



MARSH CHAPEL AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

University Interdenominational Protestant

Service of Worship

Sunday, August 9th, 2009 - 11:00 a.m.

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. 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** Rejoice in the Lord always *Anonymous*

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice.

—Philippians 4: 4

☒ **Hymn 139** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty *LOBE DEN HERREN*

☒ **Opening Prayer** (*in unison*)

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; 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 de Sancta Maria Magdalena* *Healey Willan (1880-1968)*

All are invited to enter into a time of silent confession during the singing of the Kyrie.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

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 Ezekiel 36, 22-27

Lector: A lesson from the prophet Ezekiel, chapter 36, verses 22-27:

Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. I will sanctify my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them; and the nations shall know that I am the LORD, says the Lord God, when through you I display my holiness before their eyes. I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem O Lord, give thy Holy Spirit *Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)*

O Lord, give thy Holy Spirit into our hearts, and lighten our understanding, that we may dwell in the fear of thy Name, all the days of our life, that we may know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.

—Lidley's Prayers (1566)

Psalm 34, 1-8

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

♪ **Antiphon** (*sung by all*)



O taste and see that the Lord is good!



Hap-py are those who take ref-uge in God!

Cantor: I will bless the LORD at all times;
God's praise shall continually be in my mouth.

People: *My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.*

Cantor: O magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt God's name together.

People: *I sought the LORD, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.*

Cantor: Look to God, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be ashamed.

People: *This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD,
and was saved from every trouble.*

Cantor: The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,
and delivers them.

People: *O taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are those who take refuge in God. 🎵*

✠ **Gloria Patri** (*sung by all*)

The music to this hymn may be found on page 559 of the United Methodist Hymnal, verse 4.

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one;
One in might and one in glory, while unending ages run.

✠ **Gospel Lesson** John 3: 1-10

Lector: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John, chapter 3,
verses 1-10:

People: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.'

Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?'

Lector: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

✠ **Hymn 184** Of the Father's love begotten DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Sermon 'Getting Past Literalism, with Jesus' Help' Dr. Kirk Wegter-McNelly
Assistant Professor of Theology
Boston University School of Theology

Call to Prayer Lead Me, Lord (*sung by all*) LEAD ME, LORD

The music to this hymn may be 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.

Choral Response *adapted from Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)*

There for me the Savior stands, shows his wounds and spreads his hands. God is Love! I know, and feel; Jesus weeps and loves me still.
Now incline me to repent, let me now my sins lament, now my foul revolt deplore, weep, believe, and sin no more.

— Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Community Life and Offering

At the Offertory Verleih uns Frieden

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Verleih uns Frieden gnädiglich,
Herr Gott, zu unsern Zeiten.
Es ist doch ja kein andrer nicht,
der für uns könnte streiten,
denn du, unser Gott, alleine.

*Grant us merciful peace,
O Lord!
For there is no one else to protect us
in our time of strife
except you, the one and only God.*

—Martin Luther (1483-1546)

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

CWM RHONDDA

The music to this hymn may be found on page 577 of the United Methodist Hymnal.

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**

✦ **Hymn 96**

Praise the Lord who reigns above

AMSTERDAM

✦ **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*

Please remain standing until the procession has left the nave.

Postlude



*The preacher is Kirk Wegter-McNelly.
The choir is conducted by Justin Blackwell and Timothy Westerhaus.
The organist is Justin Thomas Blackwell.*

DARWIN AND FAITH: 2009 SUMMER PREACHER SERIES

The third annual **Marsh Chapel National Summer Preacher Series** brings some of the finest preaching in the country to the pulpit of Howard Thurman. In recognition of the bicentennial of the birth of Charles Darwin and the sesquicentennial of the publication of his *On the Origin of Species*, this summer we offer **eleven weeks of sermonic considerations of Darwin**, his thought, and the implications of his thought for the life of faith. It is no secret that the so-called wars of science and religion have become entrenched especially in fundamentalist Christian theology and the contemporary movement known as the New Atheism. At Marsh Chapel, in a spirit of responsible Christian liberalism, we long for a way forward toward a faith that appeals to culture and a culture that is attractive to faith, acknowledging that all truth is God's truth.

This summer's series includes voices from around the country, from Boston University's School of Theology, and from the Marsh community itself. The second edition of Marsh Chapel's new on-line magazine, *motives*, will present the printed texts of these summer sermons. In addition, Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett and the Marsh Chapel Choir (who last summer presented to much appreciation Palestrina's motets on the Song of Songs), will be offering choral music related to the theme of creation. As was done previously, two summer luncheons on the theme of Darwin and Faith will be offered July 15 and July 29, 12--1:30PM in the Thurman Room of the Chapel. For more information call 617.353.3560 or email chapel@bu.edu.

June 21: Rev. Dr. Wesley Wildman

June 28: Rev. Dr. Robert C. Neville

July 5: Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

July 12 and July 19: Rev. Dr. Dean Snyder

July 26 and August 2: Rev. Dr. Charlie Yoost

August 9: Dr. Kirk Wegter-McNelly

August 16: Rev. Dr. Rodney Petersen

August 23: Br. Lawrence Whitney, LC+

August 30: Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean

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.

Although Boston University is in summer session, and many of our faculty, staff, administrators and students are away for summer break, we continue at Marsh Chapel to offer Sunday services of ordered worship, every week of the year, including the summer months. Each year we offer a special National Preacher Series for the summer (see the information printed elsewhere in the bulletin). We are happy that you have joined us for our summer worship. We look forward to the regathering of our full worshipping community in early September, and invite you also to join us in the autumn.

◀ 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 am – 5 pm weekdays, and on Sunday Mornings.

Rev. Dr. Robert Allan Hill, Dean and Chaplain of the University
Br. Lawrence A. Whitney, LC+, University Chaplain for Community Life
Ray Bouchard, MTS STH'95, Director of Marsh Chapel
Scott Allen Jarrett, DMA CFA'08, Director of Music
Justin Thomas Blackwell, MM CFA'09, Associate Director of Music
Elizabeth Fomby, Director of Hospitality
Rev. Victoria Hart Gaskell, OSL, Chapel Associate for Methodist Students
Susan Forshey, Chapel Associate for Ministry Formation
Liz Douglass, Chapel Associate for LBGTQ Ministry
Herbert S. Jones, Director, Inner Strength Gospel Choir
Timothy Westerhaus, MM CFA 08, Assistant Conductor, Marsh Chapel Choir
Melissa Riesgo and Rachel Cape, Music Program Administrators
David Ames, Chapel Sacristan
George Coulter, Mark Gray, Ushers
Andrew Lynch, Jay Reeg, Jennifer Williams, Ushers
Heidi Freimanis, Wedding Coordinator
Karen Smith and Jeannette Lewis, Child Care and Office Assistants
Kaitlin Daly and Michele Buonanduci, Office Assistants

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