Today, the Chapel honors the witness of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., recalling his conviction that “injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” The service includes a litany remembering the prophetic witness of the Rev. Dr. King and asking for grace for all who continue to work toward God’s justice on earth. Even as we remember the Rev. Dr. King, we are reminded through the scriptures of others who have cried out in truth about their life situations and about the God who comes to rescue and redeem. Isaiah and Paul both speak of the God who faithfully gives strength and helps accomplish the work to which God calls us. In the gospel lesson, John the Baptist declares that Jesus is God’s lamb who has come to take away the sins of the whole world.
Gathering
Carillon

Opening Voluntary

Capriccio [IX] di durezze
Girolamo Frescobaldi
(1583–1643)

Canzona III

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Processional Hymn | UMH 519

Lift Every Voice and Sing

*Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance | In unison:

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.

The minister speaks words of assurance.

*Peace | All exchange signs and words of God’s peace.

Minister: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

Proclamation
Prayer for Illumination | In unison:

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: as your word is proclaimed, anoint us with your Holy Spirit, and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen.

*All rise as able
Old Testament Lesson | OT page 638 in pew Bibles.

Isaiah 49:1–7

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Lesson | NT page 155 in pew Bibles.

1 Corinthians 1:1–9

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

I Believe This Is Jesus

Undine Smith Moore (1904–1989)

I believe this is Jesus; come and see, come and see.
I believe this is Jesus; come and see, come and see.

The light of God shines in his face; oh come and see.
He offers all his pardoning grace; come and see, come and see.

—Black spiritual

*Gospel Lesson | NT pages 86–87 in pew Bibles.

John 1:29–42

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Reflections on King and Our Missed Opportunities
Prayer Litany for Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: God of all races and nations, we praise you for all your faithful servants who have done justice, loved mercy, and walked humbly with their God. For apostles, martyrs, leaders, and saints, and for humble folk whose names were never in the news but are recorded in your book of life,
People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: Especially this day, we thank you for Martin Luther King Jr., for his courage and conviction, for his passion for peace, and for his tireless quest of a nation that keeps faith with its promises,
People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: For the King family and the countless others who stood and marched in the front lines, integrated schools and restaurants, or sat in buses and refused to move,
People: We give you thanks, O God.

Leader: For nameless multitudes who suffered the tortures of slavery and the tyranny of oppression and who were beaten, raped, and lynched; and for the nameless multitudes today whose lives are stunted and cut short by economic and social structures of brutality.
People: We grieve and promise to work for justice, O God.
Leader: And for children, women, and men of every race who are denied education, health care, jobs, housing, and hope in our land,

People: We grieve and promise to work for justice, O God.

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

People: Amen.

Offertory | Please sign and pass the attendance pads located in the pew at the center aisle.

Agnus Dei (Gospel Mass) 

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us, have mercy on us.

For you came to die for me, suffered, bled, and died, died on Calvary.

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us, have mercy on us.

In your Word you showed us how, we are trying, Lord, hear our prayer right now.

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace, grant us thy peace. Amen.

—Ordinary of the Mass

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanksgiving

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Lord’s Prayer | All are encouraged to pray the Lord’s Prayer in the language of their choosing.

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, forever.
Amen.

Sending Forth

*Choral Benediction

May the LORD Bless You

May the LORD bless you and keep you,
and make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you.
The LORD protect you from harm; may he always give you peace.

—Numbers 6:24

*Benediction

*Recessional Hymn | UMH 571

Go, Make of All Disciples

Closing Voluntary

Sortie in D Major

Carillon

Memorial Chapel Communion | Immediately following today’s worship service, a brief communion service will be held in Memorial Chapel. Following communion, the pastor will be available to offer prayers and anointing.
TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers
Racquel Gill ................. Minister for Intercultural Engagement, Duke University Chapel
Bruce Puckett .................. Assistant Dean, Duke University Chapel

Preacher
Gary V. Simpson .................. Pastor, Concord Baptist Church of Christ, New York

Lectors
John Paul Kene Anumba .................. Chapel Scholar, Graduate ’28
Meaghan Nuckols.................. Chapel Scholar; Law ’25

Musicians
Duke Chapel Choir .................. Choir
Zebulon Highben .................. Director of Chapel Music, Duke University Chapel
Robert Parkins .................. University Organist, Duke University
Chad Fothergill .................. Interim Chapel Organist, Duke University Chapel
Daniel Jacky .................. Organ Scholar, Duke University Chapel
Charlie Hyland .................. Soloist
Mitchell Eithun .................. Chapel Carillonneur, Duke University Chapel

Head Usher
James Ferguson .................. Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Today’s Guest Preacher | The Gomes Guest Preacher for today is the Rev. Dr. Gary V. Simpson. Rev. Dr. Simpson is the leading pastor of the Concord Baptist Church of Christ in Brooklyn, New York, where he has served since 1990. Under his leadership, Concord Baptist was one of a handful of churches across the country serving as a teaching congregation for pastors through a pastoral residency program supported by the Lilly Endowment. In addition to his pastoral role, he is also an associate professor of homiletics at Drew Theological Seminary. He has also taught and lectured at New Brunswick Theological Seminary, Harvard Divinity School, Yale Divinity School, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Candler School of Theology. He has served on the leadership boards of Denison University, the National Grid Foundation, the Association of Theological Schools, and the American Baptist Home Missionary Society. He currently chairs the Ordination Council of the American Baptist Churches—Metro New York.
Today's Offering | All of today’s cash offerings and checks written to Duke University Chapel will be used to support the Chapel’s student engagement programming. Send checks to: Duke University Chapel, Box 90974, Durham, NC 27708-0974. You are invited to give online at chapel.duke.edu/offering.

Today's Flowers | Flowers for today’s worship service are provided by the generosity of the Nan & Taylor Cole Chapel Endowment.


University Prayer of Thanksgiving | Each week, we focus on a different campus unit, school, or department for whom to give thanks to God for their service and contributions to the wider university community and beyond. Today, we give thanks for graduate and professional students.

Attendance Pad | This morning, worshipers are invited to indicate their presence using the attendance pad located on the pews at the center aisle. The purpose of this is to help the Chapel and Congregation better understand who worships with us on Sunday mornings. In addition, this registration will allow those who share a pew to greet each other by name.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Ceremony Today | The Duke community will gather today at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel for the university’s annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration. The event will feature keynote speaker Mikki Kendall, author of the 2020 bestseller Hood Feminism. Learn more about her address, find a link for the livestream for the ceremony, and see a schedule of other King commemoration events at mlk.duke.edu.

Back Pew Collection | Today and next Sunday, the Congregation will collect items for our neighbors at Urban Ministries of Durham. Currently, the shelter needs shelf-stable, non-perishable food as well as socks and underwear for men. Donations may be placed on the back pew today or January 22.
New Art Exhibition | In partnership with Duke Initiatives in Theology and the Arts (DITA), the Chapel is presenting an exhibition of prints of works by the distinguished, modernist artist Marc Chagall. Curated by the art collector Sandra Bowden, the exhibition, *Marc Chagall and the Bible*, features etchings and lithographs with biblical themes. It is on display in the Chapel now until March 30. The exhibition is free and open to the public whenever the Chapel is open. Daily building hours are 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., except when closed for private events. See the full schedule at chapel.duke.edu/events.

Accepting Submissions for Student Preacher Sunday | The Chapel is accepting submissions for this year’s Student Preacher Sunday. Every year, one undergraduate student is selected to preach during a Sunday morning worship service (this year on March 5). Submissions are due this Friday, January 20. To learn more and submit a sermon manuscript, contact the Chapel’s assistant dean, the Rev. Bruce Puckett, at bruce.puckett@duke.edu.

Choral Evensong Next Sunday | Next Sunday, January 22, at 4:00 p.m., the Chapel will hold a service of Choral Evensong, which draws upon stirring choral and organ music of the English cathedral tradition. The liturgy follows the Book of Common Prayer with music led by the Chapel's Evensong Singers.

Accepting Applications for Student Ambassadors | Duke Chapel Student Ambassadors is a select group of Duke undergraduate students from various academic backgrounds dedicated to inviting others into the story and sanctuary of Duke Chapel. Student Ambassadors are trained to be Chapel Docents and commit to serving in this role for at least one year. Applications to become a Student Ambassador are due Friday, January 27. Learn about Duke Chapel Student Ambassadors and apply at chapel.duke.edu/DCSA.

Saturday Service Project | Volunteers are needed on Saturday, January 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 12-noon to sort and fold donated clothing at Urban Ministries, located at 410 Liberty St. in Durham. Urban Ministries provides housing and hope for unsheltered neighbors. For more information, please contact congregation@duke.edu.
Organ Recital Jan. 29 | Bálint Karosi, director of music at Saint Peter's Church in New York City, will give the next performance in our Organ Recital Series on Sunday, January 29, at 5:00 p.m. Karosi has been recognized as a leading interpreter of the music of J. S. Bach since winning the International Bach Competition in Leipzig (2008). His recital will be performed on the Chapel’s Brombaugh and Flentrop organs. Admission is free.

Theology Underground Resumes This Month | Theology Underground is a series of guided conversations about how culture, identity, and race impact the way we live out our faith and beliefs. Each month, the program engages with a different cultural community and learns about their unique and creative ways of imagining God and living out their faith. Meetings are held Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity on the top level of the Bryan Center. The next meeting will January 31 with the topic “Theology of a KING.” See the schedule of topics at chapel.duke.edu/theologyunderground.

Candlemas Service Feb. 2 | In a service on Thursday, February 2, at 7:00 p.m., the Chapel will celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple at Jerusalem—also called Candlemas or the Purification of the Virgin Mary. The service has its origins in the second chapter of the Gospel of Luke, which includes a description of when Mary and Joseph brought the infant Jesus to the Temple according to Jewish law. There, the old prophet Simeon recognized the child as “a light for revelation to all nations.” Thus, the image of light is emphasized in the Candlemas liturgy, which begins in the entryway of the Chapel (the narthex) with the blessing of candles.

Choir Auditions | The Duke Chapel Choir, Evensong Singers, and Vespers Ensemble are accepting new singers for the spring semester. All Duke students, faculty, staff, and community members are invited to audition. For more information, please contact chapelmusic@duke.edu.
‘Becoming Human’ Book Seminar | Chapel Dean Luke Powery will discuss his book, *Becoming Human: The Holy Spirit and the Rhetoric of Race*, on Saturday, February 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity Ave. Presbyterian Church in Durham. This seminar is sponsored by the Congregation at Duke Chapel’s Education Committee. The cost is $10 per person, which offsets the cost of the catered lunch. Please contact congregation@duke.edu to sign up.

Seeking to Hire a Communications Specialist | The Chapel is seeking to hire a Communications Specialist. The person in this position presents the Chapel’s mission, ministry, and programs to its constituents through visual media. Learn more and apply on the Duke Careers website at careers.duke.edu.

Sunday Morning Classes | Sunday morning Christian Education classes are available for all ages. These classes are offered from 9:45–10:45 a.m., with coffee and refreshments provided at 9:30 a.m. Classes meet in the lowest level of the Westbrook building. Classes are as follows:

**Wee Praise:** Music and movement for children ages 0–3 with parents or caregivers in 0011 Westbrook  
**Godly Play:** Spiritual formation for children ages 4 through 5th grade in 0050 Langford  
**Youth Bible Study:** Youth in 6th–12th grades will discuss New Testament letters in 0015 Westbrook  
**Bible Study:** Exploration of the Gospel of Matthew in 0013 Westbrook and over Zoom  
**Adult Forum:** On January 22, the Rev. Kathryn Lester-Bacon, director of Religious Life at Duke University Chapel, will speak in 0012 Westbrook and over Zoom
The Congregation at Duke University Chapel joyfully welcomes all persons regardless of age, race, class, origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other distinction and invites membership and participation in all of its ministries.

Please email congregation@duke.edu to receive the weekly eNews.