

MARSH CHAPEL AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

University Interdenominational Protestant Service of Worship

Sunday, December 29th, 2024 — 11:00 a.m.

The First Sunday after Christmas Day

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 *harm. Charles Wood (1866–1926)*

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!

G. R. Woodward

✠ **Hymn 246** Joy to the world, the Lord is come! **ANTIOCH**

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns: let us our songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains re -
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 98:4-9)
 MUSIC: Arr. from G. F. Handel, 1741, by Lowell Mason, 1848

ANTIOCH
 CM with Repeat

✠ 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*)

1. An-gels we have heard on high sweet - ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
2. Come to Beth-le - hem and see Christ whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee, Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a,
in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - - - - -
- - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of five staves. The first two staves contain the main verses of the Gloria. The third staff begins the 'Refrain' section. The fourth and fifth staves continue the refrain with a long, sweeping melodic line that spans across the staves. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span multiple notes. The score ends with a double bar line.

Lesson 1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26

Lector: A lesson from the first book of Samuel, chapter 2, verses 18–20 and 26:

Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife and say, "May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the loan that she made to the LORD," and then they would return to their home. Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Wonderful peace

Gustaf Nordqvist (1886–1946)

*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.**Those 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

Lesson

Colossians 3:12–17

Lector: A lesson from the epistle to the Colossians, chapter 3, verses 12–17:

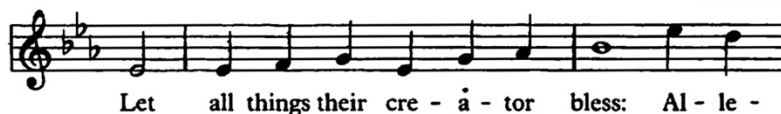
Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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.

♪ **Antiphon** (*sung by all*)



- 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** from 'Magnificat in G major'

C. V. Stanford (1852–1924)

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 Luke 2:41–52

Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 2, verses 41–52:

People: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

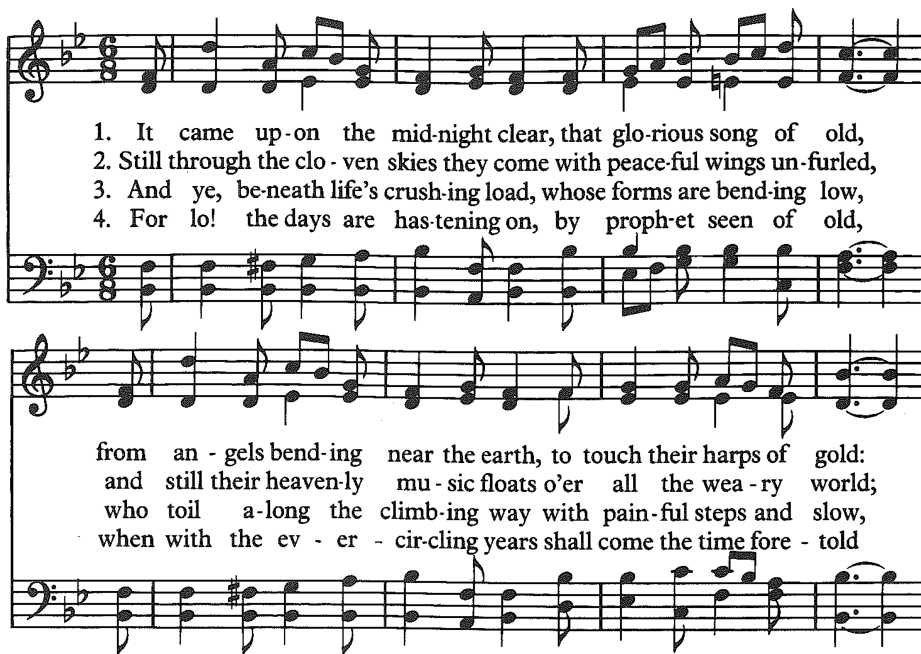
Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of this. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them, and his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favor.

Lector: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

✦ Hymn 218 It came upon the midnight clear

CAROL



1. It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-rious song of old,
2. Still through the clo-ven skies they come with peace-ful wings un-furled,
3. And ye, be-neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend-ing low,
4. For lo! the days are has-tening on, by proph-et seen of old,

from an - gels bend-ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heaven-ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;
who toil a-long the climb-ing way with pain-ful steps and slow,
when with the ev - er - cir-cling years shall come the time fore - told

“Peace on the earth, good will to men,* from heaven’s all-gracious King.”
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains, they bend on hov-ering wing,
 look now! for glad and gold - en hours come swift-ly on the wing.
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an-cient splen-dors fling,

The world in sol-emn still-ness lay, to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o’er its Ba-bel sounds the bless-ed an - gels sing.
 O rest be-side the wea - ry road, and hear the an - gels sing!
 and the whole world send back the song which now the an - gels sing.

**“all” may be substituted*

WORDS: Edmund H. Sears, 1849 (Lk. 2:8-14)

MUSIC: Richard Storrs Willis, 1850

CAROL
CMD

Sermon

“In Wisdom and Stature”

The Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

✦ **Hymn 240**

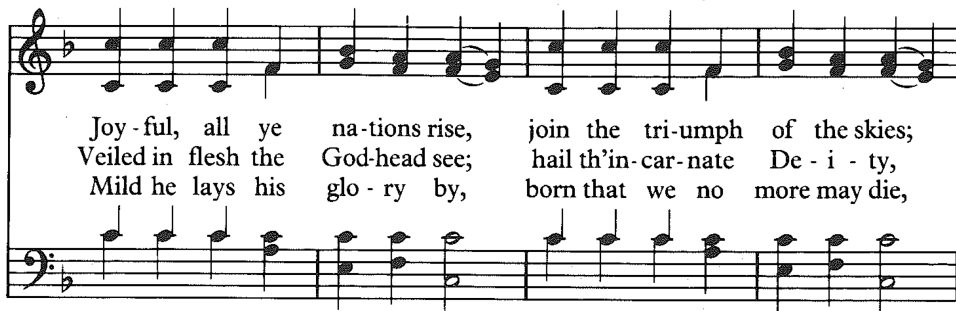
Hark! the herald angels sing

MENDELSSOHN

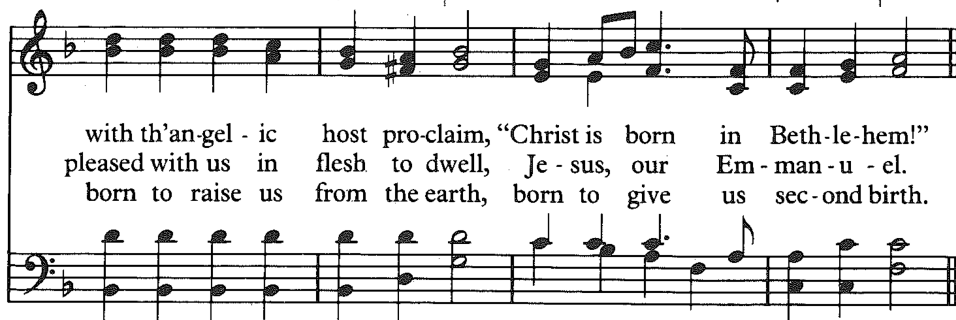
1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born King;
 2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer-cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on-ciled!"
late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir-gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

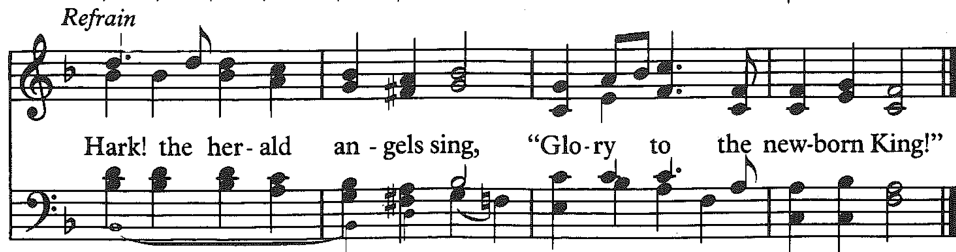


Joy - ful, all ye na-tions rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in-car-nate De - i - ty,
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with th'an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!"
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!"

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739; alt. by George Whitefield, 1753, and others (Lk. 2:8-14) MENDELSSOHN
MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; arr. by William H. Cummings, 1856 77.77 D with Refrain

Call to Prayer (*sung by all*)

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–1876)

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy right - eous-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 and 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 Jesulein süß

harm. J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

O Jesulein süß, o Jesulein mild!
Deines Vaters Willen hast du erfüllt,
bist kommen aus dem Himmelreich,
uns armen Menschen worden gleich.
O Jesulein süß, o Jesulein mild!

*O sweet little Jesus, O gentle little Jesus,
the Father's will you have fulfilled;
you have come from the heavenly kingdom,
(you have) become like us poor mortals,
O sweet little Jesus, O gentle little Jesus.*

Offertory Sentences

At the Offertory O magnum mysterium

Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

O magnum mysterium
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum
jacentem in praeseptio.
O beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt
portare Dominum Jesum Christum.
Alleluia!

*O great mystery,
and wondrous sacrament,
that the animals should witness the
birth of the Lord in the manger.
O blessed Virgin, whose womb was deemed
worthy to bear Christ the Lord.
Alleluia!*

Fourth Responsory for Matins of Christmas Day

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

GREENSLEEVES



So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come, peas - ant, king, to own him;
the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

✦ Offertory Prayer

✦ Hymn 251

Go, tell it on the mountain

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN



Refrain
Go, tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

Fine

go, tell it on the moun - tain, that Je - sus Christ is born.

1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
 2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled, when lo! a - bove the earth,
 3. Down in a low - ly man-ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

D.C.

be - hold through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
 rang out the an - gel cho-rus that hailed the Sav-ior's birth.
 and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

WORDS: Afro-American spiritual; adapt. by
 John W. Work, Jr., 1907 (Lk. 2:8-20)
 MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and arr. by
 William Farley Smith, 1986

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN
 Irr. with Refrain

✦ 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 Reverend Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean of the Chapel.
 The conductor and organist is Justin Thomas Blackwell, Associate Director of Music.*

WELCOME TO MARSH CHAPEL

Thank you for joining us this morning for worship. We hope 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.

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

The Reverend Dr. Jessica Chicka, PhD STH'19, University Chaplain for International Students

The Reverend Dr. Karen Coleman, University Chaplain for Episcopal Ministry

Jonathan Byung Hoon Lee, MDiv Associate Chaplain for Student Outreach

The Reverend Al Carroll, STH'24, Chapel Associate for Special Projects

Danayzah Gardner, Food Engagement Coordinator

Darby McMonagle, Ministry Assistant

Emmanuel Segbedzi, Graduate Assistant

Scott Allen Jarrett, DMA CFA'08, Director of Music, the Arts, and Cultural Engagement

Justin Thomas Blackwell, MM CFA'09, Associate Director of Music

Sung Jin Choi, Technical Director, Marsh Chapel Media

Andrew Marshall, Director, Inner Strength Gospel Choir

Patrick T. Waters, MSM STH'08, Assistant Director of Music, Special Projects and Publications

Rose Lewis, Music Program Administrator

Timothy Rodriguez, Manager and Librarian, Marsh Chapel Choir

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David Ames, Sacristan

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Molly Fineberg, Bella Marquez, Zacharie Verdieu, Office Assistants

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