The lesson from Proverbs teaches that wisdom is proclaimed in the streets. The scripture writer personifies Wisdom as a woman who calls to and reproves her listeners for ignoring her counsel. Wisdom warns of the calamities that will befall those who do not fear of the Lord. Instead, she invites the listener to take heed of her life-giving words. Likewise, in the New Testament lesson, James warns of the fires set ablaze by restless and unbridled speech. He teaches that praising God and cursing those made in God’s image must not come from the same tongue. In Mark’s gospel, Jesus rebukes Peter when he denies that it is necessary for the Son of God to suffer and die before being raised to new life. Jesus calls those who follow him not to be ashamed of him or his words, but rather promises that those who lose their lives for his sake will find true life.
Gathering
Opening Voluntary

Pari intervallo

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn 598

O Word of God Incarnate

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

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

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:

Lord of creation, whose glory is all around us: open our eyes to your wonders, and send your Holy Spirit to illuminate your holy word; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson

Proverbs 1:20–33

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

James 3:1–12

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

Anthem

How Beautiful Upon the Mountains

How beautiful upon the mountains
Are the feet of him who bringeth good tidings,
That publisheth peace;
That sayeth unto Zion, thy God reigneth.

Thy watchmen shall lift up their voice,
Together they shall sing.
How beautiful upon the mountains
Are the feet of him who bringeth good tidings.

Text: Isaiah 52:7–8

*Gospel Lesson

Mark 8:27–38

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

Sermon

Street Wise

Response

*Response Hymn 415

Take Up Thy Cross

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.

* All rise as able
Prayer for Peace

O God of love, O King of peace,
make wars throughout the world to cease;
The wrath of nations now restrain.
Give peace, O God, give peace again.

Remember, Lord, thy works of old,
the wonders that thy people told;
Remember not our sin’s dark stain.
Give peace, O God, give peace again.

Whom shall we trust but thee, O Lord?
Where rest but on thy faithful word?
None ever called on thee in vain.
Give peace, O God, Give peace again!

Text: Henry Williams Baker (1821–1877)

*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 | 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.
May You Abound in Hope

May the God of hope fill you with joy.
May the God of hope fill you with peace, with peace in believing.
By the power of the Holy Spirit may you abound in hope.
Amen.

Text: Romans 15:13, adapt. Anne Krentz Organ

Lift High the Cross

Tu es petra (Thou art the Rock)
TODAY IN WORSHIP

PRESIDING MINISTERS
The Rev. Bruce Puckett ......................... Assistant Dean, Duke University Chapel
The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg....................... Pastor, Congregation at Duke Chapel

PREACHER
The Rev. Dr. Luke A. Powery ................. Dean, Duke University Chapel

LECTORS
Mr. Nathaniel Metz ......................... Pastoral Assistant, Congregation at Duke Chapel; Divinity ’21
Ms. Caroline Gamard ..................... Episcopal Center, Chapel Scholar, Trinity ’22

MUSICIANS
Duke Chapel Choir .......................................................... Choir
Dr. Zebulon Highben ...................... Director of Chapel Music, Duke University Chapel
Dr. Robert Parkins ......................... University Organist, Duke University
Mr. Christopher Jacobson ................ Chapel Organist, Duke University Chapel

HEAD USHER
Dr. James Ferguson ......................... Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

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

TODAY’S OFFERING | All cash offerings, checks written to Duke Chapel, and designate online gifts will be given to World Relief for their immediate work of relocating Afghan refugees in the Triangle. You are invited to give online at chapel.duke.edu/offering. Please send checks to: Duke University Chapel, Box 90974, Durham, NC 27708-0974.

ACCESSIBILITY | Large print hymnals and worship guides are available at the visitor relations desk. Hearing assistance units are available at the AV console in the rear of the Chapel.
GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP | Graduate students and other young adults will go for a hike at Eno River State Park today at 5:00 p.m., meeting at 4390 Old Cole Mill Rd, Durham, NC 27712. The hike is by no means strenuous, though it is a moderate distance. The hike will end at a swimming hole for those who want to cool off. For more information or transportation, please contact matthew.r.wright@duke.edu.

DEAN POWERY’S CHRONICLE COLUMN | Chapel Dean Luke Powery has resumed writing a column every-other-week for the Duke Chronicle. His essays share wisdom and encouragement for students and the rest of the Duke community. His most recent one is on “In search of pearls.” Read his columns on the Chronicle website.

DAILY OPEN HOURS | The Chapel is open to the public daily from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. All are welcome in the sanctuary during these hours for personal reflection, prayer, or meditation, as well as to view the building’s soaring Gothic architecture and vibrant stained-glass windows.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY | University graduate students and their partners, as well as other young adults, are invited to a virtual Bible study on the second and fourth Mondays of the month. The next gatherings are September 13 and September 27 at 6:30 p.m. All questions and perspectives are welcome. Please contact matthew.r.wright@duke.edu for additional information.

PRAYER SERVICE FOR RACIAL JUSTICE | A brief weekly prayer service for racial justice is offered virtually on Thursday evenings at 8:00 p.m. This time of prayer lasts approximately twenty minutes; participants are welcome to listen only, or to contribute their voices to the prayers. Please contact nathaniel.metz@duke.edu for additional information.

MASKS REQUIRED AT DUKE | Face masks are required on the Duke campus in all indoor and outdoor locations. This requirement applies to all students, faculty, staff and visitors regardless of vaccination status. Because COVID vaccines are a matter of public health, we encourage all eligible people to receive one.

VESPERS, EVENSONG, AND MIDWEEK PRAYER RESUME | Three of our regular services held during the academic year have resumed. Choral Vespers, Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., is a service of hymns, prayers, psalms, organ music, and choral anthems with music of the Renaissance and Baroque periods. Choral Evensong, second and fourth Sundays at 4:00 p.m., is a service centered on psalms and Biblical canticles, and follows the liturgy of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer; it begins today, September 12, and features choral and organ music of the English cathedral tradition. Midweek Prayer, Wednesdays at 12-noon, is a brief service of prayer and scripture reading; it is being held online this semester. See the full schedule at chapel.duke.edu/events.
WELCOME BACH! | The Duke Bach Ensemble’s opening concert is next Sunday, September 19, at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel. They are presenting a program of favorite Baroque Concertos including “Summer” and “Autumn” from Vivaldi’s Four Seasons, Corelli’s Concerto Grosso in D, Op.6, no.4, and J.S. Bach’s Orchestral Suite No.2. Families with young children are invited to attend the open rehearsal at 3:00 p.m. No charge for admission. Face masks are required.

STUDENTS INVITED TO BECOME CHAPEL SCHOLARS | Undergraduate students are invited to become Chapel Scholars. As a Chapel Scholar, a student has the opportunity to engage with a number of initiatives and events sponsored by the Chapel. New Scholars will be placed in a cohort that will connect them with other students that come from a wide range of Christian traditions. Scholars will be able to form discipleship and pastoral mentoring relationships with involved Chapel staff. Learn more and apply at chapel.duke.edu/scholars.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES | The Congregation provides weekly Sunday morning Christian education from 9:45–10:45 a.m. for all ages. Classes, which are held virtually, are open to the public and new participants are welcome at any time. Please contact congregation@duke.edu for the Zoom link.

Wee Praise: Music and movement for children ages 0–3 with parents or caregivers.

Godly Play: Spiritual formation for children ages 4 through 5th grade.

Youth Bible Study: Youth grades 6–12 will explore the Book of Genesis.

New Member Class: For those considering membership in the Congregation.

Adult Forum: The adult forum offers a variety of speakers, who address diverse topics.

LET’S BE 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 very brief form and a Chapel minister or other staff member will contact you soon. Scan the QR code or visit chapel.duke.edu/connect.

The Congregation at Duke University Chapel joyfully welcomes all persons regardless of age, race, class, origin, sexual orientation, or any other distinction and invites membership and participation in all of its ministries. Please email congregation@duke.edu to receive the weekly eNews.