Today we celebrate the first Sunday in Advent. Advent is Latin for “coming.” It celebrates the most important news about the past and the most important news about the future. Christ has come; and Christ is coming back. Just as the coming of Christ as a baby in Bethlehem took everyone by surprise, although it had long been predicted, so the coming of Christ in glory will no doubt take everyone by surprise, although it too has long been predicted. In Duke Chapel we place a large wreath in the center aisle to represent the four Sundays of Advent and the central moment of Christmas. The first Sunday of Advent commemorates the longing of Israel for the Kingdom of God.
Gathering
Carillon
Choral Prelude

Eatnemen Vuelie (Fairest Lord Jesus)                Frode Fjellheim  
(b. 1959)                                          

Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant Us Peace)                  Arr. Barbara Wallace  
(1932-2005)                                        

Antiphonal Alleluia                                 John Leavitt  
(b. 1956)                                          

Personent Hodie (Resound Today)                    Arr. John Rutter  
(b. 1945)                                          

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Processional Hymn

See Insert

*Prayers of Confession and Words of Assurance | The minister offers words of confession in three biddings to which the congregation responds as follows:

Minister: Come thou long expected Jesus
People: Set thy people free.
(Repeat five times.)
Minister: We turn to you, O God of infinite mercy;
People: We renounce our evil; We claim your love;
Make us whole.
Minister: Come thou long expected Jesus
People: Set thy people free.

The minister speaks words of assurance.

*Peace | All exchange signs and words of God's peace.

Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination | In unison:

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, and as we hear your word, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

* All who are able may stand
Old Testament Lesson | OT page 694 in the pew Bibles

Jeremiah 33:14-16

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

Anthem

Esto Les Digo

Esto les digo, si dos de ustedes se ponen, se ponen en acuerdo aquí en, en la tierra para pedir, pedir algo en oración, mi padre que está en el cielo, se lo dará. Porque donde dos o tres se reúnen en mi nombre, allí estoy yo, en medio de ellos.

San Mateo 18:19-20

New Testament Lesson | NT page 192 in the pew Bibles

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

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

*Gradual Hymn | Face the Gospel Procession

See Insert

Gospel Lesson | NT pages 80-1 in the pew Bibles


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

Organ Improvisation | Face the Gospel Procession

Sermon

Like It or Not, God's Redemption
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: 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.

Offertory Anthem

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
Arr. J. Edmund Hughes (b. 1947)

Of the Father’s love begotten,
Lo, how a rose e’er blooming,
Ere the world began to be.
From tender stem hath sprung.

He is Alpha and Omega,
Of Jesse’s lineage coming,
He the source, the ending He.
As men of old have sung.

Of the things that are that have been,
It came a flow’ret bright.
And that future years shall be,
Amid the cold of winter,
Evermore and evermore.
When half spent was the night.

*Doxology

See Insert
Sending Forth

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Lord's Prayer | All are encouraged to pray the Lord's Prayer in the language of their choosing. The English version is number 895 in the hymnal.

*Benediction

*Closing Processional Hymn 718

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY

Closing Voluntary

Toccata on Veni Emmanuel

Adolphus Hailstork
(b. 1941)

Carillon

TODAY IN WORSHIP

PRESIDING MINISTERS
The Rev. Bruce Puckett..........................Assistant Dean of the Chapel
The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg......................Pastor to the Congregation at Duke Chapel

PREACHER
The Rev. Dr. Will Willimon.......................Guest Preacher

LECTORS
Ms. Kaitlyn C. Daly ............................................Graduate School '23
Mr. Michael Larbi ..............................................Divinity '21

MUSICIANS
Cantabile Singers of Capital City Girls Choir.........................Choir
Mrs. Emily Turner ..............................................Artistic Director
Dr. Robert Parkins ..............................................University Organist
Mr. J. Samuel Hammond.................................University Carillonneur

MEMORIAL CHAPEL COMMUNION
The Rev. Joshua Stanley.......................Pastor for Education and Discipleship for the Congregation at Duke Chapel

HEAD USHERS
Dr. James Ferguson and Mr. Rick Wilfong .......................Members of the Congregation at Duke Chapel
TODAY’S FLOWERS | Flowers for today’s worship service are given to the glory of God by the Elizabeth Lucina Gotham Fund.

TODAY’S OFFERING | All of today’s cash offerings and checks written to Duke University Chapel will be used to support the Chapel’s PathWays program.

GUEST PREACHER | A bishop in the United Methodist Church, Professor Willimon served as the dean of Duke Chapel for twenty years. He currently serves as Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry and Director of the Doctor of Ministry program at the Divinity School. Bishop Willimon is the author of 80 books, his most recent is *Who Lynched Willie Earle? Confronting Racism through Preaching*. He and his wife Patsy have established the William and Patricia Willimon Endowment for Duke Chapel to support Chapel worship. Patsy is a member of the Congregation at Duke Chapel.

GUEST CHOIR | The Capital City Girls Choir (CCGC) is a vocal and music training program for girls from Raleigh, North Carolina and the greater Triangle region. CCGC is associated with the community outreach program of the Department of Music at Meredith College. Founded in 1987 by Dr. Fran M. Page, Professor Emeritus at Meredith College, the Capital City Girls Choir is one of the nation’s premier choral music education programs for young people.

INVOKING THE NAME OF JESUS: ANTIPHONS OF ADVENT | There are seven great Advent prayers (antiphons) that have historically been prayed during the last week before Christmas Eve since the seventh century. Each Antiphon begins with “O” and addresses Jesus with a unique name, which comes from the prophecies of Isaiah in the Old Testament. Each O Antiphon begins with an invocation of the expected Messiah, followed by praise of him under one of his historic Latin names. Today the O Antiphons are most familiar to us in the hymn “O come, O come Emmanuel” sung to the tune Veni Emmanuel. Each stanza of the hymn embodies an Old Testament reference as it tells the story of Christ’s coming. As the O Antiphons and the stanzas of Veni Emmanuel tell the Advent story of Christ’s coming, we will sing this great hymn throughout the season of Advent as the Gospel Procession, two stanzas per week. Using this pattern, we will sing of God’s coming to dwell with us. Following the reading of the Gospel, the organist will improvise a short piece of music while the procession returns to the Chancel. This improvisation takes its inspiration from the Gospel reflecting on what has just been read while simultaneously preparing for the sermon that follows.

ACCESSIBILITY | Large print hymnals and bulletins are available at the front desk. Hearing assistance units are available at the back left sound desk.
**ENGAGE**

**WELCOME TO DUKE CHAPEL** | If you have questions about the ministries of Duke Chapel or the Congregation at Duke Chapel, please stop by the Welcome Desk in the narthex. Those staffing the table will be happy to answer your questions.

**CHAPEL TOUR** | For a tour of Duke Chapel, meet today’s docent near the front steps of the Chapel following the service.

**THE MUSIC, MESSAGE, AND MEANING OF HANDEL’S MESSIAH** | Dr. Richard Heitzenrater, William Kellon Quick Professor Emeritus of Church History and Wesley Studies, Duke Divinity School, will lead a study on "The Music, Message, and Meaning of Handel's Messiah" on the four Sundays of Advent. The class will meet December 2, 9, 16, and 23 from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. in Westbrook 0012, which is in the lowest level of the Divinity school. All are welcome to attend.

**ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS** | Join the Vespers Ensemble for a service of Advent Lessons and Carols this Thursday, December 6, at 6:00 p.m. with scripture readings and music for the season.

**PUB THEOLOGY** | Conversation on "Faith + Sabbath" is the agenda for Thursday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m. at Pour Taproom, 202 Corcoran St., Durham.

**FRIDAY NIGHT OUT** | Young adults and university students are invited to gather for laughter, fellowship and dinner on Friday, December 7, at 6:30 p.m. at Blue Corn Cafe, 716 9th Street, Durham. Participants will purchase their own meal. All are welcome.

**SOMETHING BORROWED SOMETHING BLUE CONCERT** | Duke’s Christian acapella group, Something Borrowed Something Blue, who participated in the Chapel's worship service on November 18 will be performing their winter concert titled, “At Last, The King” on Friday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m. in Goodson Chapel. Admission is free, and all are welcome.

**ZOE ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET** | After worship on Sundays, December 9 and 16 there will be an alternative gift market for ZOE, a global mission partner which empowers vulnerable children to become economically self-sufficient in three years. When a gift is purchased, the giver will receive an attractive card or

**FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN** | Children four and younger are welcome to visit the nursery (capacity limited), located in the Chapel lower level, beginning at 10:45 a.m. each week.

**MEMORIAL CHAPEL COMMUNION** | Immediately following today's worship service, a brief communion service will be held in Memorial Chapel. Following communion, the pastor will be available to anoint and pray with individuals.
bookmark. This could be given to someone on your Christmas list who would like to know that a “Gift of Help” is empowering a child in need. Please stop by the table in the narthex to learn more.

**VOLUNTEERS FOR FAMILIES MOVING FORWARD** | Volunteers are needed on December 10 and 11 to assist with dinner and child care at Families Moving Forward, a temporary home for unsheltered families. For more details about this two-hour commitment, please contact Jane Fellows (janeafellows@msn.com) or Linda Daniel (lcdaniel1902@yahoo.com)

**LEARN THE LITURGY OF THE CHAPEL** | Do you ever wonder, “Why do we read the Gospel from the center of the Chapel?” or “Why does the Chapel’s Sunday worship service follow the order it does?” Find answers to these questions and more by visiting chapel.duke.edu/learningliturgy.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES** | Sunday morning Christian Education classes for all ages are offered year-round. All classes held in the lowest level of the Westbrook (WB) building from 9:45–10:45 a.m. with refreshments beginning at 9:30 a.m. New participants are welcome at any time. The classes are:

- **Wee Praise**: For children ages 0-3 with parents or caregivers in 0011 WB.
- **Godly Play**: For ages 4 through 5th graders in 0050 Langford
- **Youth Bible Study**: For youth in 6th–12th grade in 0013 Westbrook
- **Adult Forum**: Richard Heitzenrater, emeritus professor from Duke Divinity School, will lead an Advent Study on Handel’s *Messiah* in 0012 Westbrook

For a complete listing of events, please visit chapel.duke.edu/events or sign up to receive weekly emails at chapel.duke.edu/email