Please rise, as you are able.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude
Partita on “Christe, Redemptoris omnium”
Gerald Near (b. 1942)

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!

Hymn 245 The first Noel the angel did say
THE FIRST NOEL

Collect (in unison)

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.
**Lesson**

Isaiah 9:2–7

*Lector:* A lesson from the book of Isaiah, chapter 9, verses 2–7:

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.
Anthem
Laudamus te (from Gloria in D major)  
Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741)

Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.  
We praise thee, we bless thee,
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.  
we worship thee, we glorify thee,

Lesson
Titus 2:11–14

Lector:  
A lesson from the epistle to Titus, chapter 2, verses 11–14:

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Lector:  
The Word of the Lord.
People:  
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96

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

Cantor:  
O sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
People:  
Sing to the LORD, bless his name;  
tell of his salvation from day to day.
Cantor:  
Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous works among all the peoples.
People:  
For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;  
he is to be revered above all gods.
Cantor:  
For all the gods of the peoples are idols,  
but the LORD made the heavens.
People:  
Honor and majesty are before him;  
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
Cantor: Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

People: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

Cantor: Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.

People: Say among the nations, "The LORD is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity."

Cantor: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it.

People: Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

Gloria Patri (sung by all)

Gospel Lesson John 1:1–14

Lector: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John, chapter 1, verses 1–14:

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

◆ Hymn 237 Sing we now of Christmas FRENCH CAROL

Sermon “A Boston Christmas” The Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

◆ Hymn 230 O little town of Bethlehem ST. LOUIS

Call to Prayer (sung by all) Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–1876)
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.

Offertory Sentences

At the Offertory  Großer Herr (from Christmas Oratorio, BWV 248)  J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Großer Herr, o starker König,
Great Lord, O mighty king,
Liebster Heiland, o wie wenig
dearest saviour, O how little
Achtest du der Erden Pracht!
you regard earthly splendor!
Der die ganze Welt erhält,
He who maintains the whole world
Ihre Pracht und Zier erschaffen,
and created its glory and adornment
Muss in harten Krippen schlafen.
must sleep in a hard crib.

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 en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard, and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Offertory Prayer
Hymn 246  Joy to the world, the Lord is come  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  In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

The preacher is the Reverend Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean of the Chapel.
The soloists are Rose Lewis, soprano; Wee Kiat Chia, countertenor; and Devon Russo, bass.
The organist is Justin Thomas Blackwell, Associate Director of Music.

CHRISTMAS AT MARSH CHAPEL

TODAY   December 25    11:00 a.m.   Christmas Day Service

SUNDAY  January 1      11:00 a.m.   The First Sunday after Christmas

FRIDAY  January 6      The Epiphany of our Lord

SUNDAY  January 8      11:00 a.m.   The First Sunday after the Epiphany

A QR code parking pass for the CAS lot is available on our website. To obtain a printed copy, please speak with a Marsh Chapel staff member. Parking passes are only for Sundays, 8:30am–1:30pm.
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.

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.

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

The Reverend Dr. Karen Coleman, University Chaplain for Episcopal Ministry
Rhea Brown-Bright, Ministry Assistant
Alec Vaughn, Ministry Assistant

The Reverend Dr. Jessica Chicka, PhD STH’19, University Chaplain for International Students
Al Carroll, Ministry Assistant
Meghna Chhabra, Communications Intern
Hannah Hathaway, Ministry Associate

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

Heidi Freimanis-Cordts, MM CFA’09, Director of Marsh Chapel
Chloe McLaughlin, MDiv STH’22, Director of Hospitality
David Ames, Sacristan
Chloe McLaughlin, Kaitie Noe, Wedding Coordinators
Wilsi Taveras, Hospitality Intern
Sylvie Adams, Vivian Chaing, Office Assistants
Nikhil Fereday, Emilio Latorre, Office Assistants
Jiqing Li, Zacharie Verdieu, Cinnie Zhang, Office Assistants

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