In the third week of Advent, God’s promises of new life and healing echo through the scriptures. In Isaiah, a new age is dawning—an age where the brokenhearted are comforted, the captives are freed, and where places of destruction and ruin are transformed into places of life through the power of God. In the gospel of John, John the Baptist identifies himself as the voice in Isaiah who cries in the wilderness, “Make straight the way of the Lord,” with the promise that God was doing something new in the midst of his people.
The congregation is asked to remain silent
during the prelude as a time of prayer and meditation.
The Chapel welcomes families with children. If at any time during the service your child
needs a place for active play, please know there is a nursery in the Chapel basement.

GATHERING

CARILLON

ORGAN PRELUDE
Toccata, Adagio, and Fugue in C major, BWV 564  Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*OPENING PROCESSION: HYMN 200
Tell Out, My Soul

WOODLANDS

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE (in unison)
God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all na-
tions under your rule. We confess that we have not expected
your kingdom; we live casual lives, ignoring your promised
judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the
earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive
us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things
that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen.

The minister speaks words of assurance.

*PEACE
(All exchange signs and words of God’s peace.)

PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)
God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist
to prepare the way of your Son: prepare us now as we hear
your word; give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for
justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11 (OT page 650 in the pew Bible)
Lector:  This is the word of the Lord.
People:  Thanks be to God.

*GRADUAL HYMN (see hymn on final page, stanza 1)
Comfort, Comfort Now My People
(All turn to face the Gospel Procession.)

FREU DICH SEHR

*GOSPEL LESSON—John 1:6–8, 19–28 (NT page 86)
Lector:  This is the word of the Lord.
People:  Thanks be to God.
*Gradual Hymn (see hymn on final page, stanzas 2–3)
  Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Sermon—Who Are You?

Response

Call to Prayer
  Minister: The Lord be with you.
  People: And also with you.
  Minister: Let us pray.

Mission Announcement

Prayers of the People

(The congregation responds to each petition: “Hear our prayer.”)

This morning we remember Duke Human Resources and its management of employee recruitment, benefits, policies, and the training for both the University and Health System.

In Durham, we remember those who find identity and community in the local gang cultures, and we pray for organizations and individuals who work to provide alternative positive forms of community.

A representative from PharmAssist brings forward a mortar and pestle, symbolizing its work as a pharmaceutical care clinic.

Brass Offertory
  Christmas Day

*Doxology

Veni Emmanuel

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
O come, thou Day-spring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadow put to flight.

Re-joice! Re-joice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Thanksgiving and Communion

*The Great Thanksgiving
(Musical Setting A, found on page 17 in the hymnal)

*The Lord’s Prayer (number 895 in the hymnal, in unison)
SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

All who love Christ, earnestly repent of their sins, and seek to be at peace with God and neighbor are invited to receive communion. Wine is used for communion. If you would prefer to receive grape juice, it is available upon request at the communion station near the main entrance of the Chapel, on the pulpit side. If you have a gluten allergy, those serving communion nearest to the Memorial Chapel will be ready to serve you gluten-free wafers and wine on request. You may also come forward to receive a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.

If you would like to receive individual anointing with oil and prayers for healing, ministers will be in the Memorial Chapel during communion.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

HYMN 216 (sung by all)
Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming

ES IST EIN ROS

BRASS COMMUNION ANTHEM
Wexford Carol

Traditional Irish Carol
arr. J. A. C. Redford
(b. 1953)

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING PROCESSION: HYMN 203
Hail to the Lord’s Anointed

ELLACOMBE

ORGAN POSTLUDE
Carillon on “Orientis Partibus”

Arthur Wills
(b. 1926)

CARILLON

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers
The Rev. Bruce Puckett
Dr. Christy Lohr Sapp

Preacher
The Rev. Dr. Luke Powery

Lectors
Ms. Christine Callan
Chapel Community Member
Dr. Walker Robinson

Guest Musicians
Amalgam Brass Ensemble

Organist
Mr. Christopher Jacobson

Ministers of Anointing
The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg
The Rev. Meghan Benson
Dr. Christy Lohr Sapp

Head Ushers
Dr. James Ferguson and Mr. Rick Wilfong

Carillonneur
Mr. J. Samuel Hammond
Christmas Eve Services at Duke Chapel

Christmas Eve 2:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Service for Children
This family-friendly worship service includes music and storytellers to announce the birth of Christ. The service lasts approximately 40 minutes.

Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m.
Service of Carols and Holy Communion
This afternoon service includes Christmas carols and Holy Communion, the Durham Children’s Choir, and a sermon from Dean Luke Powery.

Christmas Eve 6:00 p.m.
Service of Worship
This evening service includes Christmas carols, the Amalgam brass ensemble, and a sermon from Dean Luke Powery.

Christmas Eve 11:00 p.m.
Service of Lessons and Carols
This traditional service of Lessons and Carols includes a large community choir, scripture, and choral music.
Prelude begins at 10:30.

A maximum of 1600 people will be admitted to each service.

CHAPEL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today’s Flowers—The wreaths on both sides of the front entrance of the Chapel, the Advent Wreath, and the red poinsettias that adorn the balustrade are made possible by the Elizabeth Lucina Gotham Memorial Endowment, established by Dr. and Mrs. James H. Semans in loving memory of Elizabeth Gotham.

Today’s Mission of the Month Offering—Founded in 1994, Senior PharmAssist helps Durham seniors 60 and older remain as healthy and engaged as possible by focusing on medication access and appropriate use, Medicare insurance counseling, tailored community referral, and activating participants to take charge of their health. The program works closely with older adults, caregivers, and other providers to help ensure that everyone is on the “same medication page.” Senior PharmAssist participants report a 51 percent reduction in hospital stays, among many positive outcomes. Last year, the program helped 1720 individuals; this year, it will serve more than 1800. Learn more at www.seniorpharmassist.org or call 919-688-4772.

Christmas Open House—The annual “Chapel by Candlelight” open house will be held on Thursday, December 18, from noon to 2:00 p.m. This free event features holiday music on three Chapel organs and the carillon, plus carols sung by members of the Duke Vespers Ensemble. Free Christmas cookies and hot cider will be served on the front lawn. All are welcome to come relax, listen to the music, and see the Chapel dressed in the splendor of the holidays.

Community Choir at the 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service—All are invited to come and sing in the community choir for the 11:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols service on Christmas Eve. There is a rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 22, and a required rehearsal at 9:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve. The choir will sing several anthems, including the “Hallelujah Chorus” from Messiah.
The following Congregation opportunities are open to all.

Sunday Education—All Sunday morning classes meet in the lowest level of Duke Divinity School from 9:45–10:45 a.m. New participants are welcome at any time. Classes include:

- **Wee Praise** for infants through children age 3 with parents or caregivers in 0014 Westbrook
- **Godly Play** for 4-year olds through 5th graders in 0050 Langford
- **Youth Sunday School** for youth in 6th–12th grades in 0013 Westbrook
- **Adult Bible Study** focused on the theme of worship in 0011 Westbrook
- **Adult Forum:** Next Sunday, December 21, Rev. Dr. S. Brian Stratton, Professor of Religious Studies and Philosophy, Alma College, will discuss “A Very Merry Philosophical Christmas” in 0012 Westbrook.

Christian Education—Those interested in discussing adult education opportunities are welcome to attend the education meeting after worship today in the Chapel kitchen.

ZOE Gift Market—The ZOE alternative gift market, staffed by the Congregation youth, will be offered after worship today on the Chapel lawn. Serving children in several African countries, ZOE’s unique empowerment program brings orphans and vulnerable children from extreme poverty to self-reliance in just three years. At the gift market, you may honor your loved ones with a donation to ZOE. For more information, contact Brad Troxell at brad.troxell@duke.edu.

Young Adult Christmas Potluck—Young adults and their families are invited to attend a Christmas potluck lunch after worship today at the home of Bruce and Renee Puckett. A main dish of honey baked ham will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert for ten to share.

Turkeys Needed—The Congregation partners with Antioch Baptist Church to “Feed our Friends” on Christmas Day. Christmas dinner will be given to 300 people. Individuals are needed to donate a cooked turkey or large turkey breast to be delivered to Antioch Baptist Church on Christmas morning. The turkey could be cooked the day before, and then warmed before delivery. If you can donate a cooked turkey, please contact Marilyn Christian at mchristian2@nc.rr.com or 919-361-1974 by December 19.

Saturday Service Project—Volunteers are needed on Saturday, December 20, from 2:00–4:00 p.m. to wrap gifts and organize a coat closet in preparation for Antioch Baptist Church’s Christmas “Feeding our Friends” program. The program welcomes 300 people for a Christmas day celebration which provides a meal, coat, and gift to guests. Volunteers should meet at Antioch Baptist Church, 1415 Holloway St., Durham. For more detailed information, please contact the Congregation office at 919-684-3917.
Comfort, Comfort Now My People

1 “Com-fort, com-fort now my peo-ple; Tell of peace!” So says our God.
2 For the her-ald’s voice is cry-ing In the des-ert far and near,
3 Straight shall be what long was crook-ed, And the rough-er plac-es plain!

Com-fort those who sit in dark-ness Mourn-ing un-der sor-row’s load.
Call-ing us to true re-pen-tance, Since the King-dom now is here.
Let your hearts be true and hum-ble, As be-fits his ho-ly reign!

To God’s peo-ple now pro-claim That God’s par-don waits for them!
Oh, that warn-ing cry o-bey! Now pre-pare for God a way!
For the glo-ry of the Lord Now on earth is shed a-broad,

Tell them that their war is o-ver; God will reign in peace for-ev-er!
Let the val-leys rise to meet him, And the hills bow down to greet him!
And all flesh shall see the to-ken That God’s word is nev-er bro-ken.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611-1684; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1839-1878, alt.
Tune: Trente quator premains de David, Geneva, 1551
The Congregation at Duke University Chapel offers educational opportunities for all to participate. Students, members, and non-members, regardless of age or religious background, are welcome to participate in the Christian Education opportunities below.  
Most classes meet weekly starting January 4 unless otherwise noted.

**CHILDREN**

**Wee Praise**—Using “Musikgarten’s All God’s Children Sing” curriculum, infants and children through age 3, along with their parents or caregivers, are invited to make a joyful noise to the Lord. Participants will sing, move, listen, and play simple instruments. Led by Kate DeAlmeida.
- **Time:** Sundays at 9:45 a.m.
- **Location:** Room 0016, Westbrook Building, Divinity School

**Godly Play**—A creative and imaginative approach to Christian nurture, children ages 4 through 5th graders are invited into stories to learn the Christian language, become more fully aware of the mystery of God’s presence, and make meaning in their lives. Led by Phyllis Snyder.
- **Time:** Sundays at 9:45 a.m.
- **Location:** Room 0050, Langford Building, Divinity School

**YOUTH**

**Sunday School**—Youth, 6th–12th grade, will meet for fun and interesting Bible lessons throughout the academic year. This spring, the classes will explore questions of faith. Led by the Rev. Brad Troxell.
- **Time:** Sundays at 9:45 a.m.
- **Location:** Room 0013, Westbrook Building, Divinity School

**Youth Fellowship**—All middle and high school youth are welcome for dinner, discussion, and fellowship. Led by the Rev. Brad Troxell, Deb Hackney, and Walker Robinson.
- **Time:** Sundays from 5:00–7:00 p.m.
- **Location:** Chapel Kitchen

**ADULTS**

**Adult Forum**—With a variety of guest speakers, the Adult Forum offers presentations and discussions on a wide range of topics. The thought-provoking topics include biblical studies, current social issues, and the work of mission agencies. Coordinated by Nelson Strother.
- **Time:** Sundays at 9:45 a.m.
- **Location:** Room 0012, Westbrook Building, Divinity School
**Grace-Full Disciples**—This women’s group will seek God’s wisdom through studying Scripture, building supportive relationships and meeting God and each other in prayer. Participants will use *The Upper Room Disciplines* 2015 devotional book, other books agreed upon by group members, and videos of current religious scholars by Animate; one of these media will guide the discussion for a given gathering. Shared leadership.

Time: Alternating Mondays at 7:00–9:00 p.m. beginning January 12  
Location: Homes of participants

**Lectionary Bible Study**—The lectionary is a three-year cycle of scripture readings that provide the basis of the Chapel’s Sunday worship. This class gathers once a month to discuss the lectionary readings for the coming Sunday. Led by the Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg and the Rev. Brad Troxell.

Time: First Friday of the month at 10 a.m. throughout the year  
Location: The library at the Forest at Duke, 2701 Pickett Rd.

**New Members Class**—Any who are considering joining the Congregation at Duke Chapel are invited to participate in a four-week new member class. The class will discuss tenets of the Christian faith as well as provide orientation to this congregation. Facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg.

Time: Sundays at 9:45 a.m., February 15 and 22, March 1 and 8  
Location: Room 0015, Westbrook Building, Divinity School

**Thursday Evening Study and Fellowship**—Participants will read *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers* by Anne Lamott. The study will focus on discussion, Bible readings, and a deeper understanding of prayer. Shared leadership.

Time: Most Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. starting January 15th  
Location: Kimberley Caulfeild’s home

**Young Adult Study: Roast Preacher!**—Young adults are welcome to discuss the day’s text and sermon over lunch immediately following worship on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. Led by the Rev. Brad Troxell.

Time: Following worship; every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month  
Location: Various Restaurants

**Retreat Dates**—The Congregation sponsors two retreats a year:  
**Winter Retreat**—The winter retreat, a day-long event in Durham, is scheduled for Saturday, February 21. The Rev. Mel Williams will speak on “Compassion in Action: How can we be wise and faithful?”

**Overnight Retreat**—The overnight retreat, held at the Caraway Conference Center near Asheboro, will be Saturday, May 30, to Sunday, May 31, with the focus of “Spiritual Practices for Deeping Connections.”

*For detailed updates or changes to the schedules, please read the weekly eNews. You may subscribe to eNews by sending an email to congregation@duke.edu.*
FOR WORSHIPERS & VISITORS
† Prayer requests may be placed in the prayer box located by the Memorial Chapel.
† For a tour of Duke Chapel, meet today’s docent near the front steps of the Chapel following the service.
† Hearing assist units and a Braille hymnal are available at the attendant’s desk at the entry way of the Chapel. See the Chapel attendant if you would like to use one of our large-print Bibles or hymnals for the worship service this morning.

FOR FAMILIES & CHILDREN
† Children 4 and younger are welcome to visit the nursery (capacity limited), located in the Chapel basement, beginning at 10:50 a.m. each week. Pagers are available for parents to keep with them during worship. Parents needing a place to feed, quiet, or change infants are also welcome.
† Activity Bags are available at the rear of the Chapel for children 5 or younger. Please return the bags at the end of the service. Children’s bulletins are available from the ushers.

We invite you to consider joining the Congregation at Duke Chapel. The Congregation is an interdenominational church with a variety of vibrant ministries, including discipleship and spiritual formation (for children, youth, and adults), mission and outreach, and pastoral care. If you would like to receive the weekly eNews from the Congregation or have any questions, please email congregation@duke.edu or call 919-684-3917.

STAFF OF DUKE UNIVERSITY CHAPEL

The Rev. Dr. Luke Powery
Dean of the Chapel

Ministry
Dr. Christy Lohr Sapp
The Rev. Meghan Benson
Dr. Adam Hollowell
The Rev. Bruce Puckett
Mr. Joshua Lazard
Ms. Gerly Ace

Music
Dr. Rodney Wynkoop
Dr. Robert Parkins
Mr. Christopher Jacobson
Dr. Brian Schmidt
Mr. John Sontoianini
Mr. J. Samuel Hammond
Mr. Michael Lyle

Administration
Ms. Beth Gettys Sturkey
Ms. Joni Harris
Ms. Adrienne Koch
Mr. James Todd
Ms. Sara Clark
Ms. Lisa Moore
Mr. Andrew Klumpp
Ms. Lucy Hart Peadan Taylor
Mr. Oscar Dantzler and Ms. Beverly Jordan

Staff of the Congregation at Duke University Chapel
The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg
Pastor
The Rev. Brad Troxell
Associate Pastor
Ms. Phyllis Snyder
Children’s Pastor
Mr. Nelson Strother
Administrative Assistant