



Duke  
UNIVERSITY  
CHAPEL

BRIDGING FAITH & LEARNING

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 17, 2021



Today marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday occurs forty days before Easter, not including six Sundays (which are considered feast days), and recalls Jesus's forty days in the wilderness, itself mirroring the Israelites' forty years in the desert. In the scripture lesson from Joel, the prophet speaks to the coming day of the Lord. He calls God's people to turn back to God with prayer and fasting because God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Paul encourages the church in Corinth to be reconciled to God because in and through Christ the church may be the righteousness of God. Jesus teaches his disciples to avoid hypocrisy in giving, praying, and fasting. He then tells them to accumulate heavenly treasures over earthly ones, "for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

## Gathering

### Opening Voluntary

Aus tiefer Not, BWV 687

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685–1750)

### Greeting and Call to Worship

\*Opening Hymn | See hymns at the back of the worship guide.

Savior, When in Dust to You

ABERYSTWYTH

## Proclamation

### Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, our lives are laid open before you: as we hear your word today, rescue our hearts from the darkness of sin and through the death of your Son lead us to new life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

### Old Testament Lesson

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17

### New Testament Lesson

2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10

### \*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

### Homily

### Anthem (Virtual)

Hide not thou thy face

Richard Farrant  
(c. 1525–1580)

Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord,  
and cast not off thy servant in thy displeasure;  
for we confess our sins unto thee  
and hide not our unrighteousness.  
For thy mercy's sake,  
deliver us from all our sins.

*Text: Psalm 27:9*

\*All rise as able

# Invitation to the Observance of a Holy Lent

## Prayer Over the Ashes

**Imposition of Ashes** | At this point in the service, please see the instructions in the Today in Worship section for administering ashes, dirt, or oil at home.

**Litany of Penitence** | The congregation responds with the text in bold:

God the Father,  
**Have mercy on us.**

God the Son,  
**Have mercy on us.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
**Have mercy on us.**

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity,  
**Have mercy on us.**

From our pride, vanity, and hypocrisy,  
and from all our evil plans,  
**Deliver us.**

From our envy and malice,  
and from our hardness of heart,  
**Deliver us.**

From our sloth and worldliness,  
and our lack of compassion,  
**Deliver us.**

From our love of money, our hoarding of possessions,  
and our relentless desire to accumulate more,  
**Deliver us.**

From the lust for sexual pleasure  
that obscures the true gift of love in us and in others,  
**Deliver us.**

From the gorging of food, the indulging of our appetites,  
and our neglect of the hungry,  
**Deliver us.**

From our hatred, anger, and quick temper,  
and from our reluctance to be reconciled with those we have hurt,  
**Deliver us.**

Give us true repentance;  
forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance  
and our deliberate sins;  
and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit  
to amend our lives according to your holy word.

**Holy God,**  
**holy and strong,**  
**holy and immortal,**  
**have mercy upon us.**

## Assurance of Pardon

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

## Call to Prayer

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Let us pray.

Prayers of the People | The congregation responds to each petition:

People: **Hear our prayer.**

## \*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, forever. Amen.

## Sending Forth

### \*Benediction

\*Closing Hymn | See hymns at the back of the worship guide.

Forty Days and Forty Nights

AUS DER TIEFE RUF E ICH

### Closing Voluntary

Aus tiefer Not

Johann Pachelbel  
(1653–1706)

## TODAY IN WORSHIP

### PRESIDING MINISTERS

Ms. Margot Armburster.....*Duke Episcopal Center, Chapel Scholar, Trinity '22*  
The Rev. Kathryn Lester-Bacon.....*Director of Religious Life, Duke University Chapel*

### PREACHER

Dr. Sam Laurent.....*Campus Minister and Young Adult Missioner, Duke Episcopal Center*

### LECTOR

Ms. Caroline Gamard.....*Duke Episcopal Center, Chapel Scholar, Trinity '22*

### MUSICIANS

Duke Vespers Ensemble.....*Virtual Choir*

Dr. Philip Cave.....*Associate Conductor for Chapel Music, Duke University Chapel*

Mr. Christopher Jacobson.....*Chapel Organist, Duke University Chapel*

**ADMINISTERING ASHES, DIRT, OR OIL AT HOME** | During this service, individuals typically receive the marking of ashes in the shape of a cross on their foreheads as a reminder of their mortality and repentance of their sins—ashes to ashes. Because we are not able to meet in person this year, we are inviting worshippers to observe this practice in another way at home. For this year's service, we encourage you to have ashes, dirt, or oil available for use during the service. For any who desire to make their own ashes, we encourage you to burn palms you have saved from last year. If you no longer have a palm branch to burn, write a particular sin or way you've fallen short of God's best ways for us on a small piece of paper to burn to create the ash. **Do not mix ashes with water as they will create a caustic form of lye.** If you prefer not to use ashes, we invite you to use dirt, which also serves as a sign of our mortality—dust to dust. At the least, have olive oil to use to make a sign of the cross on your forehead when the time comes in the service. Ministers will instruct you when during the service to administer the ashes/dirt/oil at home.

**TODAY'S GUEST PREACHER** | Today's Wilder Guest Preacher is Dr. Sam Laurent. Dr. Laurent arrived at the Episcopal Center in January 2015. He had been a member of the Episcopal Church of the Advocate in Carrboro for many years, and served in several ministry positions there, including regular preaching and leading a pub-based discussion group called 'Indulgences.' A lay person, Sam went to UNC for his undergraduate work. While there, he was active in campus ministry and knows what a difference it can make to people's lives. He then went on to earn a Masters in Systematic and Philosophical Theology at Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, and a PhD in Theological and Philosophical Studies at Drew in Madison, New Jersey.

**DEAN POWERY RECUPERATING** | Chapel Dean Luke Powery recently slipped on some ice and broke his leg. He has since had surgery on his leg and is recuperating at home. He is grateful for the many gestures of support he has received. He has resumed some of his work responsibilities from home but since he needs to rest his leg, for now he won't be coming into the Chapel for services.

## ENGAGE

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**DEAN POWERY ON FAITH AND SUFFERING** | Chapel Dean Luke Powery is participating in an online event about “A faith-filled response to this season of suffering,” hosted by the Duke Alumni Association, tomorrow, February 18, at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time. He will be in conversation with Duke Divinity School Dean Gregory Jones. In responding to the challenges of 2020 and beyond in America, Dean Powery suggests it is not enough to be against injustice and suffering, we must be for the all-inclusive love of God and the potentiality of a diverse and beloved community. [Learn more and register.](#)

**DEAN POWERY ON LANGUAGE IN PREACHING AND WORSHIP** | Dean Powery will also be in conversation about “Holy God, Wholly Human: Language in Preaching and Worship” tomorrow, February 18, at 8:00 p.m. The online discussion is part of Valparaiso University’s 2021 Institute of Liturgical Studies Virtual Seminar Series. The conversation will consider liturgical and homiletical language for God and humanity, including issues surrounding gender, race, suffering, hope, death, and resurrection. During the conversation, participants will be able to submit questions to Dean Powery via a moderator. Registration is required with a fee of \$25. [Learn more and register.](#)

**DUKE STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF INVITED TO SIGN UP FOR TIME IN THE CHAPEL** | By reservation only, the Chapel is open to students and to employees who are working on campus to #FindSanctuary. Duke students, faculty, and staff with and without a faith affiliation are welcome to sign up for a time to meditate, reflect, pray, contemplate, or just be in the Chapel. Ticketed timeslots for students and employees are available during these hours: Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Wednesdays, 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Learn more and sign up at [chapel.duke.edu/findsanctuary](http://chapel.duke.edu/findsanctuary).

**ORGAN RECITAL LIVESTREAM FEB. 21** | Duke Chapel Organist Christopher Jacobson, FRCO, will present a recital on the Chapel’s Aeolian organ via livestream this Sunday, February 21, at 4:00 p.m. The program will feature music by French composer Marcel Dupré and his contemporaries, commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of Dupré’s death. The online concert will be presented on the Chapel’s website and YouTube channel. [Watch it here.](#)

**CHAPEL SCHOLARS APPLICATIONS** | Chapel Scholars are undergraduates who intentionally engage in Chapel-based programming that nurtures the intellectual, ethical, and spiritual life of students. As a Chapel Scholar, undergraduates will have the opportunity to engage with a number of initiatives and events sponsored by the Chapel. Applications are open on a rolling basis. Learn more and apply at [chapel.duke.edu/scholars](http://chapel.duke.edu/scholars).

**PATHWAYS FELLOWSHIP FOR GRADUATING SENIORS** | Graduating Duke seniors and recent graduates are invited to apply to become a Pathways Fellow. The fellowship gives participants the tools they need to discern their vocational and spiritual direction as well as opportunities for exploration, leadership, mentorship, service, and formation deeply rooted in the local community and their Christian traditions. Learn more and apply by March 1 at [chapel.duke.edu/pathways](http://chapel.duke.edu/pathways).

**SACRED ON SATURDAY ONLINE PRESENTATIONS** | Dr. Philip Cave, associate conductor for Chapel Music, will explore notable pieces of sacred music in several “Sacred on Saturday” online presentations this semester. The first one on “Music for Lent” will be Saturday, February 27, at 10:00 a.m. [Learn more and register here.](#)



## ENGAGE

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**DUKE CHAPEL READS BOOK IS 'JESUS AND THE DISINHERITED'** | As part of its Duke Chapel Reads series, the Chapel will host online conversations about the book *Jesus and the Disinherited* by the theologian and minister Howard Thurman as a way to address contemporary issues of faith, race, justice, and love. Through Duke Chapel Reads, the Chapel aims to curate spaces for reflection and conversation based on a common book reading each semester. Chapel Dean Luke A. Powery will host a concluding online discussion of the book with Dr. Walter Fluker, a scholar of Thurman's work, on Tuesday, April 6, at 7:00 p.m. Members of the Duke community and others who are interested in participating in an online reading group about the book are invited to contact the Rev. Bruce Puckett, assistant dean of the Chapel, at [bruce.puckett@duke.edu](mailto:bruce.puckett@duke.edu).

**NEW ONLINE ISSUE OF CHAPEL VIEW MAGAZINE** | The latest issue of *Chapel View* magazine is now available online. In this issue, read how the Chapel is offering hope through student engagement, Christian worship, sacred music and the arts, and community engagement. [Click here to read it.](#)

**IS THE WELL DRY?** | Are you feeling spent? The Congregation at Duke Chapel is sponsoring several book groups to discuss *When the Well Runs Dry: Prayer Beyond the Beginnings* by Thomas Green. Green, a Jesuit spiritual director and author, helps readers navigate the seasons of spiritual dryness. Book groups will meet for six weeks as follows: Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. starting February 23; Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. starting February 24; Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. starting February 24; and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. starting February 25. [Please sign up for Lenten Book Groups here.](#)

**RETREAT ON CONFRONTING RACISM** | How do we awaken to the urgency of dismantling racism? What steps can we take to repair the harm of racism? Join a retreat on "Awakening to the Call: Bold Action to End Racism" to explore connections to racism and consider local strategies that move toward ending racial oppression. The virtual retreat, held on Saturday, February 27, from 9:00 a.m. to 12-noon, will be led by the [Rev. Mel Williams](#). Rev. Williams has been a longtime advocate of social justice in Durham. He is founder of End Poverty Durham, co-founder of Religious Coalition of a Nonviolent Durham, co-founder of Peace Hill, a solidarity-contemplative community, and has served as pastor of Watts Street Baptist Church in Durham for twenty-four years. The half-day retreat will be held by Zoom. [Please register here to attend.](#)

**BACK PEW COLLECTION** | The virtual Back Pew Collection for February is Meals on Wheels of Durham. This organization provides food for seniors and disabled citizens in Durham County. There are two wish lists for donations through Amazon, which will be sent directly to the agency:

Items for clients: [Every Day Nutrition for our Seniors](#)

Items to keep the program running: [Items for our program](#)

Meals on Wheels also appreciates donations of pet food as many of their clients have a dog or cat living with them. If you would like to donate pet food, please contact [congregation@duke.edu](mailto:congregation@duke.edu).

**MIDWEEK PRAYER** | Please join us for a brief service of prayer on Wednesdays at 12-noon through May 12. To participate in this prayer time, please [join the Zoom call here.](#)

**PRAYERS FOR RACIAL JUSTICE** | A brief online prayer service focused on racial justice and reconciliation is being offered on Monday evenings at 8:00 p.m. This service is led by Nathaniel Metz, the Congregation's Duke Divinity School intern and lasts approximately twenty minutes. Please contact [congregation@duke.edu](mailto:congregation@duke.edu) for detailed information.

**On Ash Wednesday:  
An Examination of Conscience through the Ten Commandments**

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Having no other gods *Do I love God with all my heart, mind, soul, and strength?*

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Making no idols *Do I put possessions, career, family, reputation, or health ahead of God? Do I treat money, sex, and power as gifts or gods?*

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Revering God's name *Do all my words and actions glorify God?*

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Keeping the Sabbath *Do I let work take over my life? Do I find my identity in work or in being God's child? Do I set aside a full day each week to rest?*

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Honoring parents *Do my parents know I value and respect them? Do my children?*

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Respecting life *How do I respond when I am humiliated, insulted, or treated unfairly? Am I quick to forgive, or do I hold grudges and seek revenge? Do I let my anger get the better of me?*

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Respecting marriage *Am I chaste? Do I treat friends or strangers as objects of my lust? Do I treat sex as a precious and holy gift? Do I support and pray for those who are married?*

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Respecting property *Am I greedy? Do I have things that rightly belong to others? Am I honest with regard to tax, expenses, loans, and debts? Am I a generous giver?*

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Respecting truth *Do I exaggerate to impress? Do I gossip? Do I keep my promises? Do I face the truth about myself? Do I share my true self with others?*

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Governing desires *Am I jealous? Am I thankful? Am I content with what God has given me? Is the grass always greener on the other side? Do I curse the fact that life always seems easier for others?*

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**A Lenten Prayer—For Personal Lenten Discipline**

*Lord Jesus, you fasted and prayed in the wilderness for forty days. Help me to fast and pray during this time of Lent. Free my mind from distraction and protect me from the snares of the devil, that I may learn to love you and my neighbors more. Give me a spirit of generosity, so that I might share my gifts more freely with those who have less. Teach me to pray, that I might offer you praise and thanksgiving. Help me make time to reflect on your Word; may it challenge, console, and purify me. Be with me in times of hurt, doubt, and confusion; unite my sufferings to yours and let them be redemptive. Fill me with your Holy Spirit, free me from sin, let me rise with you this Easter. I ask this in the name of Jesus, who died that I might be forgiven and have life to the full. Amen.*



# HYMNS FOR FEBRUARY 17, 2021

## Opening Hymn

Savior, When in Dust to You

ABERYSTWYTH

1 Sav-ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom-age due;  
2 By your help-less in-fant years, by your life of want and tears,  
3 By your hour of dire de-spair, by your ag-o-ny of prayer,

when, re-pen-tant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep-ing eyes;  
by your days of deep dis-tress in the sav-age wil-der-ness,  
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc-ing spear, and tor-tur-ing scorn,

oh, by all your pains and woe suf-fered once for us be-low,  
by the dread, mys-te-rious hour of the in-sult-ing tempt-er's pow'r,  
by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread-ful sac-ri-fice,

bend-ing from your throne on high, hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!  
turn, oh, turn a fa-v'ring eye; hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!  
lis-ten to our hum-ble sigh; hear our pen-i-ten-tial cry!

# HYMNS FOR FEBRUARY 17, 2021

## Closing Hymn

Forty Days and Forty Nights

AUS DER TIEFE RUF E ICH

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights you were fast - ing in the wild;  
2 Shall not we your sor - row share and from world - ly joys ab - stain,  
3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, flesh or spir - it to as - sail,  
4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;  
5 Keep, O keep us, Sav - ior dear, ev - er con - stant by your side,

for - ty days and for - ty nights temp - ted, and yet un - de - filed.  
fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, strong with you to suf - fer pain?  
vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, grant that we not faint nor fail!  
round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as served you faith - ful - ly.  
that with you we may ap - pear at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

TEXT: George Hunt Smytton, 1856, alt.  
MUSIC: Attr. Martin Herbst, 1676

AUS DER TIEFE RUF E ICH  
7.7.7