We have two examples in today’s lessons of the many uses of vines and vineyards in the allegorical and moral storytelling of scripture. Tending of vineyards is used as a metaphor for many aspects of living a moral, diligent, and productive life. The vineyard owner may at times serve as a model for our own behavior or represent God’s care for us, both as the workers in the vineyard and as the fruitful harvest of the vines. Today, we are presented with stories that reinforce the lesson that all good gifts spring from our loving God and that it is our role to be faithful in appreciating and tending to those gifts.
Gathering

Carillon

Prelude

Toccata and Fugue in E Minor

Johann Ernst Eberlin
(1702–1762)

Introit

Amid the World’s Bleak Wilderness

Richard Hillert
(1923–2010)

Amid the world’s bleak wilderness
A vineyard grows with promise green,
The planting of the Lord himself.

His love selected this terrain;
His vine with love he planted here
To bear the choicest fruit for him.

We are his branches, chosen, dear,
And though we feel the dresser’s knife,
We are the objects of his care.

From him we draw the juice of life,
For him supply his winery
With fruit from which true joys derive.

Vine, keep what I was meant to be:
Your branch, with your rich life in me.

—Jaroslav J. Vajda (1919–2008)

Greeting and Call to Worship

Rose Procession

*Gathering Hymn | UMH 384

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*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.

*Response of Praise

Glory Be to the Father

Minister: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

*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:
Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth we may find wisdom, and in your will we may discover your peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Old Testament Lesson | OT page 596 in pew Bibles.

Isaiah 5:1–7

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

Psalmody | The choir introduces the refrain and the congregation sings the refrain where indicated. The choir chants the verses.

Psalm 80:7–15   Chad Fothergill

Look down from heaven, O God;
behold and tend this vine.

Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
You have brought a vine out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and planted it.
You cleared the ground for it;
it took root and filled the land.
The mountains were covered by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
You stretched out its tendrils to the sea
and its branches to the river. Refrain

Why have you broken down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it. Refrain
Turn now, O God of hosts,
look down from heaven;
behold and tend this vine;
preserve what your right hand has planted. **Refrain**

*Gospel Lesson* | NT pages 22–23 in pew Bibles.

Matthew 21:33–46

**Lector:** The word of the Lord.
**People:** Thanks be to God.


Philippians 3:4b–14

**Lector:** The word of the Lord.
**People:** Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Running with Jesus

Response

*Response Hymn* | See hymn printed at back of worship guide. Please sing the stanzas as indicated.

There in God’s Garden

SHADES MOUNTAIN
K. Lee Scott

*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 Anthem

Vinea mea electa

Vinea mea electa, ego te plantavi:
quomodo conversa es in amaritudinem,
ut me crecifigere et Barrabam dimitteres.
Sepivi te et lapides elegi ex te et aedificavi turrim.

My chosen vineyard, I planted you:
How have you turned to bitterness,
to crucify me and release Barabbas?
I fenced you, took the stones from you, and built a watchtower.

—Third Responsory for Good Friday

*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 | UMH 895. All are encouraged to pray the Lord’s Prayer in the language of their choosing.

Sending Forth

*Choral Benediction

A Blessing

Martin Shaw
(1875–1958)

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people.

Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the pow’r of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost be upon you, and remain with you forever. Amen.

—Book of Common Prayer

*Benediction

*Sending Hymn | UMH 188

Christ Is the World’s Light

CHRISTE SANCTORUM

Postlude

Improvisation

Carillon

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

Presiding Ministers
Morgan Dynes ........................................ Pastoral Assistant, Congregation at Duke Chapel
Carol Gregg .............................................. Pastor, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Preacher
William Willimon. . . . . . . Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry, Duke Divinity School

Lectors
David Ntim ................................................. Chapel Scholar, Pratt ’26
Daniel Amos II ............................................. Chapel Scholar, Trinity ’25

Mission of the Month
Geno Eaves .................................................. Director of Operations, ReCity

Musicians
Duke Chapel Choir ........................................... Choir
Zebulon Highben ...................................... Director of Chapel Music, Duke University Chapel
Robert Parkins ........................................ University Organist, Duke University
Chad Fothergill ........................................ Chapel Organist, Duke University Chapel
Katherine Johnson .................................. Organ Scholar, Duke University Chapel
Mitchell Eithun .......................................... Chapel Carillonneur, Duke University Chapel

Head Usher
James Ferguson ........................................ Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Rose Procession | Today’s Rose Procession is in honor of Angela Risi, a second-year master of fine arts student in the dance program who died Monday night in Durham.

Today's Preacher | We welcome today Will Willimon, Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry at the Divinity School and Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program. For twenty years, Professor Willimon served as Dean of Duke Chapel before he left to become a United Methodist Bishop in Alabama. His wife, Patsy, is a charter member of the Congregation at Duke Chapel. His daughter Harriet Willimon married Garret Putman, whom she met in the Chapel’s youth ministry, in Duke Chapel. They and their sons Wesley and Will attend the Chapel. The Willimons have established an endowment to support Sunday worship in the Chapel. Over eight hundred manuscripts and recordings of Professor Willimon’s Duke Chapel sermons can be found in the Duke Chapel Recordings digital archive. He is the author of one hundred books that have sold over a million copies and have been translated into eight languages. His book *Heaven and Earth: Advent and Incarnation* will be studied by the Congregation at Duke Chapel this December.
Today's Music | Much of today’s music focuses on the vineyard imagery in the Old Testament, Psalm, and Gospel readings. The response hymn, “There in God’s Garden,” takes this imagery and weaves it together with the whole of the biblical narrative. The hymn’s first couplet stretches from Genesis 2 (the tree of life, knowledge, beauty, and wisdom) to Revelation 22 (leaves that heal the nations), while the inner stanzas teem with images from Exodus, Psalms, Matthew, Luke, and more. The text was written by a seventeenth-century Hungarian pastor and translated into English by the British hymnologist Erik Routley. The tune, by American composer K. Lee Scott, is named for Shades Mountain, a peak at the southernmost edge of the Appalachians in Birmingham, Alabama. Replete with small brooks, coniferous and deciduous trees, and fragrant flowering vegetation, Shades Mountain is a fitting namesake for a hymn about God’s garden.

Mission of the Month | The vision of ReCity is to create what the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. referred to as Beloved Community by uniting diverse leaders and cross-sector organizations. ReCity uses a collective impact framework, which is the idea that you can do more together than if you remain isolated in silos. ReCity’s shared co-working and design space is used to create community while working, meeting, and collaborating. All of today’s cash offerings and checks written to Duke University Chapel will be used to support ReCity.

Today's Flowers | The flowers for the worship service today are given to the glory of God by the Nancy Hanks Chapel Endowment.


ENGAGE

University Prayer of Thanksgiving | Each week, we focus on a different campus unit, school, or department for whom to give thanks to God for their service and contributions to the wider university community and beyond. Today, we give thanks for the Department of History.

Tour After the Service | Learn about the history, architecture, and life of Duke Chapel on a tour immediately following the service. The tour is free and lasts about forty-five minutes. Meet the docent outside in front of the Chapel.
Blessing of the Animals Today | All are invited to bring their pets for the Blessing of the Animals today at 3:00 p.m. The location is slightly different this year: the service will be held on the section of Abele Quad with the James B. Duke statue. Chapel ministers will lead the service with music from the Durham Children’s Choir and a sermon from Fr. Hugh Macsherry, O.F.M., parochial vicar at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Durham. Those bringing pets are asked to bring only pets that will be safe around children and other animals.

Choral Evensong This Afternoon | Our Choral Evensong service today at 4:00 p.m. will draw upon settings of the service by the English composer and organist Herbert Howells. The Chapel’s Choral Evensong follows the liturgy of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer and features choral and organ music from the English cathedral tradition, led by the Chapel’s Evensong Singers.

Young Adult Dinner and Discussion | All are welcome for a simple dinner and Bible study that will focus on the experience of university graduate students, younger adults, and their partners as they discuss the books of Joshua, Judges, and Ruth. The next gathering will be on Monday, October 9, at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel kitchen, located in the lower level of the Chapel. All perspectives and questions are welcome. Please contact alexander.jones@duke.edu for additional information.

Durham Pilgrimage of Pain and Hope | Students, Duke community members, and others are invited to discover how their spiritual journeys are connected to our city of Durham through the Durham Pilgrimage of Pain and Hope. Held on the weekend of October 27–29, the pilgrimage is led by DurhamCares, a nonprofit with a mission to foster collaboration, develop leaders, and educate the people of Durham to care for their neighbors in holistic ways. The deadline to sign up is October 11. To learn more and sign up, contact the Rev. Racquel Gill at racquel.gill@duke.edu.

Sunday Morning Classes | Sunday morning Christian Education classes are available for all ages from 9:45–10:45 a.m., with coffee and refreshments provided at 9:30 a.m. Classes meet in the lowest level of the Westbrook building. New participants are welcome at any time. Contact congregation@duke.edu for additional information.
All 1. There in God’s garden stands the Tree of Wisdom,
   whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations:
   Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion,
   Tree of all beauty.

Treble voices 2. Its name is Jesus, name that says, “Our Savior!”
   see there the tendrils of our choking it.
   see there the twining; see there the twining;
   feed on its lifeblood.

Low voices 3. Thorns not its own are tangled in its foliage;
   yet, look! it lives! its grief has wearily; Give me your sickness, give me wearily; Give me wearily;
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ACCESSIBILITY

Hearing assistance units, as well as large-print worship guides and hymnals, are available at the AV console in the rear of the Chapel. There, you can also find directions to download a listen-assist app on your phone. 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 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, 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.