Today’s scripture lessons speak about how God searches for us even when we are lost or have wandered away. In 1 Timothy, the author marvels at God’s overflowing grace that redeemed him—he, who was once a blasphemer and violent persecutor of God’s people. In Luke’s Gospel, Jesus tells two parables of people who have lost something precious, searched diligently to find what was lost, and celebrated with great joy when they found what they sought. As with these people, there is great rejoicing in heaven when a sinner who is lost turns in repentance and receives God’s abundant grace. Today we join with the company of heaven in joyful celebration as we welcome a believer into the family of God through the sacrament of baptism. Also this morning, we commission this year’s PathWays Fellows to a year of living in intentional Christian community, serving their neighbors, and discerning God’s call.
Gathering

Organ Prelude | September 15 is the first day of Hispanic Heritage Month this year. Today's organ prelude features two of the most prominent composers from the “golden age” of early Spanish organ music.

- Tiento [XII] de falsas (4º tono)  
  Juan Cabanilles  
  (1644-1712)

- Tiento [16] de 4º tono [“a modo de canción”]  
  Francisco Correa de Arauxo  
  (1584-1654)

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn 604

  Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God  
  CHRISTE SANCTORUM

Baptism

Presentation of Candidate | Jeffrey Sean Huo presents himself for baptism. The congregation responds by reading the passages in bold at the minister’s prompting.

Profession and Renunciation | The Congregation and candidate for baptism affirm their faith by responding to the following questions.

- Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?  
  I do.

- Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?  
  I do.

- Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?  
  I do.

Profession of Faith

Believing that God has reached out to us with love and forgiveness, we seek to grow together in faith through worship, study, service, and, celebration to the end that we embody Christ’s compassion and holiness.

Commitment by the Congregation

Prayer over the Water

Baptism

* All rise as able
The Spirit of the Lord

May the Spirit of the Lord rest upon you;
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone has done wondrous things.


**Commissioning Prayer and Welcome**

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ’s church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

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

**Proclamation**

**Prayer for Illumination | In unison:**

Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, and come now to illuminate your holy word; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**New Testament Lesson | NT page 196 in the pew Bible**

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 51 | Sung by the choir**

Have Mercy on Me, O God

Have mercy on me, O God.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.
Purge me with hyssop,
and I shall be whiter than snow.
Hide thy face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
Then will I teach transgressors thy ways,
and sinners will return to thee.

*Text: adapted from Psalm 51*
*Gospel Lesson | NT page 73 in the pew Bible

Luke 15:1-10

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

Sermon

Unexplainable Joy

Response

*Response Hymn 381

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

PathWays Fellows Commissioning

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 Music

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

My Shepherd will supply my need;
Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed
Beside the living stream.
He brings my wand’ring spirit back
When I forsake his ways.
He leads me, for his mercy’s sake,
In paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death,
Thy presence is my stay.
One word of thy supporting breath
Drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes,
Doth still my table spread.
My cup with blessings overflows;
Thine oil anoints my head.
The sure provisions of my God
Attend me all my days,
O may Thy house be mine abode
And all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
While others go and come,
No more a stranger or a guest,
But like a child at home.

_text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)_

*Doxology*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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. The English version is number 895 in the hymnal.

Sending Forth

*Benediction*

*Closing Hymn 378*

Amazing Grace

AMAZING GRACE

Organ Postlude

Fanfare

John Cook (1918-1984)

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

PRESIDING MINISTERS
The Rev. Kathryn Lester-Bacon .................. Director of Religious Life
The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg .................. Pastor to the Congregation at Duke Chapel
The Rev. Breana van Velzen ............... Community Minister at Duke Chapel

PREACHER
The Rev. Bruce Puckett .................. Assistant Dean of Duke Chapel

LECTORS
Ms. Grace Cai .................. PathWays Fellow, Trinity '19
Mr. Oon Feng Lim .................. PathWays Fellow, Divinity '22

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

MEMORIAL CHAPEL COMMUNION
The Rev. Amanda Highben ... Minister in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

HEAD USHERS
Dr. James Ferguson .................. Member of the Congregation at Duke Chapel
Ms. Acelynn Barefoot ........ Chapel Scholar, Member of the Congregation at Duke Chapel

TODAY’S FLOWERS | Today’s flowers are made possible by the generosity of the Nancy Hanks Fund.

TODAY’S OFFERING | All of today’s cash offerings and checks written to Duke University Chapel will be given to United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for hurricane relief for those suffering as the result of Hurricane Dorian, including those in the Bahamas.

ACCESSIBILITY | Large print hymnals and bulletins are available at the visitor relations desk. Hearing assistance units are available at the AV console in the rear of the Chapel.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN | Children age four and younger are welcome to visit the nursery (capacity limited), located in the Chapel's lower level, beginning at 10:45 a.m. each week.

ENGAGE

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.

CHAPEL TOUR | For a tour of Duke Chapel, meet today’s docent outside near the front steps of the Chapel following the service.
BAPTIZED THIS MORNING | Please welcome Jeffrey Huo into the family of faith. Jeffrey is a pediatric oncologist working in Charlotte and a member of the Congregation at Duke Chapel.

PICNIC TODAY | All are welcome to join in the fun of a church picnic this afternoon, September 15, at Piney Woods Park, 400 E. Woodcroft Parkway, Durham. Festivities begin at 5:00 p.m. and will continue until dark. Participants are encouraged to bring a dish to share: appetizer, side dish, salad or dessert. Transportation to the picnic is available as needed; please call the Congregation office at 919-684-3917.

BACK PEW COLLECTION | Donations of supplies to support Habitat for Humanity of Durham will be collected today and Sunday, September 22. The following items are needed to support Habitat volunteers: duct tape, Sharpie markers, construction pencils, box cutters and measuring tapes. Donations may be placed on the back pew.

HABITAT SERVICE PROJECT | Volunteers are needed on Saturday morning, September 28, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. to help build a house for neighbors in need through Habitat for Humanity of Durham. Volunteers of all skill levels are welcomed and must be sixteen years old or older. Transportation is available if needed. Please contact the Congregation office (congregation@duke.edu) for details and to volunteer.

BACH CANTATA CONCERT ON SEPT. 29 | The first performance in the Chapel’s music season is a Bach Cantata concert on Sunday, September 29, at 5:15 p.m. Dr. Philip Cave, associate conductor for Chapel Music, will lead the Bach Ensemble and Mallarmé Chamber Players in presenting two of J.S. Bach’s cantatas as well as a cantata by G.F. Handel. Admission is free. Learn more about this concert and the rest of the season at chapel.duke.edu/music.

MESSIAH TICKETS ON SALE | A tradition continues into its eighty-seventh year. Tickets are now available for all three of the Duke Chapel Choir’s performances of G.F. Handel’s Messiah: Friday, December 6, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, December 7, at 2:00 p.m.; and Sunday, December 8, at 3:00 p.m. To order tickets, visit the Duke Box Office website or call 919-684-4444.

FINDING OUR WAY IN THE BELOVED COMMUNITY | Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove will lead the Congregation’s fall retreat on Saturday, October 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Participants will explore communal practices of discernment for the common good, considering such questions as “How do we learn to hear the voice of God in community?” Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove is a spiritual writer, activist, founder of Rutba House, and a resident of Durham. A participant fee of $10 will cover the cost of a catered lunch. For more details and to make a reservation please contact the Congregation Office at congregation@duke.edu or 919-684-3917.
URBAN MINISTRIES DINNER | Ten volunteers and twenty lasagnas are needed every month to serve dinner at the Urban Ministries shelter. Volunteers may simply cook and drop off two twelve-serving Stouffer's lasagnas or they may bring lasagnas and stay to help serve on Wednesday, October 23, at 6:15 p.m or Sunday, November 10, at 5:15 p.m. Please contact Cricket at scovilj@aol.com, or the Congregation Office at congregation@duke.edu or 919-684-3917 for detailed information or to volunteer. New volunteers are always welcome!

CHAPEL SCHOLARS | Chapel Scholars are undergraduate students who intentionally engage in Chapel-based programming to deepen their Christian faith and influence the world around them. To learn more, contact the Rev. Joshua Lazard, the Chapel's C. Eric Lincoln Minister for Student Engagement, at joshua.lazard@duke.edu.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES | Classes for all ages will meet throughout the summer 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 WB
- **Godly Play**: For children ages 4 through 1st graders in 0054 Langford
- **Godly Play Advanced**: For children in 2nd - 5th grade in 0050 Langford
- **Youth Bible Study**: For youth in 6th–12th grade in 0013 Westbrook
- **Adult Bible Study**: A study of Isaiah in 0015 Westbrook
- **Adult Forum**: On September 22, “Holy Dreaming,” led by Brady Surles, Chair of the Congregation Council's Visioning Team, and Robin Barefoot, Visioning Team Advisor in 0012 Westbrook

For a complete listing of events, please visit chapel.duke.edu/events or sign up to receive weekly emails at chapel.duke.edu/email
The PathWays Fellowship not only gives participants the tools they need to discern their vocational and spiritual direction, but it also gives them opportunities for exploration, leadership, mentorship, service, and formation deeply rooted in the local community and their Christian traditions.

Grace Cai
Grace Cai graduated from Duke with majors in psychology and global health as well as a certificate in human rights. She is also a proud alumna of Duke Asian InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. An aspiring psychotherapist, Grace believes that effective therapists know how to listen and respond to a wide range of stories, and she believes the PathWays Fellowship gives her the opportunity to do just that. Grace looks forward to deepening her understanding of God, society, and others through serving in the Duke Division of Community Health and living in intentional Christian community.
Vivienne Kim
Vivienne is from Seoul, South Korea, and is currently in the second year of her master of divinity program at Duke Divinity School. Recently she finished serving as a pastoral intern at Duke Memorial United Methodist Church. She is grateful for this opportunity to walk and grow alongside the other Pathway Fellows this year. She also looks forward to seeing how we as a community, in God’s hands, will create a bigger narrative that would reflect God’s graceful love as we learn the ways to live with the Durham neighborhood.

Oon Feng
Oon Feng was born and raised in Penang, Malaysia. He graduated from University of Central Oklahoma with a bachelor of business administration degree majoring in marketing and public relations. After completing his undergraduate studies, Oon Feng went back home and served as a youth pastor intern at a local Baptist church for three years. In 2019, he returned to the United States and is currently a first-year student at Duke Divinity School, pursuing his master of divinity. Post-graduation, he would like to be a youth and campus ministry pastor, reaching out especially to the international community. Oon Feng is thrilled that he has the opportunity to be equipped for ministry through the PathWays Fellowship Program and to be a part of the Durham community together with the other fellows.

Vivienne Kim
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