



MARSH CHAPEL AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

735 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE

BOSTON, MA 02215

University Interdenominational Protestant

Service of Worship

Sunday, March 23, 2025 — 11:00 a.m.

The Third Sunday in Lent

Series LXXV № 31

The Reverend Doctor Robert Allan Hill, Dean

✦ *Please rise, as you are able.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Cantabile in B major

César Franck (1822–1890)

Call to Worship and Greeting

The Dean: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

The Dean: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: *God's mercy endures forever.*

✦ **Introit**

from *Preces and Responses*

Gabriel Jackson (b. 1962)

O Lord, open thou our lips. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us. O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father...

Praise ye the Lord. The Lord's name be praised.

Book of Common Prayer

✦ **Hymn 126**

Sing praise to God who reigns above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

1. Sing praise to God who reigns a-bove, the God of all cre -
2. The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but through all grief dis -
3. Thus, all my toil - some way a - long, I sing a - loud thy
4. Let all who name Christ's ho - ly name give God all praise and

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
 tress - ing, an ev - er pres - ent help and stay, our peace and
 prais - es, that earth may hear the grate - ful song my voice un -
 glo - ry; let all who own his power pro - claim a - loud the

our sal - va - tion. With heal - ing balm my soul is filled and
 joy and bless - ing. As with a moth - er's ten - der hand, God
 wea - ried rais - es. Be joy - ful in the Lord, my heart, both
 won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, for

ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stilled: To God all praise and glo - ry.
 gent - ly leads the cho - sen band: To God all praise and glo - ry.
 soul and bod - y bear your part: To God all praise and glo - ry.
 Christ is Lord, and Christ a - lone: To God all praise and glo - ry.

WORDS: Johann J. Schütz, 1675; trans. by Frances E. Cox, 1864 (Dt. 32:3)

MUSIC: Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesänge*, 1566; harm. by Maurice F. Bell, 1906

MIT FREUDEN ZART

87.87.887

✦ **Collect** (*in unison*)

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Kyrie from Missa Brevis (1924)

Mátyás Seiber (1905–1960).

Kyrie eleison,
Christe eleison,
Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy.*

Assurance of Pardon

The Dean: 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 55:1–9

Come to the water

Lector: A lesson from the book of the prophet Isaiah, chapter 55, verses 1–9:

Hear, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Anthem Psalm 42 'Wie der Hirsch schreit', Op. 42

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

II. Aria (S)

Meine Seele dürstet nach Gott,
Nach dem lebendigen Gott.
Wann werde ich dahin kommen,
Dass ich Gottes Angesicht schaue?

²*My soul thirsteth for God,
For the living God:
When shall I come
And appear before God?*

III. Recitative (S)

Meine Tränen sind meine Speise
Tag und Nacht,
Weil man täglich zu mir sagt:
Wo ist nun dein Gott?
Wenn ich dess' inne werde,
So schütte ich mein Herz aus bei mir selbst;

³*My tears have been my meat
Day and night,
While they continually say unto me:
"Where is thy God?"
When I remember these things,
I pour out my soul in me:*

IV. Aria (S) and Chorus

Denn ich wollte gerne hingehen
Mit dem Haufen
Und mit ihnen wallen zum Hause Gottes,
Mit Frohlocken und Danken,
Unter dem Haufen derer, die da feiern.

⁴For I had gone
With the multitude,
I went with them to the house of God,
With the voice of joy and praise,
With a multitude that kept holyday.

Psalm 42: 2-4

The Psalter

Psalm 63:1-8

O God, I eagerly seek you

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

♪ Antiphon (*sung by all*)



My soul is thirst-ing for you, O
Lord, thirst-ing for you my God.

- Cantor:* O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
- People:* *So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.*
- Cantor:* Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
- People:* *So I will bless you as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.*
- Cantor:* My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips...
- People:* *...when I think of you on my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;*
- Cantor:* For you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.
- People:* *My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me. ♪*

✘ **Gloria Patri** from 'Nunc dimittis', Op. 69/1

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

Ehre sei dem Vater, und dem Sohne,
und dem Heiligen Geist,
wie es war zu Anfang, jetzt und immerdar,
und von Ewigkeit zu Ewigkeit. Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now
and will be forever and ever. Amen.

✘ **Gospel Lesson** Luke 13:1–9

The parable of the fig tree

Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 13, verses 1–9:

People: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Lector: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Sermon "Unamuno and the Tragic Sense of Life, Part II" The Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill

✘ **Hymn 452** My faith looks up to thee

OLIVET

1. My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of
2. May thy rich grace im-part strength to my
3. While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a -
4. When ends life's tran-sient dream, when death's cold,

Cal - va - ry, Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me
faint - ing heart, my zeal in - spire! As thou hast
round me spread, be thou my guide; bid dark - ness
sul - len stream shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior,

while I pray, take all my guilt a - way,
died for me, O may my love to thee
turn to day, wipe sor - row's tears a - way,
then in love, fear and dis - trust re - move;

O let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
O bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

WORDS: Ray Palmer, 1875
MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1831

OLIVET
664.6664

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 & 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 *Christe, du Lamm Gottes*, BWV 245.ii J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Offertory Sentences

At the Offertory Psalm 42 'Wie der Hirsch schreit', Op. 42 Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

VI. Quintet (S, TTBB)

Der Herr hat des Tages
Verheißen seine Güte,
Und des Nachts singe ich zu ihm
Und bete zu dem Gotte meines Lebens.
Mein Gott! Betrübt ist meine Seele in mir,
Warum hast Du meiner vergessen?
Warum muss ich so traurig geh'n,
Wenn mein Feind mich drängt?

⁸*Yet the Lord will command
His loving-kindness in the day time,
And in the night his song shall be with me,
And my prayer unto the God of my life.
⁹I will say unto God my rock,
Why hast thou forgotten me?
Why go I mourning
Because of the oppression of the enemy?*

IV. Chorus

Was betrübst du dich, meine Seele,
Und bist so unruhig in mir?
Harre auf Gott!
Denn ich werde ihm noch danken,
Dass er mir hilft mit seinem Angesicht.

¹¹*Why art thou cast down, O my soul?
And why art thou disquieted in me?
Hope thou in God:
For I shall yet praise him
For the help of his countenance.*

Psalm 42: 8–9, 11

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

DEO GRACIAS

All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad:
the Trin - i - ty whom we a - dore, for - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

✠ Offertory Prayer

1. When I sur-vey the won-drous cross on which the
 2. For-bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor-row and
 4. Were the whole realm of na-ture mine, that were an

Prince of Glo-ry died, my rich-est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min-gled down. Did e'er such love and
 of-fering far too small; love so a-maz-ing,

count but loss, and pour con-tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac-ri-fice them to his blood.
 sor-row meet, or thorns com-pose so rich a crown?
 so di-vine, de-mands my soul, my life, my all.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1707 (Gal. 6:14)
 MUSIC: Anon.; arr. by Edward Miller, 1790

ROCKINGHAM
 LM

✘ **Response** from *Lo, the full, final sacrifice*, Op. 26

Gerald Finzi (1901–1956)

When this dry soul those eyes shall see,
And drink the unseal'd source of thee.
When Glory's sun faith's shades shall chase,
And for thy veil give me thy Face.
Lo, the full, final Sacrifice
On which all figures fix't their eyes. Amen.

Richard Crashaw (c. 1613–1649)

✘ **Postlude** Toccata: ABERYSTWYTH

David Bednall (b. 1979)

*The preacher is the Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean of the Chapel.
The Marsh Chapel Choir is conducted by Patrick T. Waters.
Rose Lewis, soprano, is the soloist for Psalm 42 No. 2–3.
Logan Trotter, soprano, is the soloist for Psalm 42 No. 5–6.
Justin Thomas Blackwell played today's service.*

*Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.
The hymns and the psalm response are from the United Methodist Hymnal, copyright 1989.*

"RETURNING TO GOD" — 2025 LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

RETURNING TO GOD | *Daily Devotional Series for Lent, 2025*

Daily devotional reflection emailed each morning beginning March 5 through April 20

With more than 800 subscribers, 47 newly authored reflections sourced from our community, along with 47 Marsh Chapel Choir anthems selected from our recording archive, Marsh Chapel's Lenten Devotional Series is a unique, daily "creative encounter" for spiritual growth designed by and for our community. Beginning March 5, devotions are emailed early each morning and include (1) a passage of scripture, (2) a unique written reflection by a member of the Marsh Chapel community, and (3) a musical selection from the Marsh Chapel Choir.

Our focus this Lent is *Returning to God*, with scripture passages that invite us, this week, to *REFLECT: How are we, as Christians, using the Lenten season to reflect God's light into the world?*

Explore your faith and the hope that springs from it.

Subscribe for free at <https://bit.ly/LentDevo2025>

MUSIC AT MARSH CHAPEL

BACH *The Passion According to St. John, BWV 245* (1725 version)

Saturday, April 5, 2025; 7:30 p.m.

Free admission

Join the Marsh Chapel Choir and Collegium for a performance of one of Bach's most beloved works, *The Passion According to St. John*, this time performed in the rarely-heard 1725 version. The *St. John Passion* reflects on the central drama of the Christian religion: the trial, suffering, and death of Jesus as a redemptive act for humankind. Bach draws upon the boundless reservoir of his genius to tell this moving story. The combined forces of the Marsh Chapel Choir, the Marsh Chapel Collegium, and six soloists bring this masterpiece to life. Join us on April 5 and marvel at the enduring power of such tender and delicate music to connect, heal, and inspire.

EASTER LILY ORDER FORMS AVAILABLE NOW



Order forms for the annual Easter lilies are now available. To order lilies in remembrance of or in honor of your loved ones, please use the QR code to the left or go to this link: <https://bit.ly/MarshEasterLily2025>. For assistance, please see our hospitality intern in the narthex after today's worship service. Lily orders close on April 6.

The Reverend Dr. Robert Allan Hill

*Dean of Marsh Chapel and Chaplain to the University
Professor of New Testament and Pastoral Theology*

MINISTRY

The Reverend Dr. Jessica Chicka | *University Chaplain for International Students*
The Reverend Dr. Karen Coleman | *University Chaplain for Episcopal Ministry*
Jonathan Byung Hoon Lee | *Associate Chaplain for Student Outreach*
Darby McMonagle | *Ministry Assistant*
Emmanuel Segbedzi | *Graduate Assistant*

MUSIC

Scott Allen Jarrett | *Director of Music, the Arts, and Cultural Engagement*
Justin Thomas Blackwell | *Associate Director of Music*
Sung Jin Choi | *Technical Director, Marsh Chapel Media*
Andrew Marshall | *Director, Inner Strength Gospel Choir*
Patrick T. Waters | *Assistant Director of Music, Special Projects and Publications*
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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.

A heart for the heart of the city and a service in the service of the city