



# MARSH CHAPEL AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

University Interdenominational Protestant  
Service of Worship  
Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – 11:00 a.m.  
The First Sunday after Christmas

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The Reverend Doctor Robert Allan Hill, Dean

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This Sunday, the Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean of Marsh Chapel,  
brings us a new sermon titled "The Gift of Faith," which was recorded on Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
Today's anthems are taken from the Marsh Chapel broadcast archive.  
The remainder of the service has been compiled from previously broadcast services.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

✦ *Please rise in body or in heart*

### 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!

✦ **Introit**                      Weihnachten (from 'Sechs Sprüche,' Op. 79)                      *Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)*

Frohlocket, ihr Völker auf Erden, und preiset Gott!  
Der Heiland ist erschienen, den der Herr verheißen.  
Er hat seine Gerechtigkeit der Welt offenbaret.  
Halleluja!

*Rejoice, ye people of the earth, and praise God!  
The redeemer is come, whom the Lord has promised.  
He has revealed his justice to the world.  
Hallelujah!*

- *Anonymous*

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her  
 2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns: let us our songs em -  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and  
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains re -  
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far and  
 prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 98:4-9)  
 MUSIC: Arr. from G. F. Handel, 1741, by Lowell Mason, 1848

ANTIOCH  
 CM with Repeat

✦ **Collect** (*in unison*)

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Carol**

Angels from the realms of Glory

Traditional French carol  
*arr. Philip Ledger (1937–2012)*

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.*

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

*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.*

*-James Montgomery (1771–1854), altered*

**Lesson**

Galatians 4:4–7

*Lector:* A lesson from St. Paul's epistle to the Galatians, chapter 4, verses 4–7:

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

**Anthem**

Ach, Herr, du Schöpfer aller Ding

*Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)*

Ach, Herr, du Schöpfer aller Ding,  
wie bist du worden so gering,  
daß du da liegst auf dürrem Gras,  
davon ein Rind und Esel aß!

*O Lord, Creator of all things,  
how have you become so low  
that you lie there on dried grass,  
of which a cow and donkey ate!*

*- Martin Luther, "Von himmel hoch," verse 9*

## Psalm 148

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

### ♪ Antiphon (sung by all)



- Cantor:* Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise the Lord in the heights!
- People:* Praise the Lord, all his angels; praise him, all his host!
- Cantor:* Praise the Lord, sun and moon; praise the Lord, all you shining stars!
- People:* Praise the Lord, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!
- Cantor:* Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
who commanded and they were created.
- People:* Who established them forever and ever;  
and fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.
- Cantor:* Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps,
- People:* fire and hail, snow and frost,  
stormy wind fulfilling God's command!
- Cantor:* Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
- People:* Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!
- Cantor:* Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
- People:* Young men and women alike, old and young together!
- Cantor:* Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
whose name alone is exalted; whose glory is above earth and heaven.
- People:* God has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful,  
for the people of Israel who are near their God. Praise the LORD! ♪

### ✦ Gloria Patri (sung by all)

REGENT SQUARE

Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, Laud and hon - or to the Son,  
Laud and hon - or to the Spir - it, Ev - er Three and ev - er One,  
One in might and One in glo - ry While un - end - ing a - ges run.

✠ **Gospel Lesson**      Luke 2:22–40

*Lector:*                    The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke, chapter 2, verses 22–40:  
*People:*                    *Glory to you, O Lord.*

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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

**The sermon and prayers were recorded specifically for today, December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020.  
The remainder of the service is being re-broadcast from previous services.**

**Sermon**                    "The Gift of Faith"                    The Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill  
Dean of Marsh Chapel

**Meditation**            The blessed son of God                    *Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*

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|--|--|
| <p>1. The blessed son of God only<br/>In a crib full poor did lie;<br/>With our poor flesh and our poor blood<br/>Was clothed that everlasting good.<br/><i>Kyrieleison.</i></p> <p>2. The Lord Christ Jesu, God's son dear,<br/>Was a guest and a stranger here;<br/>Us for to bring from misery,<br/>That we might live eternally.<br/><i>Kyrieleison.</i></p> | <p>3. All this did he for us freely,<br/>For to declare his great mercy;<br/>All Christendom be merry therefore,<br/>And give him thanks for evermore.<br/><i>Kyrieleison.</i></p> |
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- *Miles Coverdale* (c. 1488-1569)

## 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.

### At the Offertory Jesus Christ the apple tree

Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987)

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green:  
The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree

His beauty doth all things excel: by faith I know but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought:  
I missed of all; but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest a while:  
Under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit does make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

- *Divine Hymns or Spiritual Songs* (1810)

### ✠ Hymn

It came upon the midnight clear

CAROL

(All) 1. It came u - pon the mid - night clear, That glo - rious song of old, —  
(All) 2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come, With peace - ful wings un - furled,  
(Choir) 3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife The world has suf - fered long; —  
(All) 4. For lo! the days are hast - 'ning on, By pro - phet - bards fore - told, —

From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold: —  
And still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world;  
Be - neath the an - gel - strain have rolled Two thou - sand years of wrong; —  
When, with the ev - er - cir - cling years, Comes round the age of gold; —

'Peace on the earth, good - will to men,\* From heav'n's all - gra - cious King!  
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains They bend on ho - v'ring wing;  
And war - ring hu - man - kind hears not The love - song which they bring;  
When peace shall o - ver all the earth Its an - cient splen - dors fling, —

The world in so - lemn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing. —  
And ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing. —  
O hush the noise and cease your strife, And hear the an - gels sing. —  
And the whole world give back the song Which now the an - gels sing. —

\*or "all"

WORDS: Edmund H. Sears (1810–1876), altered

MUSIC: CAROL, Richard Storrs Willis (1819–1900); harmonization: Uzziah Burnap (1834–1900)

Arrangement, stanzas 3 and 4: Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

✘ **Benediction**      from *The Mood of Christmas and other Celebrations*

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
The work of Christmas begins,  
    To find the lost,  
    To heal the broken,  
    To release the prisoner,  
    To rebuild the nations;  
    To bring peace among brothers,  
    To make music in the heart.

- *Howard Thurman (1899-1981)*  
Dean of the Chapel, 1953–1965

✘ **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)*

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

*Lessons were read by Soren Hessler and Dean Hill.*

*The soprano soloist heard in "Jesus Christ the Apple Tree" is Margot Rood.*

*The Marsh Chapel Choir is conducted by Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett, Director of Music.*

*The organist is Justin Thomas Blackwell, Associate Director of Music.*

*Today's broadcast was recorded by Eddie Muizulis, compiled by Scott Allen Jarrett, and edited by Heidi Freimanis-Cordts.*

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The entirety of today's service was recorded prior to broadcast.  
We are not currently holding in-person services at Marsh Chapel.

The sermon and prayers were recorded specifically for today, December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020.  
The remainder of the service is being re-broadcast from previous services.

Marsh Chapel continues to broadcast every Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. (Eastern) on WBUR 90.9 FM.  
For those outside of New England, a live feed of WBUR is accessible at [wbur.org](http://wbur.org).

Visit our website at [bu.edu/chapel](http://bu.edu/chapel) for a link to our weekly podcast  
or to view or print a copy of the Sunday morning bulletin.

## WELCOME TO MARSH CHAPEL

We thank you for joining us virtually 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.

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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 on WBUR 90.9 FM.*

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

**The Reverend Dr. Karen Coleman, University Chaplain for Episcopal Ministry**

Mahalia Damm, Ministry Assistant

Alec Vaughn, Ministry Assistant

**Jessica Chicka, PhD STH'19, University Chaplain for International Students**

Chloe McLaughlin, Ministry Associate

T.J. Bergeron, Ministry Assistant

**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

Zoe Chock, Heidi Freimanis-Cordts, Kaitie Noe, Wedding Coordinators

Anastasya Chandra, Zoe Chock, Office Assistants

Emilio Latorre, Jace Shneyderman, Office Assistants

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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