The Reverend Doctor Robert Allan Hill, Dean

* Please rise, as you are able.

**ORDER OF SERVICE**

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship and Greeting**

*Leader:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Leader:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* We lift them up to the Lord!

*Introit*  Cry out and shout  
Knut Nystedt (1915–2014)

Cry out and shout, ye people of God! The Lord is strength and song!

Cry out and shout, ye people of God! Cry out and shout, Alleluia!  
Isaiah 12, adapted

*Hymn 108*  God hath spoken by the prophets  
EBENEZER

*Collect*  *(in unison)*

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Kyrie**  Kyrie in A major (for Double Choir)  
Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

Kyrie eleison,  Lord, have mercy,

Christe eleison,  Christ, have mercy,

Kyrie eleison.  Lord, have mercy.
Assurance of Pardon

*Leader:* If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*All:* Thanks be to God.

Lesson

**Genesis 32:24–30**

*Lector:* A lesson from the Book of Genesis, chapter 32, verses 24–30:

Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob’s hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, “Let me go, for the day is breaking.” But Jacob said, “I will not let you go, unless you bless me.” So he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” Then the man said, “You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.” Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.”

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Didn’t my Lord Deliver Daniel?  

_Didn’t my Lord deliver Daniel, deliver Daniel, deliver Daniel;_  
_Didn’t my Lord deliver Daniel;_  
_Then why not every man?_  

He delivered Daniel from the lion’s den;  
Jonah from the belly of the whale;  
And the Hebrew children from the fiery furnace;  
Then why not every man?

_Didn’t my Lord deliver Daniel…_  

I set my foot on the gospel ship;  
the ship began to sail;  
It landed me safely on Canaan’s shore;  
And I’ll never come back no more.

_Didn’t my Lord deliver Daniel…_
Psalm 145:8-14

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

Cantor: The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

People: The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

Cantor: All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.

People: They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power,

Cantor: to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

People: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

Cantor: The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

People: The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

➤ Gloria Patri from ‘Evening Service in B minor’

T. Tertius Noble (1867–1953)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

➤ Gospel Lesson Matthew 11:12–19

Lector: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew, chapter 11, verses 12–19:

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John came; and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. Let anyone with ears listen! “But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children
sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon “Luther on God at Play”
Dr. Christopher Boyd Brown
Associate Professor of Church History
Boston University School of Theology

Hymn Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice (stanzas 1–4)  
NUN FREUT EUCH

1 Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice, with exultation
2 Fast bound in Satan’s chains I lay, death brooded fiercely
3 O God, you saw my deep distress before the world’s foundation
4 You said to your beloved Son: “Tis time to have compassion,

springing, and, with united heart and voice and holy o’er me, sin was my torment night and day; in sin my salvation, and, with your mercy measureless, you planned for passion. Then go, bright jewel of my crown, and bring to

rapture singing, proclaim the wonders God has done, proclaim, my salvation. You turned to me a father’s heart; you all salvation; from sin and sorrow set them free; slay

claim the vict’ry God has won, how preci-ous was our ransom!
will against God’s judgment fought, so firmly sin possessed me.
did not choose the easy part, but gave your dear-est treasure,
bitter death for them that they may live with you for-ev-er.”
Call to Prayer

Lead me, Lord *(sung by all)*

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

Amen, from Geistliches Lied, Op. 30

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

Community Life and Offering

At the Offertory

If we ever needed the Lord

If we ever needed the Lord; sure do need Him now, right now.
Need Him every day and every hour.

We need Him in the morning,
We need Him in the noon day,
We need Him in the evening,
Because He makes everything alright.

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

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
Those wishing to attend Children’s Education may exit the chapel during the singing of the next hymn.

* Hymn

Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice (stanzas 5–8)

NUN FREUT EUCH

5 The Son obeyed your gracious will,
was born of virgin mother;
and, your good pleasure to fulfill,
he came to be my brother.
His royal pow’r disguised he bore,
a servant’s form, like mine, he wore,
to lead the devil captive.

6 To me he said: “Stay close to me,
I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I myself will be;
for you I strive and wrestle.
The foe will shed my precious blood;
all this I suffer for your good;
my life o’er death will triumph.

7 “Now to my Father I depart,
from earth to heav’n ascending,
and, gracious wisdom to impart,
the Holy Spirit sending,
who will in trouble comfort you,
will teach you well, your faith renew,
and in all truth will guide you.

8 “What I on earth have done and taught
guide all your life and teaching;
so shall the glorious reign of God
increase, the whole world reaching.
Let none the gospel gift impede;
I make you free; be free indeed!
This final word I leave you.”

* 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

The preacher is the Rev. Dr. Christopher Boyd Brown, Associate Professor, BU School of Theology. The Inner Strength Gospel Choir is conducted by Herbert S. Jones. The Marsh Chapel Choir is conducted by Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett. The organist is Justin Thomas Blackwell.

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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.

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 STH’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
Nebyatt 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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