Today’s scripture lessons focus on the anticipation and surprise of the Advent season. The reading from Micah reveals that the small town of Bethlehem will be the birthplace of a faithful and righteous ruler. Luke tells the story of Mary and Elizabeth, each of whom comes to know the surprising ways of God. Elizabeth, long barren, conceives John the Baptist, as foretold by the angel Gabriel. Mary visits Elizabeth after her own encounter with Gabriel and the news of her own unexpected pregnancy, and the women rejoice and marvel at the mysterious work of God.
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 200  
Tell Out, My Soul  
WOODLANDS

*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 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 her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Micah 5:2-5a (OT page 815 in the pew Bible)
  Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
  People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM
  Three French Christmas Carols arr. Elizabeth Di Sorvino

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON—Hebrews 10:5-10 (NT page 210)
  Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
  People: Thanks be to God.

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

  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 DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

SERMON—A Child Is Coming

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.”)

OFFERTORY
  Christmas Day Gustav Holst
  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 Police Department. We celebrate its commitment to the public safety of our campus through law enforcement and security services. The ushers bring a photo of the Duke Police honor guard to the altar.

In Durham, we give thanks for community organizers who advocate for local concerns through congregations, associations, and neighborhoods. The ushers bring forward a clipboard with a petition.

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

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

**SENDING FORTH**

**Benediction**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN 238**

Angels We Have Heard on High

**Gloria**

**Postlude**

Improvisation on GLORIA

**Carillon**

*All who are able may stand.*

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**MINISTRY OF WORSHIP**

Presiding Ministers  
The Rev. Dr. Luke Powery  
Dr. Christy Lohr Sapp

Preacher  
The Rev. Bruce Puckett

Lectors  
Mr. Frank Coble  
Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel  
Ms. Kate Clayton  
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. Jeff Harrison

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. ~ 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 choral music.
Prelude begins at 10:30 p.m. The choir open to all. Rehearsal begins at 9:00 p.m.

Chapel Announcements

Today’s Flowers—The Advent Wreath is made possible by the Elizabeth Lucina Gotham Memorial Endowment, 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 fund’s current focus is to upgrade the Chapel’s 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.

The Congregation at Duke University Chapel
919-684-3917 • www.congregation.chapel.duke.edu

The following Congregation opportunities are open to all.

Epiphany Party—The Fellowship Committee invites Congregation members to join in the annual Epiphany Party after worship on Sunday, January 6, in the Chapel lounge. Help ring in the new year by feasting and singing with Congregation friends old and new. Congregation members are asked to bring a salad or dessert to share. Sandwiches and drinks will be provided. No reservations required.

ZOE Ministry Alternative Gift Market—Today is the last day for the Congregation youth fund raiser. They are selling “Gifts that Grow” through ZOE Ministry, an organization empowering orphans across Africa with training and resources to break the cycle of poverty. Visit the youth outside of the Chapel doors after the service to learn more about this ministry.
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 (for children 5 and under) and Liturgy Boxes (ages 5-8) are available at the rear of the Chapel to help children engage in worship. Please return after the service.

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 are interested in making Duke Chapel your home church, please contact the Rev. Bruce Puckett at 919-684-3917. www.congregation.chapel.duke.edu

STAFF OF DUKE UNIVERSITY CHAPEL

Ministry
Dr. Christy Lohr Sapp
The Rev. Meghan Feldmeyer
Dr. Adam Hollowell
The Rev. Bruce Puckett
Ms. Kennetra Iryb
Ms. Gerly Ace

Music
Dr. Rodney Wynkoop
Dr. Robert Parkins
Dr. David Arcus
Dr. Brian Schmidt
Mr. John Santoianni
Mr. J. Samuel Hammond
Mr. Michael Lyle

Administration
Ms. Beth Gettys Sturkey
Ms. Adrienne Koch
Ms. Sara Blaine
Ms. Kelsey Hallatt
Ms. Lisa Moore
Mr. Oscar Dantzler and Mr. Razz Za Rayakob

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

Dr. Robert Parkins
Chapel Organist and Associate University Organist

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