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 lesson from Isaiah, the Lord denounces the people of Israel for their unrighteousness and calls them to a fast that releases the bonds of injustice and sets the oppressed free. In line with the prophet, Jesus teaches how those who follow him are to avoid hypocrisy by giving, praying, and fasting, as the Lord desires. Jesus calls his followers to store up treasure in heaven “for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”
Gathering
Opening Voluntary

Aus tiefer Not schrei’ ich zu dir, BWV 686
Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)

Greetings and Announcements

*Processional Hymn 269

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

Proclamation
Prayer for Illumination | In unison:

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 | OT page 647 in the pew Bibles

Isaiah 58:1–12

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Miserere mei, Deus
William Byrd
(c. 1542–1623)

Miserere mei, Deus: secundum magnum misericordiam tuam.
Et secundum multitudinem miserationum tuarum:
delete iniquitatem meam.

Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness: according to the
multitude of thy mercies do away mine offenses.
Wash me throughly from my wickedness: and cleanse me from my sin.

–Psalm 51:1–2
Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

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

Homily

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. During the imposition of ashes, the choir will chant Psalm 51, which can be found on OT pages 492–493 in the pew Bible.

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 and greed that obscures the image of God in others and ourselves, 
Deliver us.

From the gorging of food, our neglect of the hungry, and the misuse of creation, 
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, 
holly and strong, 
holly 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 | All are encouraged to pray the Lord’s Prayer in the language of their choosing. The English version is number 895 in the hymnal.
Hear My Prayer, O Lord

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my crying come unto thee.

—Psalm 102:1

*Benediction

*Closing Processional Hymn

Forty Days and Forty Nights

1 Forty days and forty nights thou wast fasting in the wild;
2 Should not we thy sorrow share and from worldly joys abstain,
3 Then if Satan on us press, Jesus, Savior, hear our call!
4 So shall we have peace divine; holier gladness ours shall be;
5 Keep, O keep us, Savior dear, ever constant by thy side;

1 forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled.
2 fasting with unceasing prayer, strong with thee to suffer pain?
3 Victor in the wilderness, grant we may not faint nor fall!
4 round us, too, shall angels shine, such as ministered to thee.
5 that with thee we may appear at the eternal Easter-tide.

Words: George Hunt Smyttam (1822-1870), alt.
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Closing Voluntary

Aus tiefer Not schrei’ ich zu dir, BWV 687

J. S. Bach
TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister
Bruce Puckett .................................................. Assistant Dean, Duke University Chapel

Preacher
Luke A. Powery .................................................. Dean, Duke University Chapel

Lector
Caroline Gamard ................................................ Episcopal Center, Chapel Scholar; Trinity ’22

Musicians
Duke Chapel Choir .................................................. Choir
Duke Vespers Ensemble .............................................. Choir
Philip Cave .................................................. Associate Conductor for Chapel Music, Duke University Chapel
Christopher Jacobson ........................................... Chapel Organist, Duke University Chapel

Worship Assistants
Leslie Ballew .................................................. Intern for Community Engagement and Religious Life, Duke University Chapel; Divinity ’23
Kiana Hertogh .................................................. Intern for Worship and Student Engagement, Duke University Chapel; Divinity ’22
Amanda Highben .................................................. Campus Pastor, Duke Lutherans
Kenneth D. Moland ........................................... Pastoral Assistant for Pastoral Care, Congregation at Duke Chapel
Phyllis Snyder .................................................. Children’s Pastor, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Accessibility | Large print hymnals and worship guides are available at the visitor relations desk. Hearing assistance units are available at the AV console in the rear 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 and enter the Divinity School. Restrooms are along the hallway in the Divinity School.
### 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.

| Having no other gods | Do I love God with all my heart, mind, soul, and strength? |
| 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? |
| Revering God’s name | Do all my words and actions glorify God? |
| 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? |
| Honoring parents | Do my parents know I value and respect them? Do my children? |
| 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? |
| Respecting relationships | 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? |
| 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? |
| 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? |
| Governing desires | 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? |

### On Ash Wednesday:

**An Examination of Conscience through the Ten Commandments**

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

- **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?

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

- **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?

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

- **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?

- **Respecting relationships**
  - 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?

- **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?

- **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?

- **Governing desires**
  - 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?
We would like to get to know you. What are your questions? What is your story? Take a moment to fill out a very brief form and a Chapel minister or other staff member will contact you soon. Scan the QR code or visit chapel.duke.edu/connect.

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.