

MARSH CHAPEL AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

University Interdenominational Protestant
Service of Worship
Sunday, December 25th, 2011 - 11:00 a.m.
The Nativity of our Lord

The Reverend Doctor Robert Allan Hill, Dean

✦ *Please rise, as you are able.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Call to Worship and Greeting

The Dean: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

The Dean: The word became flesh and dwells among us!

People: Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth!

✦ **Hymn 240** Hark! the herald angels sing MENDELSSOHN

✦ **Collect** (*in unison*)

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

✦ **Gloria in excelsis** (*sung by all*)

The music to this hymn is found on page 238 of the United Methodist Hymnal, verses 1 and 3.

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Lesson Isaiah 52:7-10

Lector: A lesson from the prophet Isaiah, chapter 52, verses 7-10:

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has

comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem A Christmas Carol

Ned Rorem (b. 1923)

The other night
I saw a light!
A star as bright as day!
And ever among
A maiden sung:
'By-by, baby, lullay'.

This virgin clear
Who had no peer
Unto her son did say,
'I pray thee, son,
Grant me a boon
To sing by-by, lullay'.

"Let child or man,
Whoever can
Be merry on this day,
And blessings bring.
So I shall sing
'by-by, baby, lullay'.

Anonymous, c. 1500

Lesson Hebrews 1:1-4

Lector: A lesson from the epistle to the Hebrews, chapter 1, verses 1-4:

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

The antiphon is sung twice, first by the cantor, and then by cantor and congregation.

♪ **Antiphon** (*sung by all*)



Cantor: O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

People: *The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.*

Cantor: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

People: *All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.*

Cantor: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
People: *break forth into joyous song and sing praises.*

Cantor: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

People: *With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.*

Cantor: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

People: *Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity. ♪*

✦ **Gloria Patri** (*sung by all*)

REGENT SQUARE

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one;
One in might and one in glory, while unending ages run.

✦ **Gospel Lesson** John 1:1-14

Lector: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John,
chapter 1, verses 1-14:
People: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Lector: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

✘ **Hymn 229** Infant holy, infant lowly W ZLOBIE LEZY

Sermon 'Christmas Presence' Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

✘ **Hymn 220** Angels from the realms of glory REGENT SQUARE

Call to Prayer Lead me, Lord (*sung by all*) LEAD ME, LORD

The music to this hymn is found on page 473 of the United Methodist Hymnal.

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness;
Make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only,
That makest me dwell in safety.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Community Life and Offertory

At the Offertory Rejoice greatly (from *Messiah*) G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, thy King cometh unto thee; He is the righteous Saviour,
and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

Zechariah 9:9-10

✘ **Presentation of the Gifts** (*sung by all*) GREENSLEEVES

The music to this hymn is found on page 219 of the United Methodist Hymnal, verse 3.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

✘ Offertory Prayer

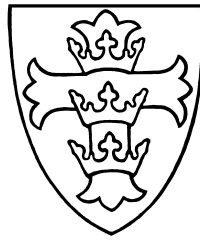
✘ **Hymn 246** Joy to the world, the Lord is come! ANTIOCH

✘ Benediction

Please remain standing until the procession has left the nave.

Postlude

*The preacher is Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean of the Chapel.
The lectors are Rev. Victoria Hart Gaskell, OSL, and Andrew Lynch.
The prayers are offered on behalf of the congregation by Sandra Cole.
The soloist is Margot Rood, soprano.
The organist is Scott Allen Jarrett.*



The Dean, Chaplains, and staff of Marsh Chapel heartily wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season!

MARSH CHAPEL: WINTER BREAK

The **Interdenominational Protestant Worship service**, held on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. **will not be affected** by any of the closures listed below, and will continue to be held each Sunday during Winter Break, including Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Winter Intersession: The University' is currently closed for Winter Intersession. During this period, the **chapel offices will not be open and the building will be closed to visitors**. The University and Chapel offices will reopen at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 2, 2012. Phone messages left at the chapel will be checked daily.

Office Hours: The Marsh Chapel office hours are as follows:

Week of December 26	Offices Closed – Winter Intersession
Week of January 1	Offices Open M-F, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Week of January 8	Offices Open M-F, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Week of January 15	Offices Closed January 16 (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
	Regular office hours resume Tuesday, January 17
	Open 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Weekday Activities: Weekday activities will resume the week of January 15, 2012.

THIS WEEK AT MARSH CHAPEL

TODAY **Christmas Day**
11 a.m. Interdenominational Protestant Worship (Main Chapel)

Weekday Chapel activities have been suspended while students are on Winter Break.
These activities will resume the week of January 15, 2012.

NEXT SUNDAY **New Year's Day**
11 a.m. Interdenominational Protestant Worship (Main Chapel)

WELCOME TO MARSH CHAPEL

We thank you for joining us this Christmas morning for worship, and hope that you have found the Spirit of God in our midst. If you are interested in becoming a member of Marsh Chapel, or have other questions, please feel free to contact any of the Chaplains or Associates listed below.

◀ Hearing Assist System available –please ask an usher. 79.200 MHz

617.353.3560 - chapel@bu.edu - www.bu.edu/chapel

The Chapel office is closed this week for Winter Intersession.

Chapel Staff

Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean and Chaplain of the University
Br. Lawrence A. Whitney, LC+, MDiv STH'09, University Chaplain for Community Life
Ray Bouchard, MTS STH'95, Director of Marsh Chapel
Scott Allen Jarrett, DMA CFA'08, Director of Music
Rachel Cape, BA CAS'11, Director of Hospitality
Justin Thomas Blackwell, MM CFA'09, Associate Director of Music
Herbert S. Jones, Director, Inner Strength Gospel Choir
Rev. Victoria Hart Gaskell, OSL, Chapel Associate for Methodist Students
Liz Douglass MDiv STH'09, Chapel Associate for LGBTQ and UCC Ministry
Soren Hessler, MDiv STH'11, Chapel Associate for Undergraduate Ministry
Rev. Jen Quigley, MDiv STH'11, Chapel Associate for Vocational Discernment
William Allen, Ministry Associate for Judicial Affairs
Michael Brown, Ministry Associate for Judicial Affairs
Allie Hoffman, Ministry Associate for Inner Strength Gospel Choir
Matthew Schmidt, Ministry Associate for Judicial Affairs
Bethany Hutchens, Marsh Associate
Rebekah Philips, Marsh Associate
Katherine Rogers, Marsh Associate
Thomas Middleton and Aram Demirjian, Music Program Administrators
David Ames, Sacristan
Dominique Cheung, George Coulter, Mark Gray, Ushers
Serrie Hamilton, Jay Reeg, Ushers
Heidi Freimanis, Jeannette Lewis, Rebekah Philips, Wedding Coordinators
Serrie Hamilton, Chris Norman, Rebekah Philips, Office Assistants
Jeannette Lewis, Michele Buonanduci, Child Care and Office Assistants

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