In Psalm 119, the author speaks lovingly of the laws of God. God’s law is not a burden but a gift. The passage from Romans powerfully reminds readers that God’s love is present even in the midst of tribulation and that his purposes are being furthered, even if outward appearances would indicate otherwise. In Matthew, Jesus likens the kingdom of God to a mustard seed or yeast; they may have small beginnings but can grow into something much larger. Similarly, the pearl of great price shows that the kingdom may be costly, but it is worth the sacrifice.
The congregation is asked to remain silent during the prelude as a time of prayer and meditation. The Chapel welcomes families with children. 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.

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

_Jesus Christus, unser Heiland,_ BWV 688  
(Jesus Christ, who turned God’s anger away from us),  
Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685–1750)

_Vater unser in Himmelreich,_ BWV 682  
(Our Father in Heaven)  
J. S. Bach

_Allein Gott in der höh sei ehr,_ BWV 676  
(All glory be to God on high)  
J. S. Bach

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Processional Hymn 178

_Hope of the World_  
Vicar

*Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance (in unison)

_The minister offers words of confession in three biddings, to which the congregation responds as follows:_

Lord have mercy.  
**Lord have mercy.**

Christ have mercy.  
**Christ have mercy.**

Lord have mercy.  
**Lord have mercy.**

_The minister speaks words of assurance._

*Peace

(All exchange signs and words of God’s peace.)

**PROCLAMATION**

Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

_Creator God, you made us all in your image: as we are formed by your word, may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen._
OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Psalm 119:129-136 (OT page 538 in the pew Bible)
Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM
Jesus, Lover of My Soul
Alan Hovhaness
(1911-2000)

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high;
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee;
Leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.
—Charles Wesley

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON—Romans 8:26-39 (NT page 148)
Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

*GRADUAL HYMN 532 (stanza 1)
Jesus, Priceless Treasure
(All turn and face the Gospel Procession.)

*GOSPEL LESSON—Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (NT page 14)
Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

*GRADUAL HYMN 532 (stanzas 2-3)
Jesus, Priceless Treasure

SERMON—The Beauty of the Law

RESPONSE

HYMN 405 (stanza 1)
Seek Ye First

*THE 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: “Hear our prayer.”)
This morning we give thanks for the Nasher Museum of Art. We celebrate the ways its exhibitions enlighten and enrich both the University and the community.

In Durham, we pray for the churches and faith communities who join together in a shared desire to seek the peace and wellbeing of the city.

Offertory
By Gracious Powers Russel Schulz-Widmar (b. 1944)

By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered,
And confidently waiting, come what may,
We know that God is with us night and morning
And never fails to greet us each new day.

Yet is this heart by its old foe tormented,
Still evil days bring burdens hard to bear;
O give our frightened souls the sure salvation
For which, O Lord, You taught us to prepare.

And when this cup You give is filled to brimming
With bitter suffering, hard to understand,
We take it thankfully and without trembling,
Out of so good and so beloved a hand.

Yet when again in this same world You give us
The joy we had, the brightness of Your sun,
We shall remember all the days we lived through,
And our whole life shall then be Yours alone.

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

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

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*THE LORD’S PRAYER (number 895 in the hymnal)

SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION

*RECESSINAL HYMN 566
Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love

POSTLUDE
Fanfare

CARILLON

*All who are able may stand.

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MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers
The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg
The Rev. Bruce Puckett

Preacher
The Rev. Meghan Feldmeyer

Lectors
Mr. Joshua Lazard
C. Eric Lincoln Minister for Student Engagement
Ms. Kate Clayton
Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Choir
Chapel Summer Choir

Choir Director
Dr. Brian Schmidt

Organist
Mr. Christopher Jacobson

Presiding Minister over Memorial Chapel Communion
The Rev. Bruce Puckett

Carillonneur
Mr. J. Samuel Hammond

Head Ushers
Dr. James Ferguson and Mr. Rick Wilfong
Today’s Flowers—Flowers for today’s worship service are given to the glory of God by the Erlenbach Family Trust.

Today’s Offering—All of today’s cash offerings and undesignated checks will be used for the Chapel Development Fund. The Chapel’s current focus is to upgrade the Chapel cameras and video capabilities to digital and high definition in order to better serve the thousands of worshippers locally, in Duke Hospital, and around the globe who tune in weekly.

Chapel Staff Announcement—Duke Chapel welcomes Joshua Lazard as the inaugural C. Eric Lincoln Minister for Student Engagement. As the Lincoln Minister, Lazard will contribute to the Duke Chapel PathWays student ministry, with special emphasis on racial reconciliation, artistic expression, and outreach to students who have been historically underrepresented in the Chapel’s ministries. Lazard comes to Duke from Dillard University, a historically black university in New Orleans, where he directed student ministry programs within the Office of the University Chaplain. He holds an M.Div. and an M.A. in Church Music from Johnson C. Smith Seminary at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia. He is in the process of discerning ordination in the United Church of Christ.

Visiting the Chapel—The Chapel often has weddings booked on Saturdays and Sunday afternoons, especially during the summer months. If a wedding is taking place, visitors will not be permitted inside. Before visiting on a weekend, please call 919-681-9488 to learn when the Chapel will be open to the public.

Duke Chapel Event Email List—If you would like to receive emails about upcoming events sponsored by Duke Chapel, such as concerts, dialogues, special worship services, and more, please visit www.chapel.duke.edu/contact and sign up via the link in the left-hand box.

Questions People Often Ask - Why do we confess our sins?

Sin is not simply something that makes people unhappy or causes pain: it is life based on a false story, one that leads to worshiping something other than the triune God. However, the Christian story does not begin with sin but with God’s decision to be in relationship with humanity and all creation. Thus when there is a breakdown of that relationship, by what has been done, or what has been left undone, it is a tragedy in which the congregation has participated. Repentance means naming and stripping away the things that distance the disciple from the gospel. From personal repentance, the congregation moves into corporate confession. It is not just individual sin that separates each person from God: sin infects the people of God as a whole. In confessing sin, we recognize that the people of this congregation have joined, each and every week, in the catastrophe of discarding God’s everlasting invitation to worship and friendship.
The following Congregation opportunities are open to all.

Summer Sunday Education—Weekly Christian education for all ages is available throughout the summer months. All classes begin at 9:45 a.m. in the lowest level of Duke Divinity School.

- Wee Praise: Infants through children age 3, and their parents or caregivers, will meet weekly for music and movement in Westbrook Room 0014.
- Children and Youth Summer Choir: Children and youth, age 4 through 12th grade, will meet in Westbrook Room 0012 to sing.
- Wired Word: Youth and Adults will reflect on current events in light of scripture in Westbrook Room 0011.

Back Pew Collection—The Local Missions and Outreach Committee will be collecting back-to-school supplies for local Durham students with limited resources. Items needed include backpacks, scissors, paper, pens, pencils, composition notebooks, 3-ring binders, pocket folders, erasers, rulers, markers, crayons, glue, construction paper, and flash drives. Monetary donations will be accepted as well. Donated supplies may be dropped off in the back pew in the Chapel on Sunday, August 3 and 10.

Office Open House—All are invited to visit the Congregation’s newly expanded office immediately after worship today. The office is located in the lower level of the Chapel near the kitchen.

Sweat With The Saints—Congregation member and group fitness instructor, Deb Hackney, will lead a fitness class with Gospel sounds to help raise funds for youth camps and conferences. The class will be this Thursday, July 31, at 6:00 p.m. at Duke’s Arts Annex, 404 Gattis St, Durham. Enter the gate at the Arts Annex sign then proceed to the brightly painted building. All ages and fitness levels are welcome; wear athletic shoes, loose fitting clothes and be willing to move. Donations for youth retreats will be accepted at the door; a standard cost for this type of class elsewhere would be $10/person. For questions, please contact deb.hackney@gmail.com.

Heavenly Hugs Hat Ministry—Those who knit and crochet are invited to create hats of all sizes for a newly organized hat ministry. Completed hats will be “gifted” to newly baptized infants and homeless individuals. If you would like more information and/or yarn, please meet in the right transept on Sunday, August 10, immediately after the worship service.

Women’s Ministry—A group of women in the Congregation are interested in exploring a women’s ministry, focusing on fellowship and prayer. Women are invited meet for dinner and share ideas on Monday, August 11, at 6:30 p.m. at Saladelia Durham, 4201 University Drive, #101, Durham. Please RSVP to congregation@duke.edu if you plan to attend on August 11.
Duke Chapel is a grand building, suitable for hosting major events in the life of the University and its members; it acts as a moderator for the diversity of religious identity and expression on campus; and it is a Christian church of an unusually interdenominational character, with a tradition of stirring music, preaching, and liturgy. We welcome you to our life of worship, learning, dialogue, and service.

We invite you to consider joining the Congregation at Duke Chapel. The Congregation is an interdenominational church with a variety of vibrant ministries, including discipleship and spiritual formation (for children, youth, and adults), mission and outreach, and pastoral care. If you would like to receive the weekly eNews from the Congregation or have any questions, please email congregation@duke.edu or call 919-684-3917.

Staff of Duke University Chapel

Ministry
Dr. Christy Lohr Sapp
The Rev. Meghan Feldmeyer
Dr. Adam Hollowell
The Rev. Bruce Puckett
Mr. Joshua Lazard
Ms. Gerly Ace

Music
Dr. Rodney Wynkoop
Dr. Robert Parkins
Mr. Christopher Jacobson
Dr. Brian Schmidt
Mr. John Santoianni
Mr. J. Samuel Hammond
Mr. Michael Lyle

Administration
Ms. Beth Gettys Sturkey
Ms. Joni Harris
Ms. Adrienne Koch
Mr. James Todd
Ms. Sara Clark
Ms. Lisa Moore
Mr. Andrew Klumpp
Ms. Lucy Hart Peaden Taylor
Mr. Oscar Dantzler and Ms. Beverly Jordan

Staff of the Congregation at Duke University Chapel
The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg
The Rev. Brad Troxell
Ms. Phyllis Snyder
Mr. Nelson Strother

† Prayer requests may be placed in the prayer box located by the Memorial Chapel.
† For a tour of Duke Chapel, meet today’s docent near the front steps of the Chapel following the service.
† Hearing assist units and a Braille hymnal are available at the attendant’s desk at the entry way of the Chapel. See the Chapel attendant if you would like to use one of our large-print Bibles or hymnals for the worship service this morning.

† Children 4 and younger are welcome to visit the nursery (capacity limited), located in the Chapel basement, beginning at 10:50 a.m. each week. Pagers are available for parents to keep with them during worship. Parents needing a place to feed, quiet, or change infants are also welcome.
† Activity Bags are available at the rear of the Chapel for children 5 or younger. Please return the bags at the end of the service. Children’s bulletins are available from the ushers.

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