Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross marked on our foreheads at baptism. Originally a time of preparation for those who were to be baptized at the Vigil of Easter, Lent invites us to deepen our baptismal callings, to bear the fruits of mercy and justice more intentionally in the world, and to follow Jesus’s teaching to give, pray, and fast. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.
Gathering
Opening Voluntary

Lamento

Jehan Alain
(1911–1940)

Greetings and Announcements

*Opening Hymn | UMH 479

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination | In unison:

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson | OT pages 798–799 in the pew Bibles

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17

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

Psalm 51 | Chanted by the cantor.

*Gospel Lesson | NT pages 5–6 in the pew Bibles

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

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

Homily

*All rise as able
Invitation to the Observance of a Holy Lent

Prayer Over the Ashes

Imposition of Ashes | Those wishing to receive ashes will come forward to the stations. When all who desire have received the ashes, the service will continue with the Litany of Penitence.

Confession | In unison:

Most holy and merciful God,
we confess to you and to one another,
and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned by our fault,
by our own fault,
by our own most grievous fault,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

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

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.
Have mercy on us, O God.

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.
Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.
Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.
Have mercy on us, O God.
Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

**Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great. Amen.**

**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** | All are encouraged to pray the Lord’s Prayer in the language of their choosing. The English version is number 895 in the hymnal.

**Sending Forth**

*Benediction*

*Closing Hymn* | See hymn on following page.

The Glory of These Forty Days

**ERHALT UNS, HERR**
1. The glory of these forty days
2. Alone and fasting Moses saw
3. So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
4. Then grant, O God, that we may, too,

we celebrate with songs of praise;
the loving God who gave the law;
delivered from the lion’s might;
return in fast and prayer to you.

for Christ, through whom all things were made,
and to Elijah, fasting, came
and John, the Bridegroom’s friend, became
Our spirits strengthen with your grace,

himself has fasted and has prayed.
the steeds and chariots of flame.
the herald of Messiah’s name.
and give us joy to see your face.

Music: J. Klug, Geistliche Lieder, 1543.

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TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister
Carol Gregg.............................................. Pastor, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Preacher
Bruce Puckett..............................Assistant Dean, Duke University Chapel

Lector
Layla Schweng..............................................Chapel Scholar, Trinity ’25

Musicians
Chad Fothergill...............................Interim Chapel Organist, Duke University Chapel
Michael Accinno.................................Cantor

Worship Assistants
Dave Allen..............................................Campus Minister, Duke Wesley
Luke A. Powery............................................Dean, Duke University Chapel
Juan José Hernández, L.C.........................Director, Duke Catholic Center
Phyllis Snyder...........................................Children’s Pastor, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Restrooms in Divinity School | Public restrooms are available in the Divinity School. To access them, exit the Chapel through the main front doors and enter the Divinity School. Restrooms are along the hallway in the Divinity School.

Liturgical Acknowledgments | Litany of Confession reproduced from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, © 2006 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
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. 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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Having no other gods</th>
<th>Do I love God with all my heart, mind, soul, and strength?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Making no idols</td>
<td>Do I put possessions, career, family, reputation, or health ahead of God? Do I treat money, sex, and power as gifts or gods?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revering God’s name</td>
<td>Do all my words and actions glorify God?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping the Sabbath</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honoring parents</td>
<td>Do my parents know I value and respect them? Do my children?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respecting life</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respecting relationships</td>
<td>Do I treat friends or strangers as objects of my lust? Do I respect the physical and sexual dignity of others and of myself? Do I treat sex as a precious and holy gift?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respecting property</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respecting truth</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governing desires</td>
<td>Am I jealous? Am I thankful? Am I content with what God has given me? Do I curse the fact that life always seems easier for others?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.