

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Christ the King Sunday

Sunday, November 23, 2025, 11:00 a.m.



Nikolaï Ge, *Christ and the Thief*, 1893.

Today we mark the feast of Christ the King on the 100th anniversary of its institution. It is a day for expressing our faith that, even though Christ was rejected and crucified, he rose and ascended, and forever reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit in glory. Jesus's reign means that no mighty power, no tragic suffering, no evil force will have the last word; the last word is Jesus. It also means we may look to Jesus's life—his humility, his sacrifice, his compassion for outcasts—for a model of true kingship. Our loyalty to this Christ goes before our loyalty to any other claim on our lives. Today is the last Sunday of the Church year: next week a new year begins with the First Sunday of Advent.

# Gathering

## Carillon

### Prelude

*The Hildegard Organ Cycle* (2000)

Frank Ferk

I. The Origin of Life

### Introit

Christus factus est

Giovanni Francesco Anerio  
(1569–1630)

Christus factus est pro nobis obediens  
usque ad mortem, mortem autem crucis.  
Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum et dedit illi nomen,  
quod est super omne nomen.

*Christ humbled himself and became obedient  
unto death, even death upon a cross.  
Therefore also God has exalted him and given him a name  
which is above every name.*

—*Philippians 2:8–9*

### Greeting and Call to Worship

\*Gathering Hymn | UMH 154

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

CORONATION

\*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.**

\*All rise as able

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:

**O God, our true life: to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. Open our hearts to your word. Abide in us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson | OT page 681 in pew Bibles.

Jeremiah 23:1–6

Lector: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** | The assembly chants the verses in bold.

Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain

Carolyn Jennings

Climb to the top of the highest mountain,  
Joyous tidings proclaim to the world,  
Lift up your voice, shout the good news:  
Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd,  
He will carry the lambs in his arms,  
He will ever keep them safe from harm.  
Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He who made the stars in the heaven,  
He who fashioned the earth and the sea,  
From time eternal he was God,  
The Alpha and Omega, He.  
Behold, your Lord!

He will come in power and glory,  
He will rule with mercy and truth,  
Hope of all the nations,  
Light of all the world!

He will love the little children,  
He will hold them in his arms.  
Love him and trust him as a child,  
Behold, your Lord comes to you.

—Carolyn Jennings, *after Isaiah 40*

New Testament Lesson | NT pages 188–189 in pew Bibles.

Colossians 1:11–20

Lector: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

\*Gradual Hymn | See hymn printed at end of the worship guide. Stanzas 1–3.  
All turn to face the Gospel procession.

My Song Is Love Unknown

LOVE UNKNOWN

\*Gradual Lesson | NT pages 83–84 in pew Bibles.

Luke 23:33–43

Lector: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

\*Gradual Hymn | See hymn printed at end of the worship guide. Stanzas 4–6.

My Song Is Love Unknown

LOVE UNKNOWN

Sermon

To Be Fully Alive

## Response

### \*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

Prelude in C Major, BWV 846  
(Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1)

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685–1750)

Mazurka in G-sharp Minor, Op. 33, No. 1

Frédéric Chopin  
(1810–1849)

**\*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 text is found on page 895 at the end of the hymnal.

**Sending Forth**

**\*Choral Benediction**

God Be in My Head

John Rutter

God be in my head and in my understanding,  
God be in mine eyes and in my looking,  
God be in my mouth and in my speaking,  
God be in mine heart and in my thinking,  
God be at my end and in my departing.

—*Sarum Primer*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sending Hymn** | UMH 327

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

**Postlude**

Fugue in E-flat Major, BWV 552

J. S. Bach

**Carillon**

**Memorial Chapel Communion** | Immediately following the postlude, a brief communion service will be held in Memorial Chapel; worship guides for the service are available near the entrance. Following communion, the minister will be available to offer prayers and anointing.

## GRADUAL HYMN | My Song Is Love Unknown



1. My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to  
2. He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -  
3. Some - times we strew his way and his sweet prais - es  
4. We cry out, we will have our dear Lord made a -  
5. In life no house, no home my Lord on earth might  
6. Here might I stay and sing— no sto - ry so di -



me, love to the love - less shown that they might  
stow; the world that was his own would not its  
sing; re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas  
way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of  
have; in death no friend - ly tomb but what a  
vine! Nev - er was love, dear King, nev - er was



love - ly be. Oh, who am I that for my  
Sav - ior know. But, oh, my friend, my friend in -  
to our king. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all our  
life to slay. Yet cheer - ful he to suf - f'ring  
stran - ger gave. What may I say? Heav'n was his  
grief like thine. This is my friend, in whose sweet



sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?  
deed, who at my need his life did spend!  
breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.  
goes that he his foes from thence might free.  
home but mine the tomb where - in he lay.  
praise I all my days could glad - ly spend!

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers

Bruce Puckett .....Assistant Dean, Duke University Chapel  
Keagan Bouman .....Intern for Worship and Student Engagement; Divinity '26

Preacher

Lyn Pace.....Assistant Dean of Religious Life, Duke University Chapel

Mission of the Month

Breana van Velzen. ....Executive Director, Durham Congregations in Action; Divinity '17

Lectors

Ella Evans.....Chapel Scholar; Trinity '26  
Kene Anumba.....Chapel Scholar; Graduate '28

Musicians

Duke Chapel Choir.....Choir  
Chad Fothergill.....Chapel Organist, Duke University Chapel  
David Lim.....Organ Scholar, Duke University Chapel  
Mitchell Eithun .....Chapel Carillonneur, Duke University Chapel  
Guanliang Lyu .....Piano; Kunshan '27

Head Ushers

Ken Arneson .....Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel  
Pete Acker .....Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

**Mission of the Month** | All of today’s cash offerings and checks written to Duke University Chapel will be used to support Durham Congregations in Action. Durham Congregations In Action (DCIA) organizes communities of diverse faiths to work for beloved community, which often looks like working toward racial justice, social equity, and human dignity in our city. DCIA co-leads interfaith relationship-building, facilitates learning from one another and others, holds vigils, hosts a pilgrimage for racial justice, does community interventions (such as HomeShare Durham), works on food and housing security, and cultivates peace-making. DCIA’s recent projects include a national interfaith conference on peace and justice, congregation land-use workshops, and “Know Your Rights” trainings that 50+ congregations worked together to make happen. Get involved in helping with events, volunteering in the office, sharing your skills, or donating ([dcia.org/donate](https://dcia.org/donate)) by emailing Rev. Breana van Velzen at [durhamNaction@gmail.com](mailto:durhamNaction@gmail.com). Send checks to: Duke University Chapel, Box 90974, Durham, NC 27708-0974.

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You are invited to give online at [chapel.duke.edu/offering](https://chapel.duke.edu/offering). You may also give directly to the Congregation at Duke University Chapel by check written to the Congregation at Duke University Chapel or online at [congregation.chapel.duke.edu](https://congregation.chapel.duke.edu) and access the giving link.

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

**Liturgical Acknowledgments | Prayer for Illumination.** Adapted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Augsburg Fortress Press, © 2006.

## ACCESSIBILITY

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Hearing assistance technology, as well as large-print worship guides and hymnals, is available at the AV console in the rear of the Chapel. For other accommodations, please approach a minister or usher.

## RESTROOMS

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For public restrooms, exit the Chapel through the main front doors and turn left to enter the Divinity School. Restrooms are along the Divinity School hallway.

## TOURS

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Meet a docent outside in front of the Chapel immediately following the service for a free, forty-five minute tour of Duke Chapel's history, architecture, and life.

## LEARN MORE AND ENGAGE

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Scan the QR codes to learn more about the missions and ministries of Duke Chapel and the Congregation at Duke University Chapel. Also, read this week's announcements, see upcoming events, and find out how to engage with the Chapel and the Congregation.



[chapel.duke.edu](http://chapel.duke.edu)  
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*The Congregation  
at Duke Chapel*

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