On Transfiguration Sunday, we are presented with the glory of the Trinity. The Father and Holy Spirit come together to direct our attention to Jesus Christ, the central figure of the event on the mountain top. The presence of Moses and Elijah emphasizes that in Jesus, the covenant and prophecies have been fulfilled. Through Jesus, a new purpose in life has opened for his followers. Jesus’s transfiguration is a metaphor for the transformation of our own human nature, that we may finally join in the divine life for which we were intended.
Gathering
Carillon

Opening Voluntary

Suite Française: VI. Arabesque sur les flûtes
Jean Langlais
(1907–1991)

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Processional Hymn | UMH 103

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
ST. DENIO

*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:

Everlasting God, your Son proclaimed to us the good news of salvation; bless our listening today, that your Word may build up our faith with conviction and boldness to put into practice what we hear.

*All rise as able
Psalmody

Acclamation (Gospel Mass)  Robert Ray  (1946–2022)

Hallelujah; praise the Lord.
Hallelujah; praise the Lord.
Hallelujah. Let us praise the Lord.

Praise him with stringed instruments.
Praise him with dance.
Praise him on the psalt’ry and harp.
Ev’rything that has breath ought to praise him.

—Psalm 150, adapt. R. Ray

New Testament Lesson | NT page 222 in pew Bibles.

2 Peter 1:16–21

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

Gradual Hymn | UMH 258. Stanzas 1–3.

O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair  WAREHAM

*Gospel Lesson | NT pages 17–18 in pew Bibles.

Matthew 17:1–9

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


O Wondrous Sight! O Vision Fair  WAREHAM

Sermon

Life Draped in Hope
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.

Offertory Anthem

Credo (*Gospel Mass*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
   maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord,
   who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virigin Mary,
suffer’d under Pontius Pilate,
crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.

On the third day, he arose.
   He ascended to heaven,
   from death he was set free.
   Now he sits at the right hand,
   and he’s waitin’ for you and me.
He will judge all the world.
He will judge you and me.

I believe in the Holy Spirit and the holy catholic church.
I believe, Lord, in one baptism for the remission of sin and rebirth.
I believe in the resurrection and the communion of saints in this world.
I believe when my life is over, I’m going home just to live with my God.

—*Apostles’ Creed, adapt. and additional text by R. Ray*
*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 and Holy Communion

*The Great Thanksgiving | Musical Setting A, found on page 17 in the hymnal.

*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.

Sharing of the Bread and Wine | All who love Christ, earnestly repent of their sins, and seek to be at peace with God and neighbor are invited to receive Communion. Wine is used for Communion. If you would prefer to receive grape juice, it is available upon request at a Communion station on the pulpit side in the front and the back of the Chapel. A gluten-free option is available from a server positioned by Memorial Chapel and a server positioned opposite the attendant’s desk near the narthex. If you will not receive Communion, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.

Communion Anthem

Agnus Dei (Gospel Mass)  
R. Ray

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; additional text by R. Ray

*Post-Communion Prayer

Sending Forth
*Benediction

*Closing Hymn | See hymn printed at the end of the worship guide.

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!  

Closing Voluntary

Fugue in C, BWV 547/2  
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers
Luke A. Powery  ..................................................Dean, Duke University Chapel  
Racquel Gill  .................Minister for Intercultural Engagement, Duke University Chapel

Preacher
Willie James Jennings  ......Associate Professor of Systematic Theology and Africana Studies,  
Yale Divinity School; Graduate ’93
**Lectors**
Deborah Hackney  
Jonathan Walker

**Musicians**
Duke Chapel Choir  
Zebulon Highben  
Robert Parkins  
Chad Fothergill  
Daniel Jacky  
Charlie Hyland  
Monica Szabo-Nyeste  
Mitchell Eithun

**Head Usher**
James Ferguson

**Today’s Guest Preacher** | The Gomes Guest Preacher for today is the Rev. Dr. Willie James Jennings, associate professor of systematic theology and Africana studies at Yale Divinity School. A graduate of Duke University, Dr. Jennings is a systematic theologian who teaches in the areas of theology, black church, and Africana studies, as well as post-colonial and race theory. The author of a number of books, he wrote *The Christian Imagination: Theology and the Origins of Race*, which has become a standard text read in colleges, seminaries, and universities. He is the recipient of the 2015 Grawemeyer Award in Religion for his groundbreaking work on race and Christianity. His recently authored commentary on the Book of Acts won the Reference Book of the Year Award from The Academy of Parish Clergy. He is also the author of *After Whiteness: An Education in Belonging*, which won the 2020 book of the year award from Publisher’s Weekly and was selected as a finalist for the 2021 American Academy of Religion Book of the Year in the Constructive-Reflective Studies category. In addition to being a frequent lecturer at colleges, universities, and seminaries, Dr. Jennings is also a regular workshop leader at pastor conferences.

**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. You are invited to give online at chapel.duke.edu/offering. Send checks to: Duke University Chapel, Box 90974, Durham, NC 27708-0974.

**Today’s Flowers** | Flowers for today’s worship service are provided by the generosity of the Nancy Hanks Fund.
Today's Music | Today the Chapel Choir sings three movements of Robert Ray’s Gospel Mass. Composers have been writing choral settings of the traditional texts of the Communion liturgy—the Mass—since the invention of chant notation; the first complete choral setting of the entire Mass was Guillaume de Machaut’s Messe de Notre Dame from the fourteenth century. In his Gospel Mass, Robert Ray (1946–2022) employs a variety of techniques and motives derived from Black gospel, sometimes interpolating additional text for soloists while the choir sings an English version of the liturgical texts. Robert Ray was a pianist, composer, and conductor, and professor emeritus of music at the University of Missouri–St. Louis. In 1994, he founded the St. Louis Symphony’s IN UNISON Chorus, a 120-voice chorus dedicated to the preservation and performance of Black American musical expressions. Ray’s choral compositions, including the Gospel Mass and the beloved anthem “He Never Failed Me Yet,” helped popularize Black gospel with choirs all over the world.

The Chapel Choir leads worship today from the south transept. This is for practical reasons: with the elaborate piano accompaniment in the Gospel Mass, a seating arrangement that gets the singers closer to the instrument allows for a more unified sense of ensemble. But the changed seating also serves as a reminder that a choir’s leadership role in worship is primarily aural, not visual. In the architecture of some churches, choirs are placed behind or beside the assembly’s seating so that the sound “envelops” the congregation as they sing together.

ENGAGE

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 the Pratt School of Engineering.

Tour After the Service | Learn about the history, architecture, and life of Duke Chapel on a tour immediately following the service. The tour is free and lasts about forty-five minutes. Meet the docent outside in front of the Chapel.

Restrooms in Divinity School | Public restrooms are available in the Divinity School. To access them, exit the Chapel through the main front doors, turn to the left, and enter the Divinity School. Restrooms are along the hallway in the Divinity School.
Ash Wednesday | The Chapel will hold two services for Ash Wednesday on February 22, one at 8:00 a.m. and the other at 7:00 p.m. Both services include the imposition of ashes and a litany of penitence.

New Member Class | The spring new member class for the Congregation at Duke Chapel will begin on Sunday, February 26, and continue for four weeks. The class will be held on both Sunday mornings from 9:45–10:45 a.m. in person in 0012 Westbrook and Sunday evenings from 7:00–8:00 p.m. over Zoom. All those who are considering membership in the Congregation are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact carol.gregg@duke.edu.

LGBTQ+ Fellowship | Members of the LGBTQ+ community and their allies are invited to attend the monthly fellowship gathering on the fourth Sunday of each month from 12:15–1:15 p.m. in the Congregation Office and over Zoom. The next meeting will be Sunday, February 26. For more information or the Zoom link, please contact congregation@duke.edu.

Evensong Singers Concert Next Sunday | The Duke Chapel Evensong Singers, directed by the Chapel’s Dr. Philip Cave, will present a concert on Sunday, February 26, at 4:00 p.m. The performance, titled “The Legacy of Love,” will include three masterful contemporary compositions for choir and organ with themes of sacrifice and offering. The composers featured are Gerald Finzi, Arvo Pärt, and Kenneth Leighton. Admission is free.

‘Dinner with Daniel’ for Students | Students are invited to dinner and conversation with Duke Divinity School alumnus Daniel José Camacho, a writer and acquisitions editor at Fortress Press. At the event on Monday, February 27, at 7:00 p.m., Camacho will discuss his vocational shift into writing and editing and what it means for black and brown people to be in leadership in the world of book publishing. To attend the dinner in the Bolton Family Tower Room in the Brodhead Center, please RSVP to the Chapel’s minister for intercultural engagement, the Rev. Racquel Gill, at racquel.gill@duke.edu.

Special Meeting of Theology Underground | Theology Underground is a series of guided conversations about how culture, identity, and race impact the way we live out our faith and beliefs. For the next meeting of Theology Underground, students are invited to attend the Divinity School worship service
on Tuesday, February 28, at 11:35 a.m. in Goodson Chapel. During the service, Duke Divinity alumnus Daniel José Camacho will give a talk titled “Injustice and Solidarity: The Regret of Bartolomé de las Casas” as part of the 2023 Sankofa Black Alumni Preaching Series. To register for a lunchtime conversation following the service, please contact the Office of Black Church Studies at obcs@div.duke.edu.

An Evening of Spiritual Songs | Black spirituals and German chorales are disparate genres of sacred music, separated by centuries and continents. Yet both genres share a communal orientation and a theological concern with justice and hope. A concert at the Chapel on Thursday, March 2, at 7:00 p.m. will feature settings of spirituals and chorales—historical and contemporary, choral and congregational—interspersed with thematic commentary. The performance is part of the Society for Christian Scholarship in Music annual conference. Admission is free.

Student Preacher March 5 | Congratulation to Erin Dickerson, a first-year student at Duke, who has been selected as this year’s student preacher. Dickerson will give the sermon in the Sunday morning service on March 5. Learn more at chapel.duke.edu/StudentPreacher.

Scholars to Discuss Dean Powery’s New Book | In an online conversation on Tuesday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m., Duke Chapel Dean Luke A. Powery will discuss his latest book, Becoming Human: The Holy Spirit and the Rhetoric of Race, with two leading scholars in fields that are important to the book. Dean Powery will be joined by the Rev. Dr. Willie James Jennings, associate professor of systematic theology and Africana studies at Yale Divinity School, and Dr. Charmaine Royal, the Robert O. Keohane Professor of African and African American Studies, Biology, Global Health, and Family Medicine and Community Health at Duke University. Free registration for this Zoom webinar is available at chapel.duke.edu/BecomingHuman.

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. In addition to Wee Praise, Godly Play, and the Youth Bible Study, there will also be a Lenten Study for Adults for the next six weeks, which will meet in 0012 Westbrook and over Zoom.
1. How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night;
2. How good, Lord, to be here, your beauty to behold
3. Fulfiller of the past and hope of things to be,
4. Before we taste of death, we see your kingdom come;
5. How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;

your face and garments, like the sun, shine with unborrowed light. 
where Moses and Elijah stand, your messengers of old. 
we hail your body glorified and our redemption see. 
we long to hold the vision bright and make this hill our home. 
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt. 
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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.