)

Here an offering is received for the work of the Church within and beyond the University. Users will begin the collection from the back of the Church forward.



O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to - day and
sing the love a - ma-zing that songs can-not re - pay; for we can on-ly
won-der at ev - 'ry gift you send, at bless-ings with-out num-ber and
mer-cies with-out end: we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait u-pon your
word, we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might-y Lord.

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1921, alt.

Text: Michael Perry, © by Jubilate Hymns, Ltd. (admin. by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188).

PSALTER

Psalms 71:1–6

Pew Bible, page 495 (OT)

To be read responsively; the congregation standing

GLORIA PATRI

See Hymn No. 371

FIRST LESSON

1 Corinthians 13:1–13

Pew Bible, page 153 (NT)

ANTHEM

“And Then Shall Your Light Break Forth” from *Elijah*, Op. 70

Felix Mendelssohn

And then shall your light break forth as the light of morning breaketh,
And your health shall speedily spring forth then;
And the glory of the Lord ever shall reward you.
Lord our creator, how excellent thy name is in all the nations!
Thou fillest heaven with glory. Amen.

Adapted from the Bible by Julius Schubring (1806–1889)

SECOND LESSON

Luke 4:21-30

Pew Bible, page 53 (NT)

ANTHEM

“Sing the Lord, Ye Voices All” from *The Creation*, Hob. XXI:2

Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

Sing the Lord, ye voices all,
Magnify his name through all creation.
Celebrate his power and glory,
Let his name resound on high.
Praise the Lord. Utter thanks.
Jehovah’s praise for ever shall endure. Amen.

Gottfried Baron van Swieten (1733-1803)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Let us pray.
Lord, show us your love and mercy.

People: For we put our trust in you.

Minister: In you, Lord, is our hope.

People: And we shall never hope in vain.

Each time the minister says “Lord, in your mercy,” the congregation will respond with “Hear our prayer.”

THE LORD’S PRAYER

In unison:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE GRACE

In unison:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

HYMN

No. 249, “Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”

Song 13

The congregation standing

SERMON

Another Kind of Love Story

HYMN

No. 138, "Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness"
The congregation standing

Was Lebet

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Allegro assai vivace" from *Sonata in F minor*, Op. 65, No. 1

Felix Mendelssohn

OUR MISSION

The Memorial Church of Harvard University is a space of grace in the center of the Yard, rooted in the good news of Jesus Christ. Affectionately known as "MemChurch," we pursue partnerships within and beyond Harvard, empowering community members to serve the world as well-informed, compassionate, moral citizens. Through worship and ministry outreach, MemChurch aims to promote justice and mercy by confronting life's challenges, differences, and our own imperfections with courage, empathy, and an ethic of love. By doing so, the Memorial Church seeks to educate minds, expand hearts, and enrich lives.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, January 31, 2016

WELCOME

Today is the First Sunday of Spring Term and the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany. The preacher is the Reverend Alanna Copenhaver, Ministry Fellow in the Memorial Church. The service is led by the Reverend Dr. Lucy A. Forster-Smith, Sedgwick Chaplain to the University and Senior Minister in the Memorial Church, and Seminarians Danny Ballon MTS II and Adam Vander Tuig MDiv III. The first lesson is read by Carol Weston. The second lesson is read by Emma van der Heide '18.

The liturgy is adapted from "Chosen as Witnesses," *Worship Ways* by John A. Nelson, ucc.org; "Worship Resources for January 31, 2016," *Rev-o-lution* by Mindi Welton-Mitchell, rev-o-lution.org; and *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion* edited by Kimberly Long, Westminster John Knox Press, 2012.

Listening devices are available to help the hearing impaired participate in the service; please ask an usher for assistance. Following the service, the congregation is invited to a reception in the Memorial Room.

WELCOME TABLE

Want to learn about the Memorial Church? Stop by the Welcome Table to learn more about our array of events, programs, and ministries. Questions are encouraged!

PRAYER REQUEST CARDS

Prayer request cards are available in the pew card holders or in the church lobby. We would be honored to pray for your specific needs. Please place prayer request cards in the offering plates during worship services or in the prayer request box in the church lobby.

MORNING PRAYERS SPEAKERS: FEBRUARY 1 – 6, 8:45 A.M.

Monday: Racha Kirakosian; Tuesday: Erika Carlsen MDiv '15; Wednesday: Tyler VanderWeele PhD '06; Thursday: Katherine Blaisdell MDiv III and MPA '16; Friday: Tola Omilana '16; Saturday: Ingrid Norton MTS II

Following each service of Morning Prayers on Wednesdays, free coffee and snacks will be available at MemCafé from 9:00–10:15 a.m. on the steps of the church across from Widener Library. All are welcome!

CHURCH SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

The Church School offers Christian education classes for children of ages three through twelve. Classes are held in the Buttrick Room during Sunday services and emphasize biblical themes and scripture. At the conclusion of the worship service, parents are asked to pick up their children in the Buttrick Room promptly.

All families of the Church School are invited to a Valentine's Card Making Party on Sunday, February 7, at 12 p.m. in the Buttrick Room. Contact Church School Director, Westley (Wes) Conn, at westley_conn@harvard.edu for more information.

ORGAN RECITAL

The Memorial Church's spring 2016 organ recital series kicks off this Tuesday, February 2, at 7:30 p.m. Featuring George Bozeman, Organist and Organ Builder, the concert is free, and all are invited.

THE OFFICE OF COMPLINE

A service of Compline, which combines candlelight, plainsong, polyphony, prayer, scripture, and silence, will be held this Thursday evening, February 4, at 10:00 p.m. Music is provided by the Harvard University Choir. All are welcome.

FAITH & LIFE FORUM

Held every Sunday morning during the Term, the Faith & Life Forum takes place in the Pusey Room of the Memorial Church from 9:30–10:30 a.m., but all are invited to gather for coffee and conversation at 9:00 a.m. The Faith & Life Forum will resume next Sunday, February 7; the Reverend Alanna Copenhaver will give the presentation.

EVENSONG

Next Sunday, February 7, at 4:00 p.m. in Appleton Chapel, the Harvard University Choir will sing the service of Evensong under the direction of Dr. Barry Rose, former Master of the Choir at St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

The staff of the Memorial Church will host a pancake supper in the Buttrick Room on Shrove Tuesday, February 9, beginning at 7:00 p.m. This event is free and all are welcome.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

On Wednesday, February 10, Lent begins with the Liturgy of the Day and the Imposition of Ashes, from 12:00 to 12:30 p.m. in the sanctuary of the church. All are invited.

BOOK LAUNCH PARTY

On Sunday, February 14 at 12:30 p.m., please join us to celebrate the release of the Reverend Dr. Lucy Forster-Smith's book *Crossing Thresholds: The Making and Remaking of a 21st-Century College Chaplain*. The event will be held in the Pusey Room. All are welcome!

MUSIC NOTES

To mark the opening of the Spring Term, the Harvard University Choir presents choruses from two well-known oratorios. A prodigiously talented composer and conductor, Felix Mendelssohn led the premiere of his oratorio *Elijah* in the Birmingham Festival of 1846. The work was received enthusiastically: a reporter from *The Times* wrote, "The last note of *Elijah* was drowned in a long-continued unanimous volley of plaudits, vociferous, and deafening." It was the crowning glory of the composer's immensely successful career, but sadly it was also one of his last works: he died the following year at the age of 38. "And Then Shall Your Light Break Forth" is the majestic closing chorus from the oratorio and is particularly appropriate during the season of Epiphany.

During Joseph Haydn's stay in London in 1791, two things happened to the composer that would provide the inspiration for the composition of his most beloved masterpiece, *The Creation*. The first was attending concerts of Handel's oratorios, performed by massed choral forces, in Westminster Abbey. The second was a visit to the court astronomer—and accomplished musician—William Herschel. Haydn peered through the astronomer's pioneering telescope and was enchanted by the view. "Sing the Lord, Ye Voices All" is the oratorio's majestic final chorus, a hymn of praise to the divine creator.

Felix Mendelssohn's works for organ set a new, forward-looking standard for organ composition in the nineteenth century while simultaneously harking back to the traditions and spirit of the German baroque, specifically to the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. This morning's prelude features a lilting opening movement followed by a more angular, chromatic fugue; our postlude is the virtuosic final movement of the first organ sonata.

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Last Sunday after the Epiphany. The preacher will be the Reverend Dr. Gail R. O'Day, Dean and Professor of New Testament and Preaching, Wake Forest School of Divinity.

For more information on upcoming services and events:

memorialchurch.harvard.edu • facebook.com/memorialchurch • twitter.com/memchurch

To subscribe to the Memorial Church e-mail list, visit our website: memorialchurch.harvard.edu.

