MARSH CHAPEL AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

A CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF
LESSONS AND CAROLS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 2019
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
ELEVEN O’CLOCK IN THE MORNING
DANIEL L. MARSH CHAPEL
Y
OU BORE FOR ME the one who came to bless
And bear for all and make the broken whole.
You heard his call, and in your open ‘yes’
You spoke aloud for every living soul.
Oh, Gracious Lady, child of your own child,
Whose mother-love still calls the child in me,
Call me again, for I am lost and wild
Waves surround me now. On this dark sea
Shine as a star and call me to the shore.
Open the door that all my sins would close
And hold me in your garden. Let me share
The prayer that folds the petals of the Rose.
Enfold me too in Love’s last mystery
And bring me to the one you bore for me.

Theotokos
Malcolm Guite (b. 1957)
The congregation stands at the chiming of the hour.

1. Solo

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID’S CITY
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

2. Choir

He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

All join in singing the last four stanzas.

3. And through all his won- d’rous child-hood He would hon- or and o- bey,

Love and watch the low- ly_ mai-den, In whose gen- tle arms he_ lay;
He was lit- tle, weak and_ help-less, Tears and smiles like us__ he__ knew;
For that child so dear_ and_ gen- tle Is our Lord in heav’n a_ bove;
We shall see him; but_ in_ hea- ven, Set at God’s right hand_ on_ high;

4. For he is our child- hood’s pat- tern, Day by day like us__ he__ grew,

Christ-ian child- ren all must be__ Mild, o- be- dient, good as_ he__
And he feel- eth for our sad- ness, And he shar- eth in__ our_ glad- ness.
And he leads his child- ren on___ To the place where he__ is__ gone__
When like stars his child- ren crowned All in white shall wait_ a_ round.

5. And our eyes at last_ shall see him, Through his own re- deem- ing_ love,

6. Not in that poor low- ly_ sta- ble, With the ox- en stand- ing_ by,
**THE BIDDING PRAYER**

All remain standing as the Dean offers this bidding prayer.

*The Dean:*

**BELOVED IN CHRIST,** be it this Christmas-tide our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us hear again from Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our sin unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child: and let us make this Chapel glad with our carols of praise.

But first, because this of all things would rejoice God’s heart, let us pray for the needs of the whole world, and all people; for peace upon the earth Christ came to save; for love and unity within the one Church he did build; and for goodwill among all people, and especially within this university and this city of Boston.

And particularly at this time let us remember the poor, the cold, the hungry, the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children.

Lastly let us remember before God them who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the Throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself has taught us:

*All:*

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.

*The Dean:*

The Almighty God bless us with God’s grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and unto the fellowship of citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.

*All:*

Amen.

*The congregation is seated.*
Angels from the Realms of Glory,
Wing your flight o’er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation’s story
Now proclaim Messiah’s birth.
    Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o’er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
Yonder shines the infant light:
    Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great desire of nations;
Ye have seen his natal star.
    Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In his temple shall appear.
    Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Text: James Montgomery (1771-1854), altered
Music: Traditional French carol
Arrangement: Philip Ledger (1937–2012)
THE FIRST LESSON

Lector: The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior:

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 9:2, 6–7

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

CAROL

A BOY WAS BORN in Bethlehem;
Rejoice for that, Jerusalem!

Alleluya!

He let himself a servant be,
That we ourselves he might set free:

Alleluya!

Then praise the Word of God who came
To dwell within a human frame:

Alleluya!

from A Boy was Born, Op. 3
Text: 16th century German carol
Translation: Percy Dearmer (1867–1936), alt.
Music: Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)
THE SECOND LESSON

Lector: The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown:

A SHOOT SHALL COME OUT from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

Isaiah 11:1–4a, 6–9

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

CAROL

A SPOTLESS ROSE is blowing
Sprung from a tender root, Of ancient seers’ foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
And in the dark midnight,
Amid the winter cold,
A spotless Rose unfolds.

The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing
In Mary, purest Maid;
For through our God’s great love and might,
And in the dark midnight,
Amid the winter cold,
The blessed Babe she bare.

Text: 15th century German carol
Translation: Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878)
Music: Philip Ledger (1937–2012)
The congregation stands at the invitation of the Director of Music.

1. The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep:

2. They looked up and saw a star,
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night:

3. This star drew nigh to the north-west;
O’er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay:

4. Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heav’n and earth of naught,
And with his blood our salvation hath bought:

Refrain

No, well, No, well, No, well, No, well, Born is the King of Israel!

The congregation is seated.
THE THIRD LESSON

Lector: The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary:

IN THE SIXTH MONTH the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, ‘Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.’ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’ The angel said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. Then Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:26–35, 38

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

CAROL

An offering supporting the ministry of Marsh Chapel will be collected during the singing of this carol.

DORMI, JESU! MATER RIDET
Quae tam dulcem somnum videt,
Dormi, Jesu! Blandule.

Si non dormis, Mater plorat
Inter fila cantans orat,
Blande, veni, somnule.

Sleep, sweet baby! my cares beguiling:
Mother sits beside thee smiling:
Sleep, my darling, tenderly!

If thou sleep not, mother mourneth,
Singing as her wheel she turneth:
Come, soft slumber, balmily!

Text: Unknown
Translation: Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772–1834)
Music: John Rutter (b. 1945)
THE FOURTH LESSON

Lector: Saint Luke tells of the birth of Jesus:

IN THOSE DAYS A DECREE WENT OUT from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Luke 2:1, 3–7

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

CAROL

A BABE IS BORN all of a may,
To bring salvation unto us.
To him we sing both night and day.
Veni Creator Spiritus. (Come, Creator Spirit)

At Bethlehem, that blessed place,
The child of bliss now born he was;
And him to serve God give us grace,
O lux beata Trinitas. (O light, blessed Trinity)

There came three kings out of the East,
To worship the King that is so free,
With gold and myrrh and frankincense.
O solis ortus cardine. (From the sun’s rising)

The angels came down with one cry,
A fair song that night sung they
In worship of that child:
Gloria tibi Domine. (Glory to you, O Lord)

Text: Anonymous, 15th century
Music: William Mathias (1934-1992)
The congregation stands at the invitation of the Director of Music and joins in singing the stanzas below, as indicated.

The third verse, as sung by the choir:

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv’n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav’n.
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

The congregation is seated.
The Fifth Lesson

Lector: The shepherds go to the manger:

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!’ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Carol

O Magnum mysterium
Et admirable sacramentum,
Ut animalia viderent Dominum natum
Jacentem in praesepio.
O beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt
Portare Dominum Christum.

O great mystery,
And wondrous sacrament,
That the animals should witness the
Birth of the Lord in the manger.
O blessed Virgin, whose womb was deemed
Worthy to bear Christ the Lord.

Text: Fourth Responsory at Matins for Christmas Day
Music: Francis Poulenc (1899–1963)
The Sixth Lesson

Lector: The wise men are led by the star to Jesus:

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.”’ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:1–11

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

Carol

Magi videntes stellam
Dixerunt ad invicem
Hoc signum magni regis est
Eamus inquiramus
Et offeramus ei munera
Aurum, thus, et myrrham.
Alleluia.

The magi, seeing the star,
said, each in turn:
"This is the sign of a great king!
Let us go and look for him
And offer him gifts,
Gold, frankincense, and myrrh."
Alleluia.

Text: Antiphon for Vespers at Epiphany
Music: Blasius Amon (c.1558–1590)
THE SEVENTH LESSON

Lector: Saint John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation:

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.

John 1:1–14

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.
The congregation stands at the invitation of the Director of Music.

The congregation remains standing.
THE COLLECT

The Dean: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
The Dean: Let us pray:

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.

All: Amen.

THE Benediction

The Dean:

May he who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of Almighty God be upon you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

The congregation remains standing.
Hymn

1. Hark! the herald-angels sing, Glory to the new-born King;
2. Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the ever-last-ing Lord,
3. Hail the heav’n-born prince of peace! Hail the Sun of right-eous-ness!

Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners re-con-ciled:
Late in time behold him come, Off-spring of a vir-gin’s womb:
Light and life to all he brings, Ris’n with heal-ing in his wings;

Joy-ful all ye na-tions rise, Join the tri-umph of the skies,
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail th’in-car-nate De-i-ty!
Mild he lays his glo-ry by, Born that we no more may die,

With th’an-ge-lic host pro-claim, Christ is born in Beth-le-hem.
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el.
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us sec-ond birth.

Hark! the herald-angels sing Glory to the new-born King.

Voluntary at the Procession

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

After the service, Bob and Jan Hill will host an Open House at The Castle, 225 Bay State Road. All are warmly invited to attend.

The Marsh Chapel Choir is conducted by Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett.
The brass choir is Majestic Brass.
The timpanist is Jonathan Hess.
The organist is Justin Thomas Blackwell.
**THIS WEEK AT MARSH CHAPEL**

**TODAY**  
11:00 a.m. Interdenominational Protestant Worship (Nave)  
A Service of Christmas Lessons and Carols  
12:00 p.m. Dean’s Open House (The Castle, 225 Bay State Road)  
3:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Service (Nave)

**MONDAY**  
5:00 p.m. Bibles and Brews (BU Pub) 
5:30 p.m. Ecumenical Night Prayer (Nave) 
6:00 p.m. Community Dinner (Marsh Room)

**TUESDAY**  
3:00–6:00 p.m. Create Space (Marsh Chapel, Lower Level) 
6:00 p.m. Global Dinner Club (Thurman Room)

**WEDNESDAY**  Classes End — Last Day of Marsh Chapel Weekly Activities  
12:45 p.m. Tai Chi (Marsh Room)  
5:15 p.m. Ecumenical Eucharist with Dinner (Robinson Chapel)

**THURSDAY**  
10am–5pm Global Stress Relief Day (Marsh Chapel, Lower Level)

**FRIDAY**  
All Day Study Retreat (Marsh Chapel, Lower Level)

**SATURDAY**  
All Day Study Retreat (Marsh Chapel, Lower Level)

**NEXT SUNDAY**  
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)

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).

The Marsh Chapel community is currently accepting donations for Cradles to Crayons, a Boston-based organization that helps low income and homeless children, infants to age twelve. Your donations of new clothing, winter coats, shoes, and personal hygiene items can be dropped at the Sunday service next Sunday, December 15. For any questions, contact Jay Reeg at jayreeg@rcn.com. Please consider a gift to those less fortunate than yourself this Christmas season.
The **Marsh Chapel weekly schedule ends** on Wednesday, December 11; nevertheless, we will continue to host events and services during the winter break. Check the Marsh Chapel Weekly Schedule, printed in this bulletin, for a list of offerings.

**A “Blue Christmas” Service — Today — 3:00 p.m. — Marsh Chapel Nave**

The Blue Christmas service is a time when we can recognize the “blue” feelings we may have during the Christmas season, acknowledge the reasons for them, and offer these feelings to God. In the midst of the surrounding holiday cheer, some of us mourn a loved one, or feel particularly lonely in our challenges, or struggle with the dark and the cold. In this service, we share in song, scripture, prayer, candlelight, reflection, and the solace and hope of knowing that we are not alone.

**Global Stress Relief Day — Thursday, December 12 — 10 a.m.–5 p.m. — Lower Level**

During the fury of exams, papers, and final projects, take a moment to breathe and get balanced in Marsh Chapel. Our Stress Relief Day has relaxation techniques from all around the globe: massage, tea, henna, meditation, coloring, board games, and more. All of it is free and all Boston University students are welcome. So stop by for a few minutes or all day to take a break and de-stress.

**Study Retreat — December 13–15 — Marsh Chapel, Lower Level**

Study Retreats provide an opportunity to unite head and heart by putting study in the context of spiritual practice. Each day begins with breakfast and Morning Meditation, during which participants articulate what they intend to accomplish during the day. After a substantial period of study, participants gather for Mid-Day Meditation, followed by lunch and another study period. The day ends with Evening Meditation, during which participants check in about what they accomplished—celebrating successes and encouraging one another to keep working toward unmet goals. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are provided. Participation in Study Retreats is free of charge and available to all Boston University students. For more information or to register online, visit the Marsh Chapel website under the “Life Together” tab.

**CHRISTMAS AT MARSH CHAPEL**

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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, LC†, 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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