Please rise, as you are able.

ORDER OF SERVICE

The congregation is invited into silent prayer prior to the service.

Prelude
In dulci jubilo, BuxWV 197
Interlude on the Coventry Carol
Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)
W. S. Lloyd Webber (1914-1982)

Call to Worship and Greeting

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Introit
People look east
arr. Barry Ferguson (b. 1942)
People look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: love, the guest, is on the way.
Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)

Hymn 220
Angels from the realms of glory
Regent Square

Collect (in unison)

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.
Kyrie
from ‘Mass for Five Voices’

William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)

Kyrie eleison, Lord, have mercy,
Christe eleison, Christ, have mercy,
Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy.

Assurance of Pardon

The Dean: If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

All: Thanks be to God.

Lesson
Isaiah 7:10-16

Lector: A lesson from the prophet Isaiah, chapter 7, verses 10-16:

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem
Canite tuba

Francisco Guerrero (1528-1599)

Canite tuba in Sion,
quia prope est dies Domini:
ecce venit ad salvandum nos.
Erunt prava in directa,
et aspera in vias planas:
veni, Domine, et noli tardare.

Sound the trumpet in Sion,
for the day of the Lord is nigh:
Behold the Lord will come to save us.
The crooked ways shall be made straight,
and the rough places smooth:
Come, O Lord, and delay not.

Antiphon at Vespers, Advent IV

Lesson
Romans 1:1-7

Lector: A lesson from St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans, chapter 1, verses 1-7:

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,
through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19**

The antiphon is sung twice, first by choir alone, and then by choir and congregation.

🎵 *Antiphon (sung by all)*

The God of Abraham praise, all praised be God's name,

who was, and is, and is to be, and still the same!

*Cantor:* Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth!

In the presence of Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh,

stir up your might, and come to save us!

*People:* Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

*Cantor:* O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

*People:* You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.

*Cantor:* You make us the scorn of our neighbors;
and our enemies laugh among themselves.

*People:* Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

*Cantor:* But let your hand be upon those of your right hand,
the ones whom you have made strong for yourself!

*People:* Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name!

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts!

let your face shine, that we may be saved! 🎵
**Gloria Patri**

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*Gloria Patri* et *Filio et Spiritui Sancto.*
*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,*
*world without end. Amen.*

**Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 1:18-25

*Lector:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew, chapter 1, verses 18-25:

*People:* Glory to you, O Lord.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been
engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy
Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace,
planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord
appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your
wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name
him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been
spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they
shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he
did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations
with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.


*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Hymn 229**

Infant holy, infant lowly

*W Zlobie Lezy*

**Sermon**

"Now the Birth"  
Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

**Hymn 237**

Sing we now of Christmas

*French Carol*

**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.

Response

Thou shalt know him

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
Not by any din of drums,
Nor his manners, nor his airs,
Nor by any thing he wears.

Mark Sirett (b. 1952)

Anonymous

Community Life and Offering

At the Offertory

O Maria, vernans rosa

Jacobus Clemens non Papa (c.1512 – 1555/6)

O Maria, vernans rosa,
Porta coeli speciosa,
Clarior sideribus,
Me guberna, me supporta,
Me defende, me conforta
Ne vincar ab hostibus.

Anonymous

Community Life and Offering

At the Offertory

O Maria, vernans rosa

O Mary, rose of spring,
Porta coeli speciosa,
Fair gate to Heaven,
Clarior sideribus,
Brighter than the stars!
Me guberna, me supporta,
Support and direct me,
Me defende, me conforta
Sustain and protect me,
Ne vincar ab hostibus.

Anonymous

Community Life and Offering

At the Offertory

O Maria, vernans rosa

O Mary, rose of spring,
Porta coeli speciosa,
Fair gate to Heaven,
Clarior sideribus,
Brighter than the stars!
Me guberna, me supporta,
Support and direct me,
Me defende, me conforta
Sustain and protect me,
Ne vincar ab hostibus.

Anonymous

Presentation of the Gifts

(sung by all)

Un-to God be praise and__ glo-ry: to the Fa-ther and the__ Son,
to th’e-ter-nal Spir-it__ hon-or now and ev-er-more be__ done;
praise and glo-ry in the high-est, while un-end-ing a- ges__ run.

Presented by PICARDY

Offertory Prayer
Hymn 240  Hark! the herald angels sing  MENDELSSOHN

The congregation may be seated.

Reception of New Members  (United Methodist Hymnal, page 38)

Please stand as you are able to receive the benediction.

Benediction

Response  God be in my head  arr. John Rutter  (b. 1945)

God be in my head and in my understanding.  God be in mine eyes and in my looking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.  God be in my heart and in my thinking.
God be at mine end and at my departing.

Old English Prayer from Sarum Primer

Postlude  Vom Himmel hoch, da komm’ ich her  Johann Pachelbel  (1653-1706)

The preacher is the Reverend Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean of the Chapel.
The conductor and organist is Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett, Director of Music.

THIS WEEK AT MARSH CHAPEL

TODAY  11 a.m.  Interdenominational Protestant Worship (Nave)
        12:00 noon  Coffee Hour (Marsh Room)
        12:30 p.m.  Thurman Choir Rehearsal (Nave)
        12:30 p.m.  Abolitionist Chapel Today (Thurman Room)

Weekday Chapel activities have been suspended while students are on Winter Break.

SATURDAY  1:00 p.m.  Christmas Eve Service (Nave)
            7:30 p.m.  Candlelight Christmas Eve Service (Nave)

NEXT SUNDAY  11 a.m.  Interdenominational Protestant Worship (Main Chapel)
               12:00 noon  Coffee Hour (Marsh Room)
The Dean, Chaplains, and staff of Marsh Chapel wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season!

Marsh Chapel offers two services on Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24: one at 1:00 p.m. and another at 7:30 p.m. A bag lunch is provided following the 1:00 p.m. service. All are warmly invited to attend.

**Winter Intersession:** The University will close for Winter Intersession after business on Friday, December 23 and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3, 2017. During this period, the chapel offices will be closed and the building will be closed to visitors. Phone messages left at the chapel will be checked daily.

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

Marsh Chapel is pleased to offer childcare during Sunday morning services. Inquiries can be made in the main office on the lower level of the building.

We are happy to provide free parking for the Sunday morning service (11:00 a.m.) in the lot behind the College of Arts and Sciences (accessible via Bay State Road).

**Stewardship:** We invite your generous financial support of Marsh Chapel for 2017: consider endowing the deanship (a $4 million gift); consider a pledge (cards available, for use at offertory) to estimate, for our planning, your 2017 giving; consider a planned gift (will or bequest, with help from Sharon Wheeler of BU); or consider a percentage of income gift (from 1% up to 10%), as a new discipline in 2017. The Lord loves a joyful giver! We so appreciate your support!
We thank you for joining us this 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 open 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. weekdays, and on Sunday mornings.
Marsh Chapel Sunday morning services are broadcast live on WBUR 90.9 FM.

The Reverend Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean and Chaplain of the University

Jessica Chicka, STM STH’11, University Chaplain for International Students
Br. Lawrence A. Whitney, LC†, MDiv STH’09, University Chaplain for Community Life
The Reverend Victoria Hart Gaskell, Chapel Associate for Methodist Students
The Reverend Soren Hessler, MDiv STH’11, Chapel Associate for Leadership Development
The Reverend Jen Quigley, MDiv STH’11, Chapel Associate for Vocational Discernment
Matthew Cron, Devin Harvin, Ian Quillen, Marsh Associates
Nick Rodriguez, Denise-Nicole Stone, Kasey Shultz, Marsh Associates

Scott Allen Jarrett, DMA CFA’08, Director of Music
Justin Thomas Blackwell, MM CFA’09, Associate Director of Music
David Ames, Sacristan
Justin Thomas Blackwell, MM CFA’09, Operations Manager, Music at Marsh Chapel
Herbert S. Jones, Director, Inner Strength Gospel Choir
Sean Watland, Conducting Fellow, Marsh Chapel Choir
Margaret Weckworth, MM CFA’15, Phoebe Oler, Music Program Administrators

Ray Bouchard, MTS STH’95, Director of Marsh Chapel
Heidi Freimanis-Cordts, Jeannette Lewis, Wedding Coordinators
Susan Piersa, Ian Quillen, Sonya Stanczyk, Office Assistant
Cierra Brown, Ellis Brown, Kaelyn Brown, Dominique Cheung, Charles Cloy, Ushers
George Coulter, Mark Gray, Ratna Lusiaga, Beth Neville, Jay Reeg, Ushers