



Duke
UNIVERSITY
CHAPEL

BRIDGING FAITH & LEARNING

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Good Friday

Friday, April 18, 2025, 11:30 a.m.

Service continues at 12-noon



Giotto di Bondone, *Kiss of Judas*, 1304–1306.

On Good Friday, Christians recall the crucifixion and death of Jesus. Although Good Friday is one of the saddest days of the Christian year, the Church continues to call it “good,” believing that Christ’s suffering and death were not in vain but served to liberate humanity from sin and death. Scripture tells us that the earth went dark at the “sixth hour,” or noon. The service begins with a procession of the stations of the cross on the Chapel lawn followed by a simple, sparse service of scripture, preaching, and reflective music. We remember with deep sorrow the sacrificial suffering and death of an innocent man who is revealed to be the Son of God.

The Procession of the Stations of the Cross

The procession will begin on the Chapel steps. For each station, the presiding minister will announce the station, all will read scripture, a speaker will share a reflection, the presiding minister will ask a question that Jesus asked his onlookers in the gospels, and all will finish with prayer. When the trumpeter begins playing, please follow the procession to the next station. At the end of the procession, all are welcome to continue worship in the Chapel sanctuary.

I. Jesus Is Condemned to Death

(Isaiah 53:7-8; Matthew 52:55)

Scripture: He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth...
By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit?”

Prayer: With Christ’s sentence, help us remember all those who have been chased as bandits, arrested with violence, and convicted in unjust trials.

II. Jesus Bears His Cross

(Mark 15:20; John 6:61)

Scripture: After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple robe and put his own clothes on him.
Then they led him out to crucify him.

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “Does this offend you?”

Prayer: As Jesus shoulders his cross, amid the mockery and stares, help us not to look away in shame.

III. Jesus Falls for the First Time

(Genesis 3:17-19; John 7:19)

Scripture: By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “Why are you looking for an opportunity to kill me?”
Prayer: As we see Jesus fall, reveal to us those who are trembling at our feet in the dust.

IV. Jesus Meets His Mother on the Way *(Luke 2:33; Matthew 12:48)*

Scripture: Simeon said to Mary,
“This child is destined for the falling and the rising
of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed...
And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?”
Prayer: In Mary’s presence, help us remember all those who care for the convicted, who will not let them walk the painful path of life and death alone.

V. Simon of Cyrene Helps Carry Jesus’ Cross *(Luke 23:26; Mark 8:17-18)*

Scripture: As they led him away,
they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene,
who was coming from the country,
and they laid the cross on him
and made him carry it behind Jesus.

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “Are your hearts hardened? Do you have eyes and still do not see?”
Prayer: Lord, you could not bear the cross alone, and we did not offer to carry it. We remember all those whose labor is extracted and exploited as we keep our hands clean.

VI. A Woman Wipes the Face of Jesus *(Luke 7:44-47; Matthew 26:10)*

Scripture: Jesus said to Simon: “Do you see this woman?
You gave me no water for my feet,
but she has bathed my feet with her tears
and dried them with her hair...
She has shown great love.”

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “Why do you trouble this woman?”

Prayer: As a woman cleans the face of Christ, we remember all those whose bleeding bodies are treated with shame, rather than care and compassion.

VII. Jesus Falls for the Second Time

(Job 30:17; Luke 5:23)

Scripture: “And now my soul is poured out within me;
days of affliction have taken hold of me.
The night racks my bones,
and the pain that gnaws me takes no rest.”

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven’ or ‘Stand up and walk?’”

Prayer: Lord, in your falling, may we remember all those whose chronic conditions put them at the mercy of the calculating crowd.

VIII. Jesus Rebukes the Daughters of Jerusalem

*(Luke 23:27–28;
John 1:38)*

Scripture: A great number of the people followed him,
and among them were women
who were beating their breasts
and wailing for him.
But Jesus turned to them and said,
“Daughters of Jerusalem,
do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves
and for your children.”

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “What are you looking for?”

Prayer: Lord, we seek a spectacle for the present moment. You show us a vision of salvation for all future generations.

IX. Jesus Falls for the Third Time

(*Job 17:15–16; Matthew 16:9*)

Scripture: “Where then is my hope?
Who will see my hope?
Will it go down to the bars of Sheol?
Shall we descend together into the dust?”

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “Do you still not understand?”

Prayer: At this place, we pray for the weak taunted by the strong, the persecuted crushed by the powerful. We pray, and we realize that Christ is here, under the stamping foot.

X. Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments

(*Mark 15:24; Luke 9:25*)

Scripture: And they crucified him
and divided his clothes among them,
casting lots to decide what each should take.

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves?”

Prayer: Lord, all is taken from you, and profit is made from the plunder. Help us to see all those who are stripped and dispossessed in our midst.

XI. Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross

(*Luke 23:33; Matthew 20:32*)

Scripture: When they came to the place that is called The Skull,
they crucified Jesus there with the criminals,
one on his right and one on his left.

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “What do you want me to do for you?”

Prayer: Lord, we gather in a moment when our words fail,
and all we can do is witness together in this despair.

XII. Jesus Dies on the Cross

(Psalm 22:2, 14, 15b; Mark 15:34)

Scripture: O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.
I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast...
you lay me in the dust of death.

Reflection

Leader: Jesus cries, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Crowd stands in silence.

XIII. Jesus Is Given to Those Who Would Bury Him

(Mark 15:42–45; 10:38)

Scripture: Joseph of Arimathea,
a respected member of the council,
went boldly to Pilate
and asked for the body of Jesus.
When Pilate learned from the centurion that he was dead,
he granted the body to Joseph.

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “Are you able to drink the cup that I drink,
or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?”

Prayer: Lord, when we have every chance to preserve our status quo
and slip away from suffering, give us the strength to abide
with your broken body.

XIV. Jesus Is Laid in the Tomb

(Mark 15:46–48; John 21:16)

Scripture: Then Joseph bought a linen cloth,
and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth,
and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock.
He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.
Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus
saw where the body was laid.

Reflection

Leader: Jesus asks us, “Do you love me?”

After a moment of silence, the service continues inside Duke Chapel. All are invited to follow the cross into the sanctuary. The congregation is asked to remain silent during the opening voluntary as a time of prayer and meditation.

Gathering

Prelude

O Welt ich muss dich lassen, Op. 122, Nos. 3 and 11
(O World, I Must Leave Thee)

Johannes Brahms
(1833–1897)

*Opening Hymn | UMH 298

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

HAMBURG

Proclamation

Prayer of Illumination | In unison:

Almighty Father, look with mercy on this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed, given up into hostile hands, and suffer death for our salvation. Shape our lives according to the pattern of your Son’s cross, that as we share in your Son’s crucifixion, we may come to share also in the glory of his resurrection. Amen.

New Testament Lesson | NT pages 206–207 in the pew Bible.

Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Lesson | NT pages 107–108 in the pew Bible.

John 19:16b–30

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*All rise as able

Sermon

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.**

Anthem

Crux Fideles

attrib. King João IV of Portugal
(1604–1656)

Crux fidelis, inter omnes arbor una nobilis:
nulla silva talem profert, fronde, flore, germine.
Dulce lignum, dulces clavos, dulce pondus sustinet.

*Faithful cross, high above all others, noblest of trees,
nothing so blessed has grown there, not branches or blossoms.
Sweet wood, sweet nails, sweet burden hanging on you. Amen.*

—*St. Venantius Fortunatus (c. 530–c. 609)*

Sending Forth

All may depart in silence after the ministers recess.

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers

Racquel Gill *Minister for Intercultural Engagement, Duke University Chapel*
Lyn Pace. *Assistant Dean of Religious Life, Duke University Chapel*
Luke A. Powery. *Dean, Duke University Chapel*

Preacher

Jan Holton. *Associate Professor of the Practice of Pastoral Theology and Care,
Duke Divinity School*

Lector

Mark Ghattas *Chapel Scholar; Trinity '26*

Musicians

Paul Neebe. *Trumpet*
Duke Chapel Evensong Singers *Choir*
Philip Cave *Conductor-in-Residence, Duke University Chapel*
Robert Parkins *University Organist, Duke University*

Today's Guest Preacher | Professor Holton's work focuses on the psychodynamic implications of trauma and forced displacement, the intercultural dynamics within traditional pastoral care, and pastoral care to marginalized populations. In addition to teaching she served in ministry with Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS) in New Haven, Connecticut, and is author of *Building the Resilient Community: Lessons from the Lost Boys of Sudan* (Cascade Press). In her book *Longing for Home* (Yale University Press), Dr. Holton examines the psychological, social, and theological impact of forced displacement on communities in the eastern Congo (DRC), South Sudan, on indigenous Batwa tribespersons in Uganda as well as on homeless U.S. citizens and on U.S. soldiers returning from the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. She is co-editor of the book *Reframing Trauma: A Psychospiritual Theory and Theology* (Fortress, 2025). Her current work focuses on spiritual and emotional wayfinding through times of uncertainty. Here she explores the role of hope, joy, and meaning making as touchstones to guide us through the messy tangled times of ambiguity when there is no longer a way to "chart a course" ahead. Dr. Holton is co-principal investigator for the joint Bass Connections and Duke Divinity School project "Best Practices for Trauma Informed Teaching and Learning." Dr. Holton also serves as a consulting chaplain at Duke University Hospital. She is an ordained elder in the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church.

ENGAGE

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.

Stations of the Cross | During Holy Week, the Chapel will display the paintings of the *Stations of the Cross* by Margaret Adams Parker. The series of fourteen panels depicts Christ's journey to the cross with contemporary figures rendered in muted browns. Parker focuses in these paintings on Christ's strength in the face of suffering and the intimacy of his encounters with others on his *Via Dolorosa* ("Way of Suffering").

Holy Week and Easter | The Chapel will observe the remainder of Holy Week and Easter with the worship services and concerts below. To learn more, visit chapel.duke.edu/HolyWeek.

- **Good Friday Tenebrae**—Friday, April 18, at 7:30 p.m.
- **Easter Sunrise Service**—Sunday, April 20, at 6:30 a.m. in Duke Gardens (because the Gardens' visitor center is undergoing renovations, please see our website for special parking instructions)
- **Easter Service with Holy Communion**—Sunday, April 20, at 9:00 a.m.
- **Easter Day Service**—Sunday, April 20, at 11:00 a.m.
- **Easter Day Choral Evensong**— Sunday, April 20, at 4:00 p.m.

LDOC Festival | Students are invited to a festival for the last day of classes (LDOC) on Wednesday, April 23, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The fun includes cotton candy and popcorn, a variety of lawn games, and free t-shirts to color. Plus, stop by to chat with members of the Chapel Ministry Team and Religious Life staff.

Carillon Recital | Ellen Dickinson, university carillonist at Yale University and Trinity College (Hartford), will present a recital on the bells of the Chapel's carillon on Sunday, April 27, at 5:00 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, and enjoy the music from the beautiful surroundings of Abele Quad. The Chapel's fifty-bell carillon is among the oldest and largest such instruments in the American South. Both the instrument and the recital series are named in honor of the late J. Samuel Hammond (1947–2021), university carillonneur emeritus.

ENGAGE

Choral Evensongs with Raleigh Church Choir | Two upcoming Choral Evensongs will feature the combined choirs of Christ Church, Raleigh, and the Chapel's Evensong Singers. The first, on Sunday, April 27, will be at 4:00 p.m. at Duke Chapel, and the second will be on Sunday, May 4, at 5:00 p.m. in Raleigh. Music by Wood, Radcliffe, Tavener, Gardiner, and Jernigan.

Chorworks Summer Program in Early Music | Applications are invited from talented, early-career singers to participate in a week-long workshop on J. S. Bach's sacred music: the Missa in A major and motets by the Bach family. Through Duke Chapel, the nonprofit organization Chorworks is offering this summer program "J. S. Bach: Mass & Motets" from June 16 to 22, 2025, at Duke University. The workshop is led by Dr. Philip Cave, executive director of Chorworks and conductor-in-residence at Duke Chapel, who is joined by leading guest artist instructors. The application deadline is April 30. Learn more and apply at chapel.duke.edu/chorworks.

Sunday Morning Classes | Sunday morning Christian Education classes are available for all ages on most Sundays of the year. There will be no classes on Easter morning, April 20. All classes will resume on April 27.

ACCESSIBILITY

Large-print worship guides are available at the visitor relations desk. Hearing assistance units are available at the AV console in the rear of the Chapel. 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.