

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 22, 2013

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

“Two Preludes” from *Six Short Preludes and Postludes* *Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)*
On a Theme of Orlando Gibbons (Song 34)
Lento in G Major

HYMN

No. 1, verses 1 & 4, “All People That on Earth Do Dwell” *Old Hundredth*
The congregation standing

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens.
People: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains.
Minister: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
People: We feast on the abundance of your house,
Minister: For with you is the fountain of life;
People: In your light we see light.

INVOCATION

CONFESSION

In unison:
Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sin, and whose mercy we forget: Cleanse us from all offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires; that humbly we may draw near to thee, confessing our faults, confiding in thy grace, and finding in thee our refuge and our strength, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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.

HYMN

No. 13, “Come, O Come, in Pious Lays” *Salzburg*
The congregation standing

GREETINGS

Children now join their teachers in the Church School.

THE PEACE

AT THE OFFERTORY

“Gavotte” from *Partita No. 3*, BWV 1006

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Nancy Zhou '15, violin

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

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

PSALTER

Psalm 16: 5–11

Pew Bible, page 459 (OT)

To be read responsively

GLORIA PATRI

See Hymn No. 371

LESSON FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Jeremiah 18:1–8

Pew Bible, page 679 (OT)

ANTHEM

Beati Quorum Via

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford

Beati quorum via integra est: Qui ambulant in lege Domini.

Blessed are they whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

Psalm 119:1

LESSON FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Luke 16:1–13

Pew Bible, pages 68–69 (NT)

ANTHEM

Locus Iste

Anton Bruckner (1824–1896)

Locus iste a Deo factus est, inestimabile sacramentum, irreprehensibilis est.

This place was made by God; a priceless holy place, it is without fault.

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 GRACE

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. 81, "Lord of All Hopefulness, Lord of All Joy" *Slane*
The congregation standing

SERMON

Pleasantly Falling Boundaries

HYMN

No. 285, "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" *Cwm Rhondda*
The congregation standing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Komm, Heiliger Geist, BWV 651 *Johann Sebastian Bach*

The preacher this morning is the Reverend Dr. Serene Jones, President Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York. The first lesson is read by Claire Townsend '17, Matthews Dorm. The second lesson is read by Matthew Pasquini '16, Adams House. The service is led by Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Jordan Sharick, Seminarian, and Alanna Copenhaver, Ministry Fellow.

For more information on upcoming services and events, please visit our website at www.memorialchurch.harvard.edu. You can also find us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/memorialchurch) and Twitter (twitter.com/MemChurch).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, September 22, 2013

WELCOME

Today is the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher this morning is the Reverend Dr. Serene Jones, President Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York. The first lesson is read by Claire Townsend '17, Matthews Dorm. The second lesson is read by Matthew Pasquini '16, Adams House. The service is led by Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Jordan Sharick, Seminarian, and Alanna Copenhaver, Ministry Fellow. 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.

MORNING PRAYERS SPEAKERS: SEPTEMBER 23 – 28, 8:45 A.M.

Monday: Donald Pfister; Tuesday: Justin Mathew '14; Wednesday: Alastair Su '14; Thursday: Donene Williams; Friday: Leon Welch; Saturday: Annie Morgan '14

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

TUESDAY ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

The Memorial Church's biweekly Tuesday organ recital series continues on October 1 at 7:30 p.m. Welcoming Italian artist Luca Massaglia, our instruments will be featured in three works of Bach; also included are compositions of Mendelssohn, Franck, and Langlais. The concert is free, and all are invited. Please email christian_lane@harvard.edu for more information.

NEW BIBLE STUDY SERIES

Join us this Wednesday, September 25 at 7:00 p.m. for the first session of our new Bible Study program, "Reading the Bible in its World for Your World." Over the course of the academic year (2013–14), Professor Walton will lead six evening discussion sessions aimed at teaching and facilitating a socio-historical reading of the Bible, using the same exegetical method he employs when preparing his Sunday morning sermons. For more information, please contact Community Relations Coordinator Nora Lessersohn at nora_lessersohn@harvard.edu.

FAITH & LIFE FORUM

The Faith & Life Forum seeks to deepen our devotional lives by promoting religious literacy and cultural competency concerning communities of faith. Held every Sunday morning during the Term before the 11:00 a.m. worship service, the presentations take place in the Pusey Room of the Memorial Church from 9:30–10:30 a.m., but you are invited to gather for coffee and conversation at 9:00 a.m. The next Faith & Life Forum, "Biblical Love Songs with Lamentations and the Song of Songs," will be held on Sunday, September 29. Professor Stephanie A. Paulsell and Professor Harvey G. Cox, Jr. from Harvard Divinity School will give the presentation.

PASTORAL CARE / PRAYER SPACE

The Reverend Ann Stevenson will be at the church Wednesdays – Sundays. Appointments may be made for pastoral or spiritual conversations at 617-496-3217. Additionally, the Memorial Church Sanctuary and Appleton Chapel are open throughout the day as a quiet prayer or meditation space.

CHURCH SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

The Church School offers Christian education classes for children 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 promptly pick their children up in the Buttrick Room. A committed staff of undergraduate teachers work closely with the Church School Coordinator, Brianna Goodlin. Contact Brianna at briannagoodlin@college.harvard.edu for more info.

MUSIC NOTES

It is a great pleasure to present the Harvard University Choir of 2013–14, and to welcome its new members. Sir Charles Villiers Stanford studied at Cambridge University, and also in Leipzig and Berlin, where he was a pupil of Carl Reinecke: while in Germany, he became an ardent devotee of the music of Johannes Brahms, whose influence is strongly heard throughout Stanford's oeuvre. Stanford was later the organist of Trinity College, Cambridge, before moving to London as the first professor of composition at the new Royal College of Music, where his notable students included Gustav Holst, Herbert Howells, and Ralph Vaughan Williams. His contribution to the revival of Anglican Church music at the end of the nineteenth century is unparalleled. Of all Stanford's motets and anthems, the *Three Latin Motets* are the most regularly sung, and were written as graces to be performed before meals on feast days in the hall of Trinity College. "Beati quorum via" is the lyrical second motet, which explores the various textural combinations of a six-part choir.

For almost a century, the reputation of the Austrian composer Anton Bruckner rested solely on his epic symphonies, but while the composer didn't tackle symphonic form until he was in his forties, his involvement with church music stems from his childhood. The son of a village schoolmaster and organist, Bruckner was a choirboy in the Augustinian monastery of St. Florian, before assuming the post of cathedral organist in his hometown of Linz. His beloved motet *Locus Iste* was composed in 1869 for the dedication of the Votive Chapel in the newly built Linz cathedral — in the same service the monumental *Mass in E Minor* received its premiere. An elegant, beautiful miniature, it was described by the musicologist Deryck Cooke as Bruckner's "exquisite personal distillation of Mozart's church style."

Stanford's organ music has long been overshadowed by his choral works, despite the high quality of the five large-scale organ sonatas. The prelude consists of two pieces from the *Six Short Preludes and Postludes*, composed in 1907: the first is a meditation on Orlando Gibbons's *Song 34*; the second is an elegiac movement in G Major. The chorale prelude — a liturgical composition based on an existing chorale — figures prominently in the oeuvre of Johann Sebastian Bach, and his collection known as the *Great Eighteen* shows this compositional form at its pinnacle; today's postlude is the opening work of that collection. Based on Luther's hymn *Veni, sancte spiritus* (Komm, Heiliger Geist), it is a majestic, continuous musical fantasia whose chorale theme is declaimed by the pedal in thundering long notes.

RECOMMENDED READINGS FROM THE PUSEY MINISTER

NonFiction: George Packer; *The Unwinding: An Inner History of the New America* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2013)

"American democracy is beset by a sense of crisis. Seismic shifts during a single generation have created a country of winners and losers, allowing unprecedented freedom while rending the social contract, driving the political system to the verge of breakdown, and setting citizens adrift to find new paths forward." (*Book description from Amazon*)

Fiction: Edwidge Danticat, *Claire of the Sea Light* (Knopf, 2013)

"On her seventh birthday, a girl wakes up in a shack by the sea. She has no mother; her father, a fisherman, is considering giving her away. As that setup suggests, this novel has some of the feel of a fairy tale. But its ethereal qualities are offset by its stark portrayal of life in small-town Haiti; the combination makes for a lovely book to read, by the sea or anywhere else." (Kathryn Schulz, *New York* magazine)

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher will be the Reverend Dr. Stephanie A. Paulsell, Houghton Professor of the Practice of Ministry Studies, Harvard Divinity School and Affiliated Minister, the Memorial Church.

For more information on upcoming services and events:

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