



MARSH CHAPEL AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

University Interdenominational Protestant

Service of Worship

Sunday, May 24th, 2009 - 11:00 a.m.

The Ascension of the Lord

The Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

☒ *Please rise, as you are able.*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude Pastorale *Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)*
Préambule

Call to Worship and Greeting

The Dean: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
The Dean: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

☒ **Introit** Rejoice in the Lord always *Anonymous*
Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice.
—Philippians 4, 4

☒ **Hymn 57** O for a thousand tongues to sing (verses 1-5, 7) AZMON

☒ **Opening Prayer** *(in unison)*

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

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

All are invited to enter into a time of silent confession during the singing of the Kyrie.

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

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: Amen.

Lesson Ephesians 1, 15-23

Lector: A lesson from Paul's letter to the Ephesians, chapter 1, verses 15-23:

People: Thanks be to God.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem Sicut Moses, SWV 68 *Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)*

Sicut Moses serpentem in deserto exaltavit,
ita filium hominis oportet exaltari,
ut omnis qui credit in eum non pereat,
sed habeat vitam aeternam.

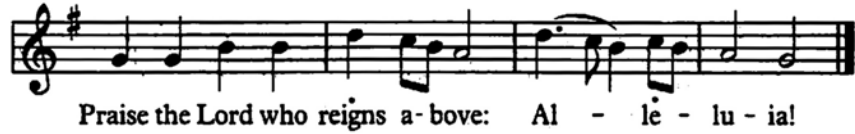
*As Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
that whoever believes in him
may have eternal life.*

—John 3: 14-15

Psalm 47

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

♪ **Antiphon** (sung by all)



Cantor: Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with loud songs of joy.

People: For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome,
a great king over all the earth.

Cantor: He subdued peoples under us,
and nations under our feet.

People: He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

Cantor: God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

People: Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

Cantor: For God is the king of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm.

People: God is king over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.

Cantor: The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of Abraham.

People: For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly exalted. ♪

✠ **Gloria Patri** (sung by all)

The music to this hymn may be found on page 559 of the United Methodist Hymnal, verse 4.

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 3, 1-17

The Dean: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John, chapter 3,
verses 1-17:

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

The Dean: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

✠ **Hymn 553** And are we yet alive

DENNIS

Sermon "An English Spring"

The Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

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

LEAD ME, LORD

The music to this hymn may be 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

Choral Response

adapted from Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

There for me the Savior stands, shows his wounds and spreads his hands. God is Love! I know, and feel; Jesus weeps and loves me still.
Now incline me to repent, let me now my sins lament, now my foul revolt deplore, weep, believe, and sin no more.

— Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Community Life and Offering

At the Offertory

Above all praise and all majesty

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Above all praise and all majesty. Lord Thou reignest evermore. Hallelujah.

✦ Presentation of the Gifts *(sung by all)*

CWM RHONDDA

The music to this hymn may be found on page 577 of the United Methodist Hymnal.

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

✦ Offertory Prayer

✦ Hymn 384

Love divine, all loves excelling

BEECHER

✦ 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

Exultemus

Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)

DEAN HILL'S SUMMER SPEAKING EVENTS

May 26 – Syracuse, NY
North Central New York UMC Conference Dinner

June 4 – Baltimore, MD
Conference Speaker, Baltimore/Washington Annual Conference, UMC

June 5 – Scranton, PA
Luncheon Speaker, Wyoming Annual Conference, UMC

June 12 – Saratoga Springs, NY
Troy Annual Conference, UMC

June 16-19 – Buffalo, NY
Western New York Annual Conference, UMC

July 26 – Hampton, NH
Union Chapel

August 2 – Hamilton, NY
Summer Marsh Friends Gathering

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

The choir is conducted by Timothy Westerhaus.

The organist is Christian Lane.

DARWIN AND FAITH: 2009 SUMMER PREACHER SERIES

The third annual **Marsh Chapel National Summer Preacher Series** brings some of the finest preaching in the country to the pulpit of Howard Thurman. In recognition of the bicentennial of the birth of Charles Darwin and the sesquicentennial of the publication of his *On the Origin of Species*, this summer we offer **eleven weeks of sermonic considerations of Darwin**, his thought, and the implications of his thought for the life of faith. It is no secret that the so-called wars of science and religion have become entrenched especially in fundamentalist Christian theology and the contemporary movement known as the New Atheism. At Marsh Chapel, in a spirit of responsible Christian liberalism, we long for a way forward toward a faith that appeals to culture and a culture that is attractive to faith, acknowledging that all truth is God's truth.

This summer's series includes voices from around the country, from Boston University's School of Theology, and from the Marsh community itself. The second edition of Marsh Chapel's new on-line magazine, *motives*, will present the printed texts of these summer sermons. In addition, Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett and the Marsh Chapel Choir (who last summer presented to much appreciation Palestrina's motets on the Song of Songs), will be offering choral music related to the theme of creation. As was done previously, two summer luncheons on the theme of Darwin and Faith will be offered July 15 and July 29, 12--1:30PM in the Thurman Room of the Chapel. For more information call 617.353.3560 or email chapel@bu.edu.

June 21: Rev. Dr. Wesley Wildman

June 28: Rev. Dr. Robert C. Neville

July 5: Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

July 12 and July 19: Rev. Dr. Dean Snyder

July 26 and August 2: Rev. Dr. Charlie Yoost

August 9: Dr. Kirk Wegter-McNelly

August 16: Rev. Dr. Rodney Petersen

August 23: Br. Lawrence Whitney, LC+

August 30: Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

SUMMER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The events listed here will take place weekly throughout the summer. Additional events for the week will be listed under the community announcements as it becomes necessary.

SUNDAYS 11:00 a.m. Interdenominational Protestant Worship (Main Chapel)
6:00 p.m. Roman Catholic Mass (Main Chapel)

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.

◀ 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 am – 5 pm weekdays, and on Sunday Mornings.

Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean and Chaplain of the University
Br. Lawrence A. Whitney, LC+, University Chaplain for Community Life
Ray Bouchard, MTS STH'95, Director of Marsh Chapel
Scott Allen Jarrett, DMA CFA'08, Director of Music
Justin Thomas Blackwell, MM CFA'09, Associate Director of Music
Elizabeth Fomby, Director of Hospitality
Rev. Victoria Hart Gaskell, OSL, Chapel Associate for Methodist Students
Susan Forshey, Chapel Associate for Ministry Formation
Liz Douglass, Chapel Associate for LBGTQ Ministry
Herbert S. Jones, Director, Inner Strength Gospel Choir
Timothy Westerhaus, MM CFA 08, Assistant Conductor, Marsh Chapel Choir
Melissa Riesgo and Rachel Cape, Music Program Administrators
David Ames, Chapel Sacristan
George Coulter, Mark Gray, Ushers
Andrew Lynch, Jay Reeg, Jennifer Williams, Ushers
Heidi Freimanis, Wedding Coordinator
Karen Smith and Jeannette Lewis, Child Care and Office Assistants
Kaitlin Daly and Michele Buonanduci, Office Assistants

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