



MARSH CHAPEL AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

University Interdenominational Protestant

Service of Worship

Sunday, December 28th, 2008 - 11:00 a.m.

The First Sunday after Christmas

The Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

☒ *Please rise, as you are able.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude Variations on "Vom Himmel hoch" *Walter L. Pelz (b. 1926)*

Call to Worship and Greeting

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: The word became flesh and dwells among us!

People: *Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth!*

☒ **Introit** Up! good Christen folk, and listen *harm. G. R. Woodward (1848-1934)*

Up! good Christen folk, and listen how the merry church bells ring,
And from steeple bid good people come adore the newborn King:
Tell the story how from glory God came down at Christmastide,
Bringing gladness, chasing sadness, showering blessings far and wide,
Born of mother, blest o'er other, *Ex Maria Virgine* (Of Mary the Virgin).
In a stable ('tis no fable), *Christus natus hodie* (Christ is born today).

—G. R. Woodward

☒ **Hymn 224** Good Christian Friends, Rejoice *IN DULCI JUBILO*

☒ **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.

☒ **Gloria in excelsis** *(sung by all)*

The music to this hymn may be found on page 238 of the United Methodist Hymnal, verses 1 and 3.

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Lesson Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Lector: A lesson from prophet Isaiah, chapter 61, verse 10, through chapter 62, verse 3:

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Anthem Two Christmas Anthems *William Billings (1746-1800)*

1. Bethlehem

While shepherds watch their flocks by night, all seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.

—Nahum Tate

2. Boston

Methinks I see a heav'nly host, of angels on the wing;
Methinks I hear their cheerful notes, so merrily they sing:
Let all your fears be banish'd hence, glad tidings I proclaim,
For there's a savior born to day, and Jesus is his name.

—William Billings

Psalm 148

🎵 **Response** (*sung by all*)

Let all things their cre - a - tor bless: Al - le -

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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 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** 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.*

Sermon "The Irrational Season" The Reverend Margaret Schwarzer

✠ **Hymn 216** Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming ES IST EIN ROS

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 O little one sweet *harm. J. S. Bach (1685-1750)*

O little one sweet, O little one mild, Thy Father's purpose thou hast fulfilled;
Thou cam'st from heav'n to mortal ken, Equal to be with us poor men,
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

—tr. Percy Dearmer

Community Life and Offering

At the Offertory Wonderful peace *Gustaf Nordqvist (1886-1946)*

Please take time to sign the "Ritual of Friendship" register (red books) located at the end of each pew.

*Peace, Peace, wonderful peace,
Peace to the world is given.*

Hush'd are the angels, so still is the night;
Then in the East shone a heavenly light.
Join in the chorus His praises sing!
Glory to God, to the newly born King.

*Peace, peace, wonderful peace.
Peace to the world is given.*

*Peace, peace, bearer of peace.
Men of good will receive Him.*

Holiest of Nights, O most wondrous of days;
Shepherds and kings lift their voices in praise.
Join in the chorus, His praises sing!
Glory to God, to the newly born King.

*Peace, peace, wonderful peace.
Peace to the world is given.*

—Norman Luboff

✘ **Presentation of the Gifts** (*sung by all*) GREENSLEEVES

The music to this hymn may be found on page 219 of the United Methodist Hymnal, verse 3.

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 246** Joy to the World ANTIOCH

✘ 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 Tuba Tune in D major *C. S. Lang (1891-1972)*

Please remain seated for the postlude.

*The preacher is Reverend Margaret Schwarzter.
The conductor and organist is Justin Thomas Blackwell.*

The Dean, Chaplains and Staff of Marsh Chapel heartily wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season!

MARSH CHAPEL: WINTER BREAK

The **Interdenominational Protestant Worship service**, held on Sundays at 11 a.m. **will not be affected** by any closures during Winter Break, and will continue to be held each Sunday morning at the usual hour.

Winter Intersession: The University is currently closed for Winter Intersession. During this period, the **chapel offices will not be open and the building will be closed to visitors**. The University and Chapel offices will reopen at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 5, 2009. Phone messages left at the chapel will be checked daily.

Office Hours: The Marsh Chapel office hours are as follows:

Week of December 29	Offices Closed – Winter Intersession
Week of January 5	Offices Open M-F, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Week of January 12	Regular Office Hours Resume Open M-F; 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Weekday Activities: Weekday activities will resume the week of January 11, 2009.

THIS WEEK AT MARSH CHAPEL

TODAY 11 a.m. Interdenominational Protestant Worship (Main Chapel)

Weekday Chapel activities have been suspended while students are on Winter Break.
These activities will resume the week of January 11, 2009.

NEXT SUNDAY 11 a.m. Interdenominational Protestant Worship (Main Chapel)

WELCOME TO MARSH CHAPEL!

We thank you for joining us this evening 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 – 4:30 pm weekdays, and on Sunday Mornings.
Offices are closed during Winter Intersession (Dec. 24-Jan. 4).

Chapel Staff

The 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, Associate Director of Music
Elizabeth Fomby, Director of Hospitality
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
The Rev. Victoria Hart Gaskell, OSL, Chapel Associate for Methodist Students
Elizabeth Siwo-Okundi, M Div, Chapel Associate for Students of African Descent
Liz Douglass, Chapel Associate for LGBTQ Ministry
Susan Forshey, Chapel Associate for Ministry Formation
August Delbert, Ministry Associate for First-Year Students
Ross Ponder, Ministry Associate for Undergraduate Students
Jeri-Katherine Warden, Ministry Associate for Student Athletes
Tyler Sit, Marsh Associate for LGBTQ Ministry; Ministry Assistant
Tom Reis, Ministry Assistant
David Ames, 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, Hae Won Lee, and Michele Buonanduci, Office Assistants

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