This morning’s scripture lessons emphasize the importance of faith in God even in the midst of great hardship or despair. In Numbers, the Israelites are weary and complaining about their travels in the wilderness, and then poisonous snakes come into their midst and many Israelites die. As a result, God tells Moses to make a poisonous snake and put it on a pole so that everyone who died might see it and live. In John, a comparison is made to Jesus, who is like Moses’ snake—all who see him lifted up will know eternal life. The darkness of the world is being scattered by the life and death of Christ.
All who are able may stand.

Gathering
Carillon
Opening Voluntary

Jesus Loves Me

William Bolcom
(b. 1938)

Greetings and Announcements

*Processional Hymn 108

God Hath Spoken by the Prophets

*Prayers of Confession and Words of Assurance | In unison:

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, our Savior, Amen.

The minister speaks words of assurance.

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

Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination | In unison:

Merciful Lord, you know our struggle to serve you when sin spoils our lives and overshadows our hearts; as we hear your word today, come among us and turn us back to you again; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson | OT pages 134 in the pew Bibles

Numbers 21:4-9

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

*Gradual Hymn 188 (Stanzas 1–2) | Face the Gospel Procession

Christ Is the World's Light

Gospel Lesson | NT pages 88 in the pew Bibles

John 3:14-21

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

* All who are able may stand
*Gradual Hymn 258 (Stanzas 3-4) | Face the Gospel Procession

Christ Is the World’s Light

CHRISTE SANCTORUM

Sermon

Snake on a Stick

Response

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.

Offertory Anthem

God So Loved the World

John Stainer
(1840-1901)

God so loved the world that he sent his only begotten Son, that
whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that
the world through him might be saved.

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

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 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. The English version is number 895 in the hymnal.

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 the Communion station near the main
entrance of the Chapel, on the pulpit side. If you have a gluten allergy, there is
a server near the Memorial Chapel who will be ready to serve you gluten-free
wafers and wine. If you will not receive Communion, you are welcome to come
forward to receive a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.
Music During Distribution

**Hymn 624** | Sung by all:

**Bread of the World**

**EUCARISTIC HYMN**

**Communion Anthem**

*Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt*

Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt, daß er seinen eingeboren Sohn gab, auf daß alle, die an ihn glauben, nicht verloren werden, sondern das ewige Leben haben.

Melchior Franck  
(c.1579-1639)

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

*John 3:16*

**Sending Forth**

*Post-Communion Prayer*

*Benediction*

*Closing Processional Hymn 355*

**Depth of Mercy**

**CANTERBURY**

**Closing Voluntary**

**Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, BWV 671**

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685–1750)

**Carillon**
TODAY IN WORSHIP

PRESIDING MINISTERS
The Rev. Bruce Puckett .......... Director of Worship and Community Ministry
Dr. Adam Hollowell .................. Director of Student Ministry

PREACHER
The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg .......... Pastor to the Congregation at Duke University Chapel

LECTORS
Zachary DeMoya ................................. Divinity ’20
Steve Clark ........................................ Community Member

MUSICIANS
Vespers Ensemble .................................. Choir
Dr. Philip Cave .......................... Associate Conductor of Chapel Music
Mr. Christopher Jacobson ............. Chapel Organist
Mr. J. Samuel Hammond ................. University Carillonneur

HEAD USHERS
Dr. James Ferguson and Mr. Rick Wilfong .......... Members of the Congregation at Duke Chapel

TODAY’S FLOWERS | Flowers for today’s worship service are given to the glory of God by the Nancy Hanks Fund.

TODAY’S OFFERING | All of today’s cash offerings and checks written to Duke University Chapel will be given to the Chapel’s Development Fund for Mission and Ministry.

ACCESSIBILITY | Large print hymnals and bulletins are available at the front desk. Hearing assistance units are available at the back left sound desk.

RECEIVE PRAYER | Prayer requests may be placed in the prayer box located by the Memorial Chapel.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN | The Chapel welcomes families with children. On this Communion Sunday, families with children are invited to sit up front, so they can better observe The Great Thanksgiving. If at any time during the service your child needs a place for active play, please know there is a nursery in the Chapel basement. Children 4 and younger are welcome to visit the nursery (capacity limited), located in the Chapel lower level, beginning at 10:45 a.m. each week.

CHAPEL TOUR | For a tour of Duke Chapel, meet today’s docent near the front steps of the Chapel following the service.
WELCOME TO DUKE CHAPEL | If you have questions about the ministries of Duke Chapel or the Congregation at Duke Chapel, please stop by the Welcome Desk in the narthex. Those staffing the table will be happy to answer your questions.

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP AFTER WORSHIP | The Congregation’s Fellowship Committee invites you to stay for a meal in the Chapel Lounge immediately following today’s service. A stairwell leading to the lower level is located near the pulpit-side transept. All are welcome; please join us!

BACK PEW COLLECTION | Today and March 18, the Congregation will be collecting paper plates (dinner size), plastic cups, plastic forks and spoons, plastic tablecloths (rectangular), and paper towels for Reality Ministries. Reality Ministries creates opportunities for teens and adults with and without developmental disabilities to experience belonging, kinship and the life-changing reality of Christ's love. Donations may be placed on the back pew.

PATHWAYS FELLOWS APPLICATIONS | The Chapel's PathWays Fellowship is a one-year residential discernment program designed for recently graduated Duke alumni. Participants live in Christian community, serve at local nonprofits, and develop deeper connections in Durham. The application deadline is March 16. To apply, contact the Rev. Bruce Puckett at bruce.puckett@duke.edu.

LITURGY LAB | Worshipers of all ages are invited to join the Congregation Youth Group for hands-on learning about the Church’s worshipful work on Sunday afternoons during Lent. This Sunday, we’ll explore the saints and their gifts to the Church, and on March 18, we’ll examine death and resurrection. Meet in the Chapel Lounge at 1:00 p.m. For information contact andrew.phillips@duke.edu.

YOUNG ADULT DINNER | Join 20- and 30-somethings from the Chapel community for dinner at Lilly’s Pizza this Friday, March 16 at 6:30 pm. Friends, family, and first-timers warmly welcome! Contact andrew.phillips@duke.edu.

SECOND WEDNESDAY LUNCH | Informal conversation and fellowship in a local restaurant is the only agenda for the Second Wednesday Lunch. On March 14 at 12-noon, participants will gather at Hope Valley Diner, Shannon Plaza, 3710 Shannon Rd, Durham, with each person purchasing their own meal. Please notify the Congregation Office at congregation@duke.edu or 919-684-3917 by Monday, March 12, if you plan to attend.

CROP WALK | The Annual CROP Walk raises money to fight hunger both locally and globally. The walk starts from the front of the Chapel on Sunday, March 25; registration begins at 1:30 p.m. and step-off is at 2:30 p.m. Registration and additional details are available online at www.crophungerwalk.org/durhamnc/DukeChapel and in the narthex following worship.
ORGAN RECITAL MARCH 25 | The Organ Recital Series continues at 5:00 p.m. Sunday, March 25, with a performance by Dr. Robert Parkins, University Organist and a Professor of the Practice of Music at Duke. Presented on the Aeolian organ, this program will feature the first performance of *Noel’s Psalm (A Sonata for Organ)*, a newly commissioned piece by North Carolina composer Dan Locklair.

HOLY SATURDAY VESPERS CONCERT | Directed by Dr. Philip Cave, the Duke Chapel Vespers Ensemble presents Darkness to Light: Music for Holy Week & Easter at 4:00 p.m. Saturday, March 31. The concert will feature *The Seven Last Words of Jesus* and *Easter-Dialogue* by Heinrich Schütz and Cantata No. 4, *Christ lag in Todesbanden* by Johann Sebastian Bach. Admission is free and all are welcome.

RETREAT ON COVENANT COMMUNITY | The Congregation’s Overnight Retreat will be held June 2-3 and feature Dr. Stephen Chapman of Duke Divinity School. He will address the key question of Deuteronomy: What does it mean to be God’s people in a new land? Planned in conjunction with the Chapel’s summertime focus on Deuteronomy, the retreat provides participants with an engaging and fun opportunity to learn more about a very important book of the Bible and its vision for a covenant community. Registration is required by April 1. Details and registration at [http://congregation.chapel.duke.edu/overnight2018](http://congregation.chapel.duke.edu/overnight2018).

HELP FAMILIES MOVE FORWARD | Volunteers are needed on April 16 and April 17 to serve dinner from 5:15 - 6:30 p.m. and to provide childcare from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Families Moving Forward, Durham’s shelter for homeless families. For detailed information or to volunteer, please contact Jane Fellows at janeafellows@msn.com or Elaine DeAlmeida at elainedealmeida8@gmail.com.

URBAN MINISTRY DINNERS | Ten volunteers and twenty cooked lasagnas are needed every month to serve our neighbors at Urban Ministries. The Congregation is committed to providing dinner on the following dates: Wednesday, April 25, at 6:15 p.m.; Sunday, May 13, at 5:15 p.m.; and Wednesday, June 27, at 6:15 p.m. Please let Cricket Scovil know by email at scovilj@aol.com if you are able to assist with these meals.
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES | Classes for all ages are offered every Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the lowest level of the Westbrook building, Duke Divinity School. Refreshments and fellowship begin at 9:30 a.m. Classes are:

- **Wee Praise**: For children ages 0–3 with parents or caregivers in 0011 Westbrook
- **Godly Play**: For ages 4 through 5th graders in 0050 Langford
- **Youth Sunday School**: For youth in 6–12th grade in 0013 Westbrook
- **New Member Class**: For those exploring membership in 0014 Westbrook
- **Bible Study**: For adults in 0015 Westbrook
- **Adult Forum**: On March 18, Theresa Yuschok and Kathleen Peindl, Congregation members, will continue our discussion “Are We Just Dust?” for the Lenten Book Series in 0012 Westbrook.

For a complete listing of events please visit chapel.duke.edu/events or sign up to receive weekly e-mails at chapel.duke.edu/email