The Reverend Doctor Robert Allan Hill, Dean

 mixins

Hearing Assist System available—please ask an usher. 79.200 MHz

Please rise, as you are able.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

Prelude Berceuse Paraphrase George Baker (b. 1951)

Call to Worship and Greeting

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

Introt Veni, veni, Emmanuel Chant, 15th c. French

Veni, veni, Emmanuel captivum solve Israel,
qui gemit in exsilio,
privatus Dei Filio.
Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel,
nascetur pro te Israel!

Hymn 200 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord Woodlands

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
**Collect (in unison)**

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

**Kyrie**  
*from Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*  
Healey Willan (1880–1968)

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Assurance of Pardon**

*Leader:* 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 35:1–10*

*Lector:* A lesson from the prophet Isaiah, chapter 35, verses 1–10:

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the L ORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the L ORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.
Anthem
Come, thou long-expected Jesus

1. Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.

2. Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

3. Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

4. By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Joseph Running
Charles Wesley

Lesson
James 5:7–10

Lector: A lesson from the epistle of James, chapter 5, verses 7–10:

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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

Psalm 146:5–10

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

Cantor: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,
who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;

People: Blessed are the poor and needy,
for God's kingdom surely is theirs.
Cantor: who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

People: the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

Cantor: The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

People: The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

Gloria Patri (sung by all)

PICARDY

Gospel Lesson Matthew 11:2–11

Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter 11, verses 2–11:

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead
of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

♫ Hymn 206 I want to walk as a child of the light

Sermon “The Adventure of Advent” The Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

Call to Prayer Lead me, Lord (sung by all)

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 maketh me dwell in safety.

Prayers of the People and 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 Gustav Holst (1874–1934)

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what can I give Him? Give Him my heart.

Christina Rossetti (1830–1894)

Community Life and Offering

At the Offertory Divinum mysterium

Wilbur Held (1914–2015)
**Presentation of the Gifts (sung by all)**

GREENSLEEVES

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 213**

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

TRURO

**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**

The preacher is the Reverend Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean of the Chapel.

The Marsh Chapel Choir is conducted by Margaret Weckworth.

The organist is Justin Thomas Blackwell.
The Dean, Chaplains, and staff of Marsh Chapel wish everyone a happy holiday season!

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

**Next Sunday**  
11:00 a.m.  Interdenominational Protestant Worship Service (Nave)  
12:00 p.m.  Coffee Hour (Marsh Room)  
12:30 p.m.  Thurman Choir Rehearsal (Robinson Chapel)

**Next Tuesday**  
1:00 p.m.  Christmas Eve Service (Nave)  
7:30 p.m.  Candlelight Christmas Eve Service (Nave)

Marsh Chapel is pleased to offer **childcare** during our Sunday morning services. Inquiries can be made at 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).
WELCOME TO MARSH CHAPEL

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.

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

Br. Lawrence A. Whitney, PhD STH’19, LCT, University Chaplain for Community Life
Nick Rodriguez, BS ENC’18, Ministry Associate for Outreach and Engagement
Tom Batson, T.J. Bergeron, Shruti Gupta, Marsh Associates

The Reverend Dr. Karen Coleman, Associate Chaplain for Episcopal Ministry
Cornelia Johnson, Alec Vaughn, Marsh Associates

Jessica Chicka, PhD STH’19, University Chaplain for International Students
Chloe McLaughlin, Ministry Assistant
Eshita Rahman, Global Associate for Interfaith Engagement
Hillary Santiago, Ministry Associate

Scott Allen Jarrett, DMA CFA’08, Director of Music
Justin Thomas Blackwell, MM CFA’09, Associate Director of Music
Margaret Weckworth, MM CFA’15, Music Program Administrator
Herbert S. Jones, Director, Inner Strength Gospel Choir

Ray Bouchard, MTS STH’95, Director of Marsh Chapel
Heidi Freimanis-Cordts, MM CFA’09, Director of Hospitality
The Reverend Dr. Victoria Hart Gaskell, D.Min. STH’19, Minister for Visitation
David Ames, Sacristan
Heidi Freimanis-Cordts, Kaitie Noe, Wedding Coordinators
Anastasya Chandra, Zoe Chock, Office Assistants
Helen Houghton, Emilio Latorre, Office Assistants
Moniroath Nann, Angelee Verdieu, Office Assistants
Cierra Brown, Ellis Brown, Kaelyn Brown, Charles Cloy, George Coulter, Mark Gray, Ushers
Benista Owusu-Amo, Naa Ameley Owusu-Amo, Sydney Passley-Harris, Jay Reeg, Liz Scully, Ushers

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