

HARVARD

The Memorial Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 17, 2013

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: 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. 23, “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Hymn to Joy

The congregation standing

GREETINGS

Children now join their teachers in the Church School.

THE PEACE

AT THE OFFERTORY

Gabriella's Song

Emir Meyer, Flugelhorn

Emir Meyer

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 98:1–9

Pew Bible, page 514–515 (OT)

To be read responsively; the congregation standing

GLORIA PATRI

See Hymn No. 371

LESSON FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 65:17–25

Pew Bible, pages 655–656 (OT)

ANTHEM

“How Lovely Are the Messengers” from *St. Paul*

Felix Mendelssohn

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace!
To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words,
Throughout all the lands their glad tidings.
How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace!

LESSON FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

II Thessalonians 3:6–13

Pew Bible, page 183 (NT)

ANTHEM

Geistliches Lied

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

Laß dich nur nichts nicht dauren
Mit Trauren, Sei stille!
Wie Gott es fügt,
So sei vergnügt Mein Wille.

*Let nothing ever grieve you;
Be at peace.
Whatever God ordains,
Accept it gladly, my soul.*

Was willst du heute sorgen
Auf morgen?
Der Eine steht allem für;
Der gibt auch dir das Deine.

*Why do you worry today about tomorrow?
The One is Lord of all;
He also gives to you
That which is yours.*

Sei nur in allem Handel
Ohn Wandel, Steh feste!
Was Gott beschleußt,
Das ist und heißt das Beste. Amen.

*In all things be not inconstant;
Stand firmly.
Whatever God ordains is
And signifies the best. Amen.*

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. 201, "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"
The congregation standing

London New

SERMON

Get a Life!

Text: "Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right."

II Thessalonians 3:6-13

HYMN

No. 333, "God of Grace and God of Glory"
The congregation standing

Regent Square

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Choral" and "Allegro molto" from *Sonata VI in D Minor*, Op. 65, No. 6

Felix Mendelssohn

The preacher this morning is Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church.

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, November 17, 2013

WELCOME

Today is the Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost. The preacher is Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister, The Memorial Church, Harvard University. 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: NOVEMBER 18–23, 8:45 A.M.

Monday: Julia Slayton; Tuesday: John Stauffer; Wednesday: Logan McCarty; Thursday: Nancy Zhou '16; Friday: Spritely Roche MDiv I; Saturday: Ayodeji Ogunnaike

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!

THANKSGIVING FOOD & COAT DRIVE

Today is the last day that we will collect non-perishable food items (cans and boxes) and gently used or new winter jackets for donation to Casa Nueva Vida, an organization that serves homeless families with children in Jamaica Plain and Lawrence, MA. Please place food and clothing items in the boxes provided in the back of the church.

TODAY: BENJAMIN BRITTEN'S ST. NICOLAS

To celebrate the centenary of the birth of Benjamin Britten, one of the foremost composers of church music in the twentieth century, the Harvard University Choir presents his dramatic cantata *St. Nicolas* today at 4:00 p.m. Based on the life and legacy of the fourth century Bishop of Myra, Britten's wide-ranging score is filled with inventive orchestration, vivid solo writing, and engaging choruses. The title role will be portrayed by Frank Kelley, one of Boston's most celebrated singers and the voice teacher to many Harvard University Choir members; he will be joined by members of Harvard's River Charles Ensemble, and trebles from St. Paul's Church, Harvard Square, for this thrilling work. Free admission.

READING THE BIBLE IN ITS WORLD FOR YOUR WORLD

Professor Jonathan L. Walton will lead the final Fall Term session of our new Bible Study series on Wednesday, November 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Buttrick Room.

THE MICHIGAN RECITAL PROJECT

Saturday, November 23, 3:00 p.m. in the Memorial Church. Free admission. Featuring Emily Marvosh, contralto; Margot Rood, soprano; Joseph Turbessi, piano; Emma Shubin, flute. Featuring music by Michigan composers as well as Michigan-themed selections, a highlight of the program is a set of Ned Rorem songs using the poetry of Theodore Roethke, a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet who grew up in Saginaw.

HBCO CONCERT: "WUNDERKAMMER"

Sunday, November 24, 4:00 p.m. in the Memorial Church. Tickets: \$10 general admission, \$5 students and seniors. The Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra's fall program delves into the library of Dresden — a "cabinet of wonders" filled with the fruits of the multinational appeal of Europe's most virtuosic eighteenth-century orchestra. Featuring works by Lully, Handel, Telemann, Fasch, Albanoni, Locatelli, and Heinichen.

TUESDAY ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

The Memorial Church's biweekly Tuesday organ recital series continues on December 3 at 7:30 p.m. Featuring student members of the Harvard Organ Society, our instruments will be showcased in a variety of colorful repertoire. The concert is free, and all are invited.

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 will be held on Sunday, November 24. The Reverend Ann Stevenson, Minister of Worship and Community Service in the Memorial Church, will give the presentation.

SEASONS OF LIGHT: A MULTI-RELIGIOUS SERVICE TO HONOR THE HOLY DARKNESS AND THE SACRED LIGHT

Tuesday, December 3, 5:00–6:30 p.m. at Harvard Divinity School, Andover Chapel, 45 Francis Avenue, Cambridge. As the nights grow longer and the days shorter, join the Harvard Divinity School community for this beloved annual service honoring the interplay of holy darkness and light in the world's religious traditions. The service includes choral and instrumental music under the direction of Harry Lyn Huff, readings by HDS students, the ritual kindling of many flames, and communal prayers and songs.

MUSIC NOTES

Felix Mendelssohn made the most significant contribution to the nineteenth-century revival of the oratorio form with his two masterpieces *Elijah* and *Saint Paul*. The composer began work on a third large-scale oratorio, *Christus*, based on the life of Christ, but his untimely death prevented its completion. The composer's first oratorio, *Saint Paul*, was premiered in 1836 at the Lower Rhine Music Festival in Düsseldorf; the gently flowing music of "How Lovely Are the Messengers" seems to depict the patter of feet running to spread the good news of Isaiah's prophecy.

Geistliches Lied is Johannes Brahms's earliest accompanied choral work, which was written as part of a series of compositional exercises that the composer traded with Joseph Joachim to improve his contrapuntal writing. The work is a strict double canon at the ninth across the four voices, and yet the sheer beauty of the vocal lines conceals the mathematical wizardry involved in such a contrapuntal feat.

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 — and specifically to the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. This morning's prelude is the central prelude and fugue of the Op. 37 collection: the prelude is very similar in affect to the first anthem, while the fugue subject is rather more angular and chromatic. The postlude features excerpts from the sixth organ sonata, which incorporates the chorale setting of the German Lord's Prayer, "Vater unser im Himmelreich."

CHRISTMAS AT THE MEMORIAL CHURCH

The Christmas Season is fast approaching. Save the date for the 104th Annual Christmas Carol Services on Sunday, December 15 at 5:00 p.m. and Monday, December 16 at 8:00 p.m. and a Christmas Eve Service on Tuesday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE

Next Sunday is Thanksgiving Sunday and the Last Sunday after Pentecost — Christ the King. The preacher will be the Reverend Ann Stevenson.

For more information on upcoming services and events:

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

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