Today’s lessons overflow with messages of God’s mercy in the face of our sinfulness. In Exodus, when the Israelites repent of having spoken against God and beg Moses to pray for them, God provides a way to save them from punishment. In the epistle, the apostle Paul emphasizes that we are not saved by our own actions, saying, “For by grace you have been saved through faith.” It is the gift of God. The gospel writer makes a connection between the serpent Moses lifted up for the healing of the Israelites and Jesus being lifted up on the cross. All who look to Jesus in faith will have eternal life.
*All rise as able

Gathering

Choral Prelude

I Don’ Feel No Ways Tired  Stacey V. Gibbs
Where Peace Has Always Been  Michael John Trotta

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Gathering Hymn  |  UMH 108

God Hath Spoken by the Prophets  EBENEZER

*Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance

Minister:  Holy God, we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.
People:  We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.
Minister:  We speak in ways that silence others.
People:  We are silent when we should speak up.
Minister:  We keep score in our hearts.
People:  We let hurts grow into hatred.
All:  For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Minister:  Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrong, and restores the promise of life through Jesus Christ.
People:  Amen.

*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:

Holy God, through your word, speak peace to a sinful world and inspire us to follow the example of your son, Jesus Christ, that our faith, hope and love in him might turn hatred to love, conflict to peace, and death to eternal life. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson | OT page 134 in pew Bibles.

Numbers 21:4–9

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

Psalmody | The congregation chants the bolded verses.

Psalm 107:1–3, 17–22

Give thanks to Adonai for | He is good;
forever is His | covenant-love.
Let those redeemed by Adonai | say it,
those whom He redeemed from the hand | of the foe,
and gathered from | many lands,
from east and from west, from north | and from south.

There were fools who | hurt themselves
by their waywardness | and wrongdoing.
All food their | throat abhorred;
they had reached the por- | tals of death.
They cried out to Adonai | in their trouble;
from their dis- | tress He saved them.
He sent His | word and saved them
and rescued them from the | pits of death.
Let them give thanks to Adonai for His | covenant-love
and His wonders to the | human family.
Let them make thank | offerings
and tell out His deeds with | joyous song.

—trans. Ellen F. Davis
New Testament Lesson | NT page 181 in pew Bibles.

Ephesians 2:1–10

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

Anthem

Ubi caritas

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ’s love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be glad in him.
Let us fear and let us love the living God,
and may we love each other with a sincere heart.

—Traditional liturgical

*Gospel Lesson | NT page 88 in pew Bibles.

John 3:14–21

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

Sermon

Antidote to Death

Response

*Response Hymn | UMH 292

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE
Apostles’ Creed

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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: he descended into hell; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

Mission of the Month

Offertory Anthem

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Stephen Hatfield
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
*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Blessing of Student Pilgrimages

*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.

Sending Forth
*Benediction

*Recessional Hymn  |  UMH 428

For the Healing of the Nations  

CWM RHONDDA

Postlude

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

Memorial Chapel Communion  |  Immediately following today’s worship service, a brief communion service will be held in Memorial Chapel. Following communion, the minister will be available to offer prayers and anointing.
TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers
Lynn Holmes .......................... Interim Pastor, Congregation at Duke Chapel
Racquel Gill ......................... Minister for Intercultural Engagement, Duke University Chapel

Preacher
Jennifer Copeland ..................... Executive Director, North Carolina Council of Churches

Lectors
Sharon Jones .......................... Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel
Thomas Link .......................... Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Mission of the Month
Craig DeAlmeida ....................... Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel; Trinity ’04

Musicians
Millbrook High School Madrigals ................ Millbrook High School, Raleigh, N.C.
Eddie Adams .......................... Conductor, Millbrook High School Choir
Chad Fothergill ........................ Chapel Organist, Duke University Chapel
Katherine Johnson .................... Organ Scholar, Duke University Chapel
Gwen Hyland .......................... Cantor

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

Mission of the Month | All of today’s cash offerings and checks written to Duke University Chapel will be used to support the Chapel’s Mission of the Month: CROP Walk. CROP Hunger Walks are community-based fundraising events held in cities and towns across the United States, created to support the global mission of Church World Service, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. After the CROP Hunger Walk ends, 25% of the money raised is returned to the Durham community to support local hunger fighting efforts. The Crop Project began in 1947, when farmers were asked to donate food and seed crops to hungry neighbors in post-World War II Europe and Asia. The first CROP Hunger Walks took place in Bismarck, North Dakota (1969), and York, Pennsylvania (1970). Since then, CROP Hunger Walk events have been held in hundreds of communities, large and small, raising millions of dollars to eradicate hunger and poverty.

Today’s Flowers | The beautification of the chapel for all of Lent is provided by the generosity of the Elizabeth Lucina Gotham Memorial Chapel Endowment.
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.
**Chapel Flowers** | If you would like to honor a loved one and the worshiping community of the Duke Chapel with a gift of flowers to decorate the chancel for Sunday worship, please contact Angela Flynn, coordinator of worship and ministry, at angela.flynn@duke.edu.

**Fellowship Lunch After Worship** | The Congregation at Duke Chapel invites you to stay after worship to enjoy lunch with other worshipers in the Brodhead Center. A short walk from the Chapel, the Brodhead Center provides a wide array of dining options. Participants will purchase their own lunch and then gather in the dining area on the main floor by The Skillet to share a time of fellowship and food. Volunteers will be holding signs after worship to provide directions. Everyone is welcome!

**Choral Evensong** | The Chapel will hold a service of Choral Evensong today at 4:00 p.m., which will feature music by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford to mark his centenary. Many of Stanford’s anthems, canticles, and organ works have remained popular with cathedral and parish choirs since they were written. This service includes two classic Stanford anthems, *Justorum animae* (The Souls of the Righteous) and *Beati quorum via* (Blessed are they who walk in the way of the Lord) together with his *Evening Service in B-flat*.

**Compline During Lent** | Candlelight, darkness, mystical chant, and meditative silence are the hallmarks of Compline, or Night Prayer. The service has a posture of quietly waiting and hopefully watching for the dawn of the resurrection. The Chapel is holding this ancient prayer service on Thursdays at 9:00 p.m. during the season of Lent, through March 21. The music for the services will be led by the Chapel’s Vespers Ensemble.

**Sunday Morning Lenten Study** | Every Sunday morning before worship at 9:45 a.m., the Congregation Lenten Study will discuss *The Walk* by Adam Hamilton in 0012 Westbrook and over Zoom. The book focuses on five essential spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus’ own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. On March 17, the discussion will focus on Chapter 4.

**LGBTQ+ Fellowship** | The Congregation at Duke Chapel invites members of the LGBTQ+ community and their allies to attend the monthly fellowship gathering on the third Sunday of each month from 12:30–1:30 p.m. in the Chapel kitchen and over Zoom. The next meeting is on Sunday, March 17.
Robert Parkins Organ Recital | Dr. Robert Parkins, university organist at Duke, will present a recital of “Music for the Lenten Season” next Sunday, March 17, at 5:00 p.m. The performance on the Chapel’s Brombaugh and Flentrop organs will feature works by early Italian and Spanish composers, as well as music of Brahms and J. S. Bach. No charge for admission.

Holy Week and Easter | Join us March 24–31, as we move through the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ with worship services and concerts during Holy Week and Easter. See the full schedule at chapel.duke.edu/holyweek.

- **Palm Sunday Service**—Sunday, March 24, at 11:00 a.m.
- **Palm Sunday Choral Evensong**—Sunday, March 24, at 4:00 p.m.
- **Holy Week Midday Services**—March 25–28 at 12-noon
- **Maundy Thursday Service**—Thursday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m.
- **Procession of the Stations of the Cross**—Friday, March 29, at 11:30 a.m. on the Duke Chapel Quad
- **Good Friday Noon Service**—Friday, March 29, at 12-noon
- **Good Friday Tenebrae**—Friday, March 29, at 7:30 p.m.
- **Holy Saturday Organ Recital**—Saturday, March 30, at 12-noon in Goodson Chapel at Duke Divinity School
- **Easter Sunrise Service**—Sunday, March 31, at 6:30 a.m. in Duke Gardens
- **Easter Service with Holy Communion**—Sunday, March 31, at 9:00 a.m.
- **Easter Day Service**—Sunday, March 31, at 11:00 a.m.
- **Easter Day Choral Evensong**—Sunday, March 31, at 4:00 p.m.

Bach’s St. John Passion | First performed 300 years ago on Good Friday, April 7, 1724, the *St. John Passion* is renowned for its dramatic choruses, expressive arias, and compelling narrative. It sets text from the Gospel of John, chapters 18 and 19, composed in two parts: Part I ends with Peter’s denial of Jesus, and Part II concludes with Christ’s burial. The performance will be Sunday, April 7, at 4:00 p.m. Purchase tickets at tickets.duke.edu.
ChorWorks Summer Program in Early Sacred Music | Through Duke Chapel, the nonprofit organization Chorworks is offering their summer program “Henry Purcell – England’s Orpheus” from June 10 to 16, at Duke University. The workshop is led by Dr. Philip Cave, executive director of Chorworks and conductor-in-residence at Duke Chapel. Those invited to the program will receive a scholarship covering the full cost of tuition and housing. Learn more and apply by April 1 at chapel.duke.edu/chorworks.

Apply to the PathWays Fellowship | The PathWays Fellowship is a year-long (August 15 to May 15) residential program for students in any of Duke Divinity School’s graduate programs that offers opportunities for vocational exploration, mentorship, service, and formation deeply rooted in the Durham community and the fellows’ Christian traditions. Learn more and apply by April 15 at chapel.duke.edu/pathways.

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 the Zoom link.

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 to 1st grade in 0054 Langford
Godly Play Advanced: continued formation for children ages 2nd–5th grades in 0050 Langford
Youth program: Youth in 6th–12th grades will discuss the Gospel of Mark in 0015 Westbrook
Lenten Study for Adults: A discussion of Jesus’ essential spiritual practices in Westbrook 0012 and over Zoom
Hearing assistance units, as well as large-print worship guides and hymnals, are available at the AV console in the rear of the Chapel. There, you can also find directions to download a listen-assist app on your phone. Please let us know if you need other accommodations by approaching a minister or usher, or email us at dukechapel@duke.edu.

LET’S KEEP IN TOUCH

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

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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.