The season of Advent is a time of waiting for the promises of God. The God who has drawn near to Israel will soon draw nearer still in the form of a baby. The scripture lessons emphasize the promises that are to be fulfilled. Isaiah foretells the birth of a child to be called Immanuel, meaning “God with us.” The introduction to Paul’s letter to the Romans reveals how Jesus was the fulfillment of God’s promise and opened the door of salvation to Gentiles as well as Jews. In Matthew, Joseph is visited in the night with the strange message of Jesus’ coming birth.
The congregation is asked to remain silent during the prelude as a time of prayer and meditation.

GATHERING

CARILLON

BRASS PRELUDE

Six Christmas Carols

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
Greensleeves
O Tannenbaum
We Three Kings
Once in Royal David’s City
Angels We Have Heard on High

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 720

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE (in unison)

The minister offers words of confession in three biddings, to which the congregation responds as follows:

Lord have mercy.
**Lord have mercy.**

Christ have mercy.
**Christ have mercy.**

Lord have mercy.
**Lord have mercy.**

The minister speaks words of assurance.

*PEACE

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

PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Eternal God, as Mary and Joseph waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait to hear your word; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with them, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Isaiah 7:10-16 (OT page 598 in the pew Bible)
Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON—Romans 1:1-7 (NT page 142)
Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

*GRADUAL HYMN 184 (stanza 1)
Of the Father’s Love Begotten
(All turn to face the Gospel Procession.)

*GOSPEL LESSON—Matthew 1:18-25 (NT page 1)
Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

*GRADUAL HYMN 184 (stanzas 2-3)
Of the Father’s Love Begotten

SERMON—Of the Father’s Love Begotten

RESPONSE

*THE 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; 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: “Hear our prayer.”)
COMMISSIONING FOR DAVID AND ROBIN ARCUS

BRASS OFFERTORY
Christmas Day

Gustav Holst
(1874-1934)
arr. Douglas Haislip

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

THANKSGIVING

This morning we give thanks for the Duke Board of Trustees. We celebrate its stewardship of Duke’s life in ways that support and sustain the University while modeling a culture of excellence. The ushers bring a copy of the Duke seal to the altar.

In Durham, we remember those who contribute joy to our community culture through their artistic and creative expressions. The ushers bring forward a hand-thrown pot.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*THE LORD’S PRAYER (number 895 in the hymnal, in unison)

SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION

*RECESSINAL HYMN 202
People, Look East

BESANÇON

POSTLUDE
Fugue and Finale (from Variations on BESANÇON)    David Arcus
(b. 1959)

In honor of Dr. Arcus’s twenty-five years of service as the Chapel Organist, we invite you to be seated and to remain for the total of his postlude as a sign of celebration and gratitude. Should you need to leave, please do so quietly and respectfully.

CARILLON

*All who are able may stand.
MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers
The Rev. Dr. Luke Powery
The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg

Preacher
Dr. Christy Lohr Sapp

Lectors
Ms Cricket Scovil
Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Mr. Frank Coble
Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Organist
Dr. David Arcus

Guest Musicians
The Amalgam Brass Ensemble

Presiding Minister over Memorial Chapel Communion
The Rev. Brad Troxell

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
Join the children of the Congregation for this participatory worship service including drama and music in which children and storytellers announce the birth of Christ.

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
Traditional Lessons and Carols service with a large community choir, scripture, and carols.
Prelude begins at 10:30.

A maximum of 1600 persons will be admitted to each service,
CHAPEL ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT WREATH AND DECORATIONS—The Advent Wreath is made possible by the Elizabeth Lucina Gotham Memorial Endowment, established by Dr. and Mrs. James H. Semans in loving memory of Elizabeth Gotham. The wreaths on either side of the front entrance of the Chapel and the interior decorations are given to the glory of God in celebration of the Christmas season by Dr. and Mrs. James G. Ferguson, Jr.

TODAY’S OFFERING—All of today’s cash offerings and undesignated checks will be used for the Chapel Development Fund. The Chapel’s current focus is to upgrade the Chapel cameras and video capabilities to digital and high definition in order to better serve the thousands of worshippers locally, in Duke Hospital, and around the globe who tune in weekly.

SERMONS AVAILABLE—Copies of today’s sermon are available in the communication stands at either side of the narthex, just inside the front doors of the Chapel. A downloadable PDF, podcast, and webcast of sermons each week are available on our website, www.chapel.duke.edu.

GOODBYE TO DAVID ARCUS—Today marks the final Sunday worship service played by the Chapel Organist David Arcus. David has made an extraordinary contribution to the musical and worship life of the Chapel in the more than 25 years he has been here, and it has been an immeasurable gift to have him as a colleague. With deep gratitude, the Chapel community celebrates the many gifts that David has shared with us and wishes only the best for him and his wife Robin in the next stage of their life together. David will be playing the Christmas Eve services as well as a final organ recital on January 26, at 5:00 p.m.

PARKING AT DUKE CHAPEL—Do you like to attend Chapel events on evenings and weekends but dislike the difficulty and cost of parking on campus? Duke Parking and Transportation services offers a Night Permit for $22 annually, which allows you to park on campus after 5:00 p.m. and on weekends. There is no charge to park on Sunday mornings until 1:00 p.m. The permit is renewed annually in August. Please contact Parking at 919-684-PARK for more information. There is no charge to park on Sunday mornings until 1:00 p.m.

DUKE CHAPEL EVENT EMAIL LIST—If you would like to receive emails about upcoming events sponsored by Duke Chapel, such as concerts, dialogues, special worship services, and more, please visit www.chapel.duke.edu/contact and sign up via the link in the left-hand box.

BROADCASTS—Thanks to the Friends of Duke Chapel, the Sunday service is broadcast live every week over AM 620 WDNC and one week later on Raleigh station AM 570 WQDR and Franklin County station AM 1480 WYRN at 10:00 a.m. The service is also available on the web via streaming video at www.chapel.duke.edu. The service is broadcast live on patient TV channel 50 in Duke Hospital.
The following Congregation opportunities are open to all.

**Christian Education**—Christian Education classes will not meet on Sunday, December 29 except for the Stepping Stones class, which will meet on Sunday morning at 9:45 am in Westbrook 0011, concluding an Advent Study. Classes for all ages will resume on Sunday, January 5.

**Alternative Gift Market**—Today is the last day for the ZOE Ministry Alternative Gift Market on the Chapel lawn following worship. Active in Rwanda, Kenya, Zimbabwe, and Malawi, ZOE has developed as a three-year model in which orphans and vulnerable children move from abject poverty to complete self-sufficiency and come to know of God’s great love. Since 2007, over 30,000 orphans and vulnerable children have transformed their lives. Please consider giving your family and friends an “alternative gift” of seeds, tools, or livestock.

**Two Opportunities with Urban Ministries of Durham:**

**Service Project for College Students**—Tomorrow, Monday, December 23, college students who are part of the Congregation will join together for service and fellowship. Students will meet at Urban Ministries (410 Liberty St. in Durham) at 2:00 p.m. for a service project. After the project finishes at 5:00 p.m., the group will go to Bull City Burger for dinner. For more information or to RSVP, please email Brad Troxell at brad.troxell@duke.edu.

**Dinner for Neighbors**—The Congregation will next provide and serve dinner at Urban Ministries on Sunday, January 12. Volunteers are needed to donate lasagnas and to serve the meal. Hot lasagnas are to be dropped off at 5:45 p.m. The time commitment for those who serve is approximately 90 minutes. If you wish to bring food or help serve, please call Ned Arnett at 919-489-4133 or e-mail edward.arnett@duke.edu.

**Office Closed**—The Congregation office will be closed December 25 and December 26 due to the Christmas holiday.

**Epiphany Lunch**—All are welcome to the Congregation’s Epiphany lunch on Sunday, January 5, after worship in the Chapel lounge. Sandwiches and drinks will be provided, but please feel free to bring a salad or dessert. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please call Judy Arneson 919-968-7822.

**Confirmation Class**—A confirmation class for youth who are in the 8th grade and older will be forming in January. The class will explore the meaning of Christian faith as well as baptismal and membership vows so that the confirmands may prayerfully commit their lives to Christ and the church. If you or your child would like to be part of this class, please contact Brad Troxell at brad.troxell@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
Ministry
Dr. Christy Lohr Sapp
The Rev. Meghan Feldmeyer
Dr. Adam Hollowell
The Rev. Bruce Puckett
Ms. Kennetra Irby
Ms. Gerly Ace
Music
Dr. Rodney Wynkoop
Dr. Robert Parkins
Dr. David Arcus
Dr. Brian Schmidt
Mr. John Sainoianni
Mr. J. Samuel Hammond
Mr. Michael Lyle
Administration
Ms. Beth Gettys Sturkey
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Ms. Adrienne Koch
Ms. Sara Blaine
Ms. Lisa Moore
Mr. Daniel Reeves
Ms. Lucy Hart Peaden Taylor
Mr. Oscar Dantzler and Ms. Beverly Jordan

Staff of the Congregation at Duke University Chapel

The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg
The Rev. Brad Troxell
Ms. Phyllis Snyder
Ms. Mary Ann Manconi

Dean of the Chapel
Associate Dean for Religious Life
Director of Worship
Director of Student Ministry
Director of Community Ministry
Interim Black Campus Minister
Staff Assistant for Student Ministry

Director of Chapel Music
University Organist
Chapel Organist and Associate University Organist
Assistant Conductor and Administrative Coordinator of Chapel Music
Curator of Organs and Harpsichords
University Carillonneur
Staff Assistant for Chapel Music

Director of Development
Assistant to the Dean
Communications Specialist
Chapel Events and Wedding Coordinator
Accounting Specialist and Office Coordinator
Visitor Relations Specialist
Staff Assistant for Development
Housekeepers

Pastor
Associate Pastor
Children’s Pastor
Administrative Assistant