The Reverend Doctor Robert Allan Hill, Dean

❖ Please rise, as you are able.

ORDER OF SERVICE

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

Ding dong! merrily on high
Ding dong! merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky is riven with angel singing:
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

❖ Hymn 245

The first Noel the angel did say

❖ 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.
Lesson

Isaiah 61:10–62:3

Lector: A lesson from the book of the 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: Hodie beata Virgo Maria

Hodie beata Virgo Maria
puerum Jesum presentavit in templo,
Et Simeon, repletus Spiritu Sancto,
accept eum in ulnas suas,
et benedixit Deum in aeternum.

Today the Blessed Virgin Mary
presented the child Jesus in the temple
and Simeon, full of the Holy Spirit,
took Him in his arms,
and blessed God for evermore.

Antiphon for Candlemas

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.

Psalm 148

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

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)

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.


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.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

 tái Hymn 237 Sing we now of Christmas FRENCH CAROL

Sermon “Ruminations at Christmas” The Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

 tái Hymn 229 Infant holy, infant lowly W ZLOBIE LEZY

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

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 makest me dwell in safety.

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.
Response

O little one sweet

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 Announcements

At the Offertory

Ach, Herr, du Schöpfer aller Ding

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

* 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 228

He is born, the holy Child

IL EST NÉ

* 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*

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**Postlude**

*The preacher is The Reverend Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean of the Chapel.*  
*The conductor is Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett, Director of Music.*  
*The organist is Justin Thomas Blackwell, Associate Director of Music.*

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**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Dean, Chaplains, and staff of Marsh Chapel wish everyone a Happy New Year and a safe holiday season!

**Winter Intersession:** The University is currently closed for Winter Intersession and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2018. During this period, the *chapel is closed to visitors.* The Interdenominational Protestant Worship service, held each Sunday at 11:00 a.m., will *not be affected* by the Winter Intersession, and will continue to be held every Sunday.

Marsh Chapel is pleased to offer *childcare* during our Sunday morning services. Inquiries can be made in 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).

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**THIS WEEK AT MARSH CHAPEL**

**TODAY**

11:00 a.m.  Interdenominational Protestant Worship Service  
12:00 p.m.  Coffee Hour

*Weekday Chapel activities have been suspended while students are on Winter Break.*

**NEXT SUNDAY**

11:00 a.m.  Interdenominational Protestant Worship Service  
12:00 p.m.  Community Luncheon
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 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

Jessica Chicka, STM STH’11, University Chaplain for International Students
Br. Lawrence A. Whitney, LC†, MDiv STH’09, University Chaplain for Community Life
The Reverend Victoria Hart Gaskell, Chapel Associate for Methodist Students
The Reverend Soren Hessler, MDiv STH’11, Chapel Associate for Leadership Development
The Reverend Jen Quigley, MDiv STH’11, Chapel Associate for Vocational Discernment
Karen Ellestad, Kelsey Lyon, Ministry Associates
Tom Batson, Matthew Cron, Emi Fermin, Devin Harvin, Marsh Associates
Maritt Nowak, Phoebe Oler, Nick Rodriguez, Marsh Associates
Denise-Nicole Stone, Savannah Wu, Marsh Associates

Scott Allen Jarrett, DMA CFA’08, Director of Music
Justin Thomas Blackwell, MM CFA’09, Associate Director of Music

David Ames, Sacristan
Sam Horsch, Operations Manager, Music at Marsh Chapel
Herbert S. Jones, Director, Inner Strength Gospel Choir
Margaret Weckworth, MM CFA’15, Music Program Administrator

Ray Bouchard, MTS ST’95, Director of Marsh Chapel
Heidi Freimanis-Cordts, MM CFA’09, Director of Hospitality
Heidi Freimanis-Cordts, Jeannette Lewis, Wedding Coordinators
Kaitie Noe, Helena Pham, Wedding Coordinators
Nebeyatt Betre, Helen Houghton, Moniroath Nann, Office Assistants
Helena Pham, Elizabeth Sorensen, Sonya Stanczyk, Office Assistants
Cierra Brown, Ellis Brown, Kaelyn Brown, Charles Cloy, Ushers
George Coulter, Mark Gray, Jay Reeg, Adam Smith, Ushers

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