In today’s Old Testament lesson we are reminded of Abraham’s obedience to God’s will. When God told Abraham to leave his homeland and his people for the promise of blessing, Abraham obeyed. Because of his faithfulness, God covenanted to bless all families of the earth through Abraham. In Psalm 121, we hear of the Lord’s faithfulness as both creator and protector of all people. In the lesson from John’s Gospel, Jesus presents a new covenant—one we enter through water and the Spirit—and explains to Nicodemus the fullness of God’s plan, a plan to give us spiritual re-birth through a new covenant, bringing us assurance of salvation and eternal life. In the season of Lent, we remember the faithfulness of both Abraham and Nicodemus and journey anew towards the cross and the making of this covenant.
Gathering
Carillon

Opening Voluntary

Mein Jesu, der du mich  
(My Jesus, Who Has Chosen Me)  
Johannes Brahms  
(1833–1897)

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Lenten Entrance Rite and Confession

Most holy and merciful God...
...let your anger depart from us.

Cantor, then all:

Kyrie eleison.

Holy and compassionate God...
...reconcile us through Christ.

Cantor, then all:

Christe eleison.

Holy and sustaining God...
...awaken us to the gifts of your Spirit.

Cantor, then all:

Kyrie eleison.

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:

Shine the light of your Word on us, O God, that with deeper understanding of your truth and will we may reflect the light of your love on all those around us. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson | OT page 9 in pew Bibles.

Genesis 12:1–4a

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

Psalmody | Chanted by the choir.

Psalm 121 setting by Chad Fothergill

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?
My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.
The LORD will not let your foot be moved, nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.
Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep; the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.
The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.

*Gospel Lesson | NT page 88 in pew Bibles.

John 3:1–17

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

Sermon

Resting in the Lord
Call to Prayer

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Minister: Let us pray.

Prayers of the People | We respond to each petition in song.

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

O Lord, Have Mercy

When I fall on my knees, facing the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. O Lord, have mercy.

Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees...
Let us drink wine together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees...

Let us praise God together on our knees.  
Facing the rising sun, of our new day begun.

O Lord, have mercy on me. O Lord, have mercy. Amen.

—Black spiritual, adapt. Roland M. Carter

*Doxology

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

Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

*The Great Thanksgiving | Musical Setting D, found on page 23 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

God So Loved the World

John Goss (1800–1880)

God so loved the world, that God gave the only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not the Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Amen.

—John 3:16–17

Communion Hymn | UMH 117

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

*Post-Communion Prayer

Sending Forth

*Benediction

*Recessional Hymn | UMH 116

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

Closing Voluntary

“… a teacher come from God …”

(from Organbook II)

Dan Locklair

Inspired by a stained-glass window depicting the scene from today’s gospel reading, the composer wrote of this piece: “The illuminating power of teaching is dramatically expressed in the third chapter of John’s story of Nicodemus … Perhaps no hymn or psalm tune is heard earlier in childhood and more aptly reflects the church than does the Old 100th psalm tune from the Genevan Psalter set to the words ‘Praise God from whom all blessings flow.’ As teaching transforms, so too has this well-known tune been transformed in this movement.”

Carillon
TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers
Bruce Puckett .................. Assistant Dean, Duke University Chapel
Kathryn Lester-Bacon ........ Director of Religious Life, Duke University Chapel

Preacher
Erin Dickerson ................. Wesley Fellowship, Trinity ’26

Lectors
Riley Fisher .................. Duke Wesley Fellowship, Chapel Scholar, Trinity ’23
Katie Spencer .................. Duke Wesley Fellowship, Chapel Scholar, Pratt ’23

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 .................. Chapel Organ Scholar, Duke University Chapel
Charlie Hyland ................ Chapel Carillonneur, Duke University Chapel
Mitchell Eithun ............... Chapel Carillonneur, Duke University Chapel

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

Today’s Preacher | This year’s Student Preacher is Erin Dickerson, a first-year student majoring in Turkish and international comparative studies. On campus, she is a member of the Wesley Fellowship and is a student in the Air Force ROTC detachment at Duke. She now calls Durham home but has also lived with her family in Cary, North Carolina, and Tokyo and Okinawa, Japan. Since her family moved to Durham about six years ago, they have been attending Christmas Eve services at Duke Chapel. She also attends services at the Summit Church in Durham. Her sermon was selected by a committee organized by the Chapel. As part of the process of developing her sermon, Dickerson was coached in revisions and delivery by Chapel ministers and a Divinity School professor.

**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 Arrangements of Greenery** | The beautification of the Chapel for all of Lent is provided by the generosity of the Elizabeth Lucina Gotham Memorial Chapel Endowment.

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**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 Program in Education.

**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.

**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.

**Window Restoration in Memorial Chapel** | Work to restore the vibrancy of the Chapel’s stained-glass windows has resumed this week in Memorial Chapel. The side chapel (on the left when facing the altar) and the crypt are closed while work is in progress through March 22 and again from April 10 through May 5. The main sanctuary and all other parts of the Chapel will remain open with regular programming throughout this time.
**Bach Cantata Concert** | The next concert in the Chapel’s Bach Cantata Series is today at 5:00 p.m. and will feature three of J.S. Bach’s violin concertos, including the “Double Concerto” for two violins and orchestra. The Chapel’s Conductor-in-Residence, Dr. Philip Cave, will direct the performance by the musicians of Mallarmé Music; it is also the closing event of the 2023 North Carolina HIP Music Festival. Before the concert, at 4:00 p.m. in the Divinity School’s Goodson Chapel, Chad Fothergill, the Chapel’s interim organist, will give a talk entitled “Bach Concertos: It’s a Southern Thing.” Admission is free.

**Scholars to Discuss Dean Powery’s New Book** | In an online conversation this 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. *Becoming Human* recently won the 2023 Book of the Year award from the Academy of Parish Clergy. Free registration for this Zoom webinar is available at chapel.duke.edu/BecomingHuman.

**Volunteer Bakers Needed** | Volunteers are needed on Saturday, March 11, from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. to bake treats for the residents of the Ronald McDonald House. Volunteers bring their own ingredients and cook at the house. To volunteer and for detailed instructions, please contact congregation@duke.edu.

**Snackluck Next Sunday** | All are invited to stay after worship next Sunday, March 12, following worship for a Snackluck, which is a simplified version of a potluck meal. Sandwiches will be provided. Please bring finger food sides or desserts to share if you are able. Contributions may be dropped off in the Chapel kitchen prior to worship. The snackluck will be held in the Chapel lounge, located in the lower level.
Lasagnas Needed | The Congregation serves dinner at Urban Ministries of Durham once a month, rotating between the second Sunday and fourth Wednesday. Donated lasagnas are needed for the monthly dinner to help feed our unsheltered neighbors. To volunteer to bring two party-sized Stouffer’s lasagnas to Urban Ministries, 410 Liberty St in Durham, on Sunday, March 12, or a future date, please contact congregation@duke.edu.

Choral Evensong Next Sunday | Our Choral Evensong service next Sunday, March 12, at 4:00 p.m. will feature choral and organ music of the English cathedral tradition, led by the Chapel’s Evensong Singers. Before the service at 3:30 p.m., a talk will provide context for the service’s music and liturgy.

Young Adult Gathering | University graduate students, other young adults, and their partners are invited to dinner and Bible study on March 13 and 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel kitchen, located in the lower level of the Chapel. Come for a light supper and good conversation. Participants will discuss the Letter to the Romans. Please contact laura.wilson@duke.edu for additional information.

Dedicated Piano Recital March 19 | To celebrate the arrival of the Chapel’s new Bösendorfer 225 grand piano, pianist Cole Burger will give a dedicatory recital on Sunday, March 19, at 5:00 p.m. The performance will feature repertoire by Albéniz, Alexina Louie, Bach, and more. Burger teaches piano at Bowling Green State University and the Lutheran Summer Music Academy and Festival. He has performed, taught, and presented in the U.S., Europe, and Asia. Admission is free.

Jazz Vespers Service March 23 | The Chapel’s Jazz Vespers service on Thursday, March 23, at 7:00 p.m. will combine the liturgical traditions of Vespers with the musical improvisation of jazz. With a theme of hope, the service is led by Chapel and community ministers. Musical leadership is provided by the John Brown Little Big Band, a professional jazz ensemble specializing in works from the Great American Songbook as well as contemporary arrangements.
A Lenten Retreat | The Congregation will host a reflective Lenten retreat on Saturday, March 25. The day-long retreat, “Listening for God,” will include reflective presentations, sessions on various prayer methods, and, most importantly, time for individual reflection. The cost is $10 per person, which offsets the cost of the catered lunch. For additional information and to register, please contact congregation@duke.edu.

Organ Recital March 26 | In his recital this year on Sunday, March 26, at 5:00 p.m., University Organist Dr. Robert Parkins will feature the Brombaugh and Flentrop organs in works by early Portuguese composers, Frescobaldi, Bach, Mozart, Brahms, Heiller, and Bovet. A professor of the practice of music at Duke, Dr. Parkins’s solo recordings have appeared on the Calcante, Gothic, Loft, Musical Heritage Society, and Naxos labels. Admission is free.

Chapel Flowers | If you would like to honor a loved one and the worshipping community of the Duke Chapel with a gift of flowers to decorate the chancel at Sunday worship, please contact Angela Flynn, coordinator of worship and ministry, at angela.flynn@duke.edu for more information.

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. Please contact congregation@duke.edu for Zoom links.

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 Program: Youth in 6th–12th grades will discuss New Testament letters in 0015 Westbrook
Lenten Study for Adults: An exploration of forgiveness to deepen understanding and practice of this spiritual discipline in 0012 Westbrook and over Zoom
New Member Class: For all considering membership in the Congregation in 0014 Westbrook; also offered in the evening 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.