The lessons today teach about understanding one’s place in God’s kingdom. In Mark’s gospel, Jesus teaches that his ascension to the throne of the kingdom takes the path of descending to death. His disciples miss the point of Jesus’s teaching and argue about who is the greatest among them. Jesus offers a dramatic reversal of convention by saying that to be first, one must be last. Then he brings a child before them and says that welcoming this socially marginalized child is like welcoming him. James’s epistle emphasizes the wisdom of humility. He calls Christ’s followers to live a good life born of Godly wisdom. This life is marked by humility and grace. James says that those who humble themselves before God will be exalted by God.
Gathering
Opening Voluntary

Tiento [XII] de falsas (4° tono)  
Pasacalles I (1° tono)  

Juan Cabanilles  
(1644–1712)

Introit

O Taste and See  

Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872–1958)

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:  
Blest is the one that trusteth in him.

Text: Psalm 34:8

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn 660

God Is Here  

Abbott’s Leigh

*Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance | The minister offers words of confession in three biddings to which the congregation responds as follows:

Minister:  Lord have mercy.  
People:  Lord have mercy.  
Minister:  Christ have mercy.  
People:  Christ have mercy.  
Minister:  Lord have mercy.  
People:  Lord have mercy.

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.

* All rise as able
Prayer for Illumination | In unison:

Almighty God, our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: send your Holy Spirit to illuminate your holy word; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Psalmody | The psalm is chanted by the choir.

Psalm 54

Save me, O God for thy name’s sake,
and avenge me in thy strength.
Hear my prayer O God,
and hearken unto the words of my mouth.
For strangers are risen up against me,
and tyrants, which have not God before their eyes,
seek after my soul.
Behold, God is my helper,
the Lord is with them that uphold my soul.
He shall reward evil unto mine enemies,
destroy thou them in thy truth.
An offering of a free heart will I give thee,
and praise thy name, O Lord,
because it is so comfortable.
For he hath delivered me out of all my trouble,
and mine eye hath seen his desire upon mine enemies.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

New Testament Lesson

James 3:13–4:10

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

*Gospel Lesson

Mark 9:30–37

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

* All rise as able
Sermon

The Wisdom of Humility

Response

*Response Hymn | See hymn in back of the worship guide.

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

*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 Music

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey; I’ll tell everybody about you wherever I go: You alone are our life and our peace and our love. Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.

* All rise as able
Lord Jesus, I’ll praise you as long as I journey.
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
Lord Jesus, I’ll praise you as long as I journey.

As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,
To carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.
For you saved me by giving your body and blood.
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.

I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;
But courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.
And with all of the family you saved by your love,
We’ll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.

Text: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus & L’Arche Community, tr. Stephen Somerville

*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

We give thanks this morning for all Duke employees whose hard work and
dedication contribute to the vibrancy and flourishing of the university. We
specifically remember all those employed in service roles—housekeepers,
groundskeepers, maintenance workers, food service employees, and all those
occupations that are often overlooked.

*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.

* All rise as able
Sending Forth

*Benediction

*Closing Hymn 451

  Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

Closing Voluntary

  Tocata IV (5° tono)

Cabanilles
PRESIDING MINISTERS
The Rev. Dr. Luke A. Powery..........................Dean, Duke University Chapel
The Rev. Breana van Velzen........................Community Minister, Duke University Chapel

PREACHER
The Rev. Bruce Puckett..........................Assistant Dean, Duke University Chapel

LECTORS
Ms. Margot Armbruster..........................Chapel Scholar, Duke Episcopal Center, Trinity ’22
Mr. Spencer Reeves..................................................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
Ms. Margaret Owens..........................Guest Musician, Oboe

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

TODAY’S FLOWERS | Flowers for today’s worship service are given by the Terry Sanford Chapel Flowers Fund.

TODAY’S OFFERING | All of today’s designated online giving and checks written to Duke University Chapel will be used to support Duke Chapel’s sponsorship of a Habitat for Humanity home, with the Duke Student Chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Duke Habitat is an active student organization on campus that raises awareness and funds for Durham Habitat for Humanity. Families selected by Habitat work closely with volunteers, investing 240–300 hours of their own labor, or “sweat equity,” in building their homes. You are invited to give online at chapel.eduke.edu/offering. Please send checks to: Duke University Chapel, Box 90974, Durham, NC 27708-0974.

TODAY’S VOLUNTARIES | In recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15–October 15), the opening and closing voluntaries today are works by the organist-composer Juan Cabanilles, the culmination of a “golden age” in early Spanish keyboard music.

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.

**BACH CONCERT TODAY** | The Duke Bach Ensemble’s opening concert for the semester is today, 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.

**NO SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE NEXT WEEKEND** | Due to the commencement ceremonies for the Class of 2020 next weekend, September 24–26, we will not hold our usual Sunday morning worship service next Sunday, September 26. We are holding our Evensong service, as scheduled, at 4:00 p.m. next Sunday, as well as a carillon recital at 5:00 p.m. Details below.

**CARILLON RECITAL SEPT. 26** | Chapel Carillonneur Joseph Fala will give a recital next Sunday, September 26, at 5:00 p.m. 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, who played Duke’s carillon from 1964 until his retirement in 2018. Those attending the recital are invited to bring a lawn chair or blanket for seating on the Chapel Quad.

**VESPERS, EVENSONG, AND MIDWEEK PRAYER** | 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 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.

**‘NO CURE FOR BEING HUMAN’ ONLINE CONVERSATION** | Chapel Dean Luke Powery and Duke Divinity School Professor Kate Bowler will hold an online conversation Tuesday, September 21, at 12-noon on “No Cure for Being Human: The Difficulties of Life (and Accepting its Truths).” Free registration is required. Learn more and sign up on the Duke Chapel 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.
'GRANDMOTHER’S HANDS' ONLINE BOOK GROUP | The Chapel, in partnership with Episcopalians United Against Racism, is exploring how racial trauma impacts our bodies and communities, and how we can learn to heal together, by reading the book *My Grandmother’s Hands* by Resmaa Menakem. The online book group will begin this Wednesday, September 22, at 6:30 p.m. and meet every-other-Wednesday until December 2. To learn more and register on the Chapel's website or contact the Chapel’s community minister, the Rev. Breana Van Velzen, at breana.van.velzen@duke.edu.

PSALMS IN DIALOGUE OCT. 3 | To be broken is to be called into improvisation, into “making” as devotion. This is how we enter a dialogue with the Psalms, one that began thousands of years ago, among men and women of faith, speaking and listening to God. In an online presentation titled *Psalms in Dialogue: (Be)Holding the Broken Pieces* on Sunday, October 3, at 5:00 p.m. EDT, Duke University Chapel and the Duke Chapel Choir will welcome visual artist Makoto Fujimura, theologian Dr. Ellen Davis, Ekklesia Contemporary Ballet, dancers Andrew Nemr and Paiter Van Yperin for an evening of creativity and conversation inspired by the biblical Psalms. In the program, artists, musicians, theologians, singers, and dancers will present performances and works inspired by five Psalms: 46, 88, 90, 91, and 92. Learn more and register at no cost at chapel.duke.edu/psalms.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS SERVICE OCT 3 | Animals of all types (friendly animals!) are invited to join ministers and the Durham Children’s Choir on Sunday, October 3, at 3:00 p.m. in front of the Chapel for the Blessing of the Animals worship service. The service will last about thirty minutes and feature performances by the choir, scripture readings, and a sermon. Individual animal blessings will take place immediately after the service.

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. The deadline to apply is September 28. Learn more and apply at chapel.duke.edu/scholars.
Masks are required on the Duke campus in all indoor locations and strongly recommended in outdoor settings with a gathering of people. 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.

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. Classes will not meet September 26 and will resume October 3.

   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: On October 3, Steve and Mary Porter will provide an update on God's work amongst minority groups in Asia.

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.
Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

1. Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
On - ward in his foot-steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior’s bid - ding.
Faith-ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.

2. Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.
Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:
all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.

3. Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,
Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be
in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.
Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.

4. Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead
through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
On - ward in his foot-steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior’s bid - ding.
Faith-ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.

Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boitze, 18th cent.
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