

MARSH CHAPEL AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

735 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE

BOSTON, MA 02215

University Interdenominational Protestant Service of Worship

Sunday, October 11th, 2026 — 11:00 a.m.

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Series LXXVII №. 7

The Reverend Doctor Robert Allan Hill, Dean

✦ *Please rise, as you are able.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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** from Jubilate Deo in A major

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands;

Serve the Lord with gladness

And come before his presence with a song.

Psalm 100:1–2

✦ **Hymn 160** Rejoice, ye pure in heart

MARION

1. Re - joice, ye pure in heart; re - joice, give
2. Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le -
3. Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing
4. At last the march shall end; the wea - ried
5. Praise God who reigns on high, the Lord whom

thanks, and sing; your glo - rious ban - ner
 lu - ias loud; whilst an - swering ech - oes
 as ye go; from youth to age, by
 ones shall rest; the pil - grims find their
 we a - dore, the Fa - ther, Son, and

wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
 up - ward float, like wreaths of in - cense cloud.
 night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.
 heaven - ly home, Je - ru - sa - lem the blest.
 Ho - ly Ghost, one God for - ev - er - more.

Refrain

Re - jice, re - jice, re - jice, give thanks and sing.
 Re-joyce, re-joyce, re-joyce,

WORDS: Edward H. Plumptre, 1865 (Ps. 20:4; 147:1; Phil. 4:4)
 MUSIC: Arthur H. Messiter, 1889

MARION
 SM with Refrain

✕ Collect (in unison)

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Kyrie

from Missa 'Sufficit tibi gratia mea'

Sean R. Glenn (b. 1986)

Kyrie eleison,
Christe eleison,
Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
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

Isaiah 25:1–9

The feast of victory

Lector: A lesson from the book of Isaiah, chapter 25, verses 1–9:

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of foreigners is a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Anthem

I sat down under his shadow

Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

I sat down under his shadow with great delight,
and his fruit was sweet to my taste.
He brought me to the banqueting house,
and his banner over me was love.

Song of Solomon 2:3–4

Lesson

Philippians 4:1-9

Rejoice in the Lord always

Lector: A lesson from the Epistle to the Philippians, chapter 4, verses 1-9:

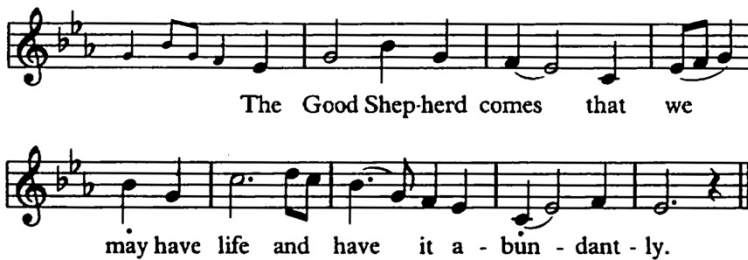
Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

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



Cantor: The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

People: He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

Cantor: he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

People: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

Cantor: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
People: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long. ♪

✠ **Gloria Patri** from Magnificat in D major Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

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 22:1–14 *The parable of the unwelcome guest*

Lector: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew,
chapter 22, verses 1–14:

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

Lector: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon "The Call to Joy" The Rev. Kristian C. Kohler
PhD Candidate in Liturgical Studies
Boston University School of Theology

1. The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2. Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3. Per - verse and fool - ish, oft I strayed, but yet in
 4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear
 5. Thou spreadst a ta - ble in my sight; thy unc - tion
 6. And so through all the length of days, thy good - ness

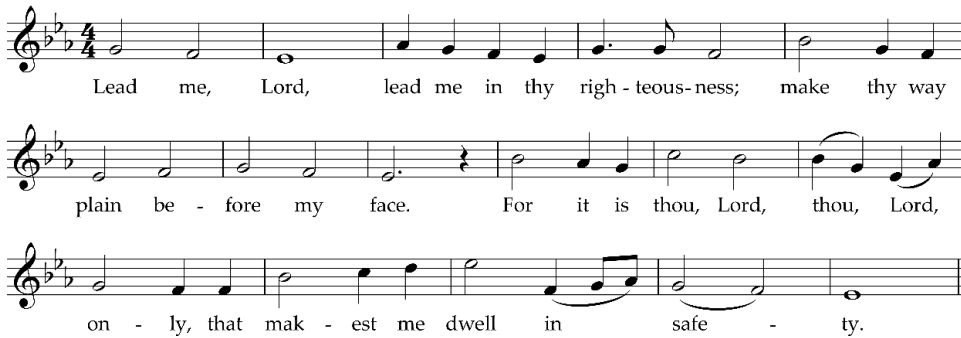
fail - eth nev - er. I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth; and where the ver - dant
 love he sought me; and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
 grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port
 fail - eth nev - er; Good Shep - herd, may I

I am his, and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!
 sing thy praise with - in thy house for - ev - er.

Call to Prayer

Lead me, Lord (*sung by all*)

LEAD ME, LORD



Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righ - teous-ness; make thy way
plain be - fore my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord,
on - ly, that mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

Prayers of the People

V: Hear us, O God R: *Your mercy is great.*

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 Requiem, Op. 48

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)

Offertory Sentences

At the Offertory

Jesus, I Adore Thee

Stephen Caracciolo (b. 1962)

Jesus I adore thee, word of truth and grace,
Who in glory shineth light upon our race.
Christ, to thee surrendered, my whole heart is bowed.
Alpha and Omega, thou true Son of God.

Taste and touch and vision to discern thee fail:
Faith that comes by hearing, pierces through the veil.
I believe whate'er the Son of God hath told.
What the truth hath spoken that for truth I hold.

Word of God incarnate, Lord of life and light,
Teach me how to love and worship thee aright.
Holy Spirit, ever bide within my heart,
Speaking thy commandments, telling all thou art.

Wondrous revelation, verity and grace.
 Lo, in glory's heav'n I see thee face to face.
 Light of endless light whom heav'n and earth adore,
 fill me with thy radiance now and evermore.

Thomas Aquinas (1227–1274)
translation by the composer

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

MARION

The music to this hymn is found on page 160 of the United Methodist Hymnal.

Praise God who reigns on high,
 The Lord whom we adore,
 The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 One God forevermore.

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

✦ **Offertory Prayer**

✦ **Hymn**

O Jesus, I have promised

WOLVERCOTE

1.O Je-sus, I have prom-ised, to serve thee to the end; be
 2.O let me hear thee speak-ing in ac-cents clear and still, a -
 3.O Je-sus, thou hast prom-ised to all who fol-low thee, that
 4.O let me see thy foot-marks, and in them plant mine own; my

thou for-ev-er near me, my mast-er and my friend; I
 bove the storms of pas-sion, the mur-murs of self-will; O
 where thou art in glo-ry there shall thy ser-vant be; and,
 hope to fol-low du-ly is in thy strength a-lone; O

shall not fear the bat-tle, if thou art by my side, nor
 speak to re-as-sure me, to has-ten or con-trol; O
 Je-sus, I have prom-ised to serve thee to the end; O
 guide me, call me, draw me, up-hold me to the end; and

wan-der from the path-way, if thou wilt be my guide.
 speak and make me lis-ten, thou guar-dian of my soul.
 give me grace to fol-low, my mas-ter and my friend.
 then in heaven re-ceive me, my sav-ior and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode (1816–1874)

Music: William Harold Ferguson (1874–1950)

✕ Benediction

✕ Response *from* Nunc dimittis in E-flat major *Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)*

Lord, now lettest Thou servant depart in peace,
according to thy word. Amen.

Luke 2:29

✕ Postlude

The preacher is the Rev. Kristian C. Kohler, PhD Candidate in Liturgical Studies, BU School of Theology.

The Marsh Chapel Choir is conducted by Scott Allen Jarrett, Director of Music.

The organist is Justin Thomas Blackwell, Associate Director of Music.

WELCOME, STUDENTS!

Marsh Chapel welcomes our new and returning Boston University students to worship with us this Sunday. We are so glad that you've chosen to worship with us. Marsh Chapel serves Boston University and its student community as a place of comfort, a refuge from suffering, and a font of inspiration and hope. No matter your faith or where you are along your spiritual journey, there is a place for you here!

If you would like to get connected and learn more about the Marsh Chapel community or have any questions for our team, scan the QR code and fill out the form with your contact information. The Rev. Jonathan Lee, Associate Chaplain for Student Outreach, will be in touch with you soon!



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Dean of Marsh Chapel and Chaplain to the University

Professor of New Testament and Pastoral Theology

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The Chapel Office is open 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. weekdays, and on Sunday mornings.

(617) 353-3560 — chapel@bu.edu — www.bu.edu/chapel.

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