In the third week of Advent, God’s promises of new life and healing echo through the scriptures. The prophet Zephaniah speaks words of joy, reminding the people of Israel that God is in their midst, promising them salvation and flourishing. The gospel lesson in Luke describes John the Baptist exhorting people to “bear fruits worthy of repentance,” while also promising that someone more powerful than he is coming to bring about the kingdom of God. A new day is dawning, and there is cause for rejoicing. Paul claims as much in his letter to the Philippians when he writes, “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.”
Gathering
Choral Prelude

Something Told the Wild Geese  Sherri Porterfield

Betelehemu  arr. Jonathan Crutchfield

Gloria Tibi  Leonard Bernstein  (1918–1990)

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn 400
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing  nettleton

*Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance | In unison:

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations 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.

Minister: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

Proclamation
Prayer for Illumination | In unison:

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

* All rise as able
Old Testament Lesson

Zephaniah 3:14–20

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

Psalmody | The congregation chants the verses in bold.

Isaiah 12:2–6

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,
For the Lord God is my strength and my might;
He has become my salvation.

With joy you will draw water
From the wells of salvation.

And you will say in that day
Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;

Make known his deeds among the nations;
Proclaim that his name is exalted.

Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
Let this be known in all the earth.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

New Testament Lesson

Philippians 4:4–7

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

*Gradual Hymn 203 | Stanzas 1 and 2

Hail to the Lord’s Anointed

*Gospel Lesson

Luke 3:7–18

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
*Gradual Hymn 203 | Stanzas 3 and 4

Hail to the Lord’s Anointed

Ellacombe

Sermon

All in Advent

Response

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.

This morning we give thanks for Duke Police Department. We celebrate its commitment to the public safety of our campus through law enforcement and security services.

Offertory Music

Ding, Dong, Merrily On High
arr. Judith Herrington and Sarah Glick

Carol of the Bells
Mykola Leontovych
(1877–1921)

*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 night;

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!

* All rise as able
Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

*The Great Thanksgiving | Musical Setting A, found on page 17 in the hymnal.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.

Sharing of the Bread | All who love Christ, earnestly repent of their sins, and
seek to be at peace with God and neighbor are invited to receive Communion.
No wine or grape juice will be served for communion. Please wait until you
return to your seat to consume the bread. All bread is gluten-free. If you
will not receive Communion, you are welcome to come forward to receive a
blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.

Communion Anthems

Candlelight Carol

How do you capture the wind on the water?
How do you count all the stars in the sky?
How do you measure the love of a mother
Or how can you write down a baby’s first cry?

Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star-glow
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn.
Silent night, holy night, all is calm and all is bright.
Angels are singing; the Christ child is born.

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him,
Seraphim round him their vigil will keep;
Nations proclaim him their Lord and their Saviour,
But Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep.

Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger;
Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay.
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation:
A child with his mother that first Christmas Day.

The First Noel

*Post-Communion Prayer
Sending Forth

*Choral Benediction

Al Shlosha D' Varim

Al shlosha d’varim haolam kayam,
al haemet v’al hadin v’al hashalom

The world is sustained by three things,
by truth, by justice, and by peace.

*Benediction

*Closing Hymn 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Closing Voluntary

Ricercare on “Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland”
TODAY IN WORSHIP

PRESIDING MINISTERS
Bruce Puckett............................................ Assistant Dean, Duke University Chapel
Kathryn Lester-Bacon......................Director of Religious Life, Duke University Chapel

PREACHER
Luke A. Powery...........................................Dean, Duke University Chapel

LECTORS
Beth Sturkey .............................................. Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel
Gretchen Ziegenhals..........................Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

MUSICIANS
The Raleigh Boychoir..................................Choir
Jeremy Tucker ....................................Artistic Director and Conductor, The Raleigh Boychoir
LeeAnn Faust..........................Assistant Director and Accompanist, The Raleigh Boychoir
Patrick O’ Sullivan ................................Percussion, The Raleigh Boychoir
Christopher Jacobson..................Chapel Organist, Duke University Chapel
Jordan Klotz..............................................Cantor; Staff Singer, Duke University Chapel

HEAD USHER
James Ferguson ........................................Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

ACCESSIBILITY | Large print hymnals and worship guides are available at the visitor relations desk. Hearing assistance units are available at the AV console in the rear of the Chapel.

TODAY’S OFFERING | All of today’s checks written to Duke University Chapel will support human service organizations in the greater Durham area. You are invited to give online at chapel.duke.edu/offering. Send checks to: Duke University Chapel, Box 90974, Durham, NC 27708-0974.

TODAY’S MUSIC | Throughout Advent, our Doxology comprises two stanzas of the hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” This beloved hymn is based on a series of Latin antiphons that were sung at vespers on the seven days preceding Christmas. Each antiphon addresses themes from the prophet Isaiah, and begins with a different address for the promised Messiah: O Sapientia (Wisdom), O Oriens (Dayspring), etc. It is this format which gives the texts their nickname, “The O Antiphons.” Although O Emmanuel starts the hymn, it was historically the last antiphon, to be sung on the evening of December 23.

GUEST CHOIR | The Raleigh Boychoir is a nonprofit organization that educates and trains boys in the art of singing. Its participants learn and perform some of the world’s most diverse choral music. The choristers, conductors, and musicians of the Raleigh Boychoir contribute generously with their talents to the musical and cultural life of Raleigh and the greater Triangle area and beyond. For information on joining and supporting the Raleigh Boychoir please visit www.raleighboychoir.org.

MUSIC ACKNOWLEDGMENT | For today’s psalmody: Evangelical Lutheran Worship tone 8 © 2006 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-725399.
TOUR AFTER THE SERVICE | Learn about the history, architecture, and life of Duke Chapel on a tour immediately following the service. The tour is free and lasts about forty-five minutes. Meet the docent outside in front of the Chapel.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY TOMORROW | University graduate students, other young adults, and their partners are invited to a virtual Bible study on the second and fourth Mondays of the month. The next gathering is December 13, at 6:30 p.m., with a focus on the New Testament letter of Second Peter. For a zoom link and additional information, contact matthew.r.wright@duke.edu.

CHORAL EVENSONG TODAY | Rich with music spanning from the Renaissance to the present, Choral Evensong today at 4:00 p.m. features sung prayers, psalms, and canticles. Distinct from the noisy world around us, this service offers a place for quiet contemplation.

TICKETS FOR ONLINE PRESENTATION OF HANDEL’S ‘MESSIAH’ | Tickets are available for an online presentation of this year’s Handel’s Messiah. The approximately ninety-minute virtual performance includes all of Part I of Messiah (the Christmas portion) plus selected movements from Parts II and III. The concert will be available for viewing until December 26. To purchase tickets for the virtual concert, contact the Duke Box Office at tickets.duke.edu or 919-684-4444.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE DEC. 15 | Welcome the splendor of the season at the annual Duke Chapel Christmas Open House on Wednesday, December 15, from 12-noon to 2:00 p.m. All are invited to see Duke Chapel by candlelight, fully decorated for the Christmas season, and listen to familiar Christmas music. There is no cost to attend and no tickets or reservations are required.

CHORAL SOCIETY OF DURHAM CONCERT | The Choral Society of Durham presents its holiday concert, “And On Earth Peace,” on Sunday, December 19, at 4:00 p.m. at the Chapel. The concert celebrates the arrival of a season of peace into a troubled world. John Rutter’s joyous “Gloria” is interlaced with expressive texts set in a variety of twentieth and twenty-first century musical traditions. Tickets are available through the Duke Box Office at tickets.duke.edu.

LASAGNAS NEEDED | Volunteers are needed to bring two party-sized baked lasagnas (12-serving size) to Urban Ministries, 410 Liberty Street, Durham to provide dinner for hungry neighbors. Volunteers will meet donors in the parking lot to take the lasagnas to the kitchen. The donation of lasagnas is needed on Wednesday, December 12 at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, January 9 at 5:00 p.m. Please contact congregation@duke.edu to sign up and for more detailed information.
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES | The Chapel will hold the Christmas Eve worship services listed below on Friday, December 24. Please note: Seating will be limited with preregistration required. To register, visit the Chapel website at chapel.duke.edu. The services are:

- **2:00 p.m.**, a family-friendly service, lasting about forty-five minutes, with favorite hymns and carols, as well as a brief homily preached jointly by Chapel Dean Luke Powery and Assistant Dean Bruce Puckett;
- **5:00 p.m.**, a service with music from the Durham Children’s Choir and Amalgam Brass, and a joint sermon from Deans Powery and Puckett;
- **8:00 p.m.**, a service with music from the Amalgam Brass Ensemble and soloists, as well as a joint sermon from Deans Powery and Puckett;
- **11:00 p.m.**, the Chapel’s traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols with a choir, harp and organ music, scripture readings and Christmas carols.

Free parking will be available in the Bryan Center Parking Garage. Face masks are required. The Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols service at 11:00 p.m. will be broadcast statewide by Spectrum News 1 on Spectrum cable channel 1, as well as on the radio on WDNC, 620 AM. All four of the Christmas Eve services will be livestreamed on the Duke Chapel website and broadcast on channel 12 of the Duke Hospital TV system.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE | Urban Ministries of Durham welcomes donations for their food pantry, particularly as they distribute supplies for holiday meals. Donations of unexpired, nonperishable food such as pasta, canned meat, canned vegetables, and boxed cereals are welcome. All donations may be dropped off at 410 Liberty Street, Durham between 9:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

DUKE LAB SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR STUDY OF RESPONSES TO WORSHIP | Do you own a smart watch device or live in the Durham area? Are you interested in helping researchers understand more about your worship experience? The Belief, Affect, and Behavior Lab at Duke University is searching for participants who own a smart watch device or can pick one up from the lab, are Christian, attend in-person church services in the U.S., are able to fill out an online survey right after services, are fluent in English, and are eighteen years old or older. Participation includes completing online fifteen-minute surveys after attending an in-person and a virtual church service in your own church and recording/reporting your heart rate during the service. You could receive up to $40 in Amazon gift cards for completing this study. If you like more information, please complete the survey at [https://tinyurl.com/DukeWorshipStudy](https://tinyurl.com/DukeWorshipStudy) or email the study coordinator, Camden Nelson, at cmn36@duke.edu.


**LECTORS, COMMUNION SERVERS, AND USHERS NEEDED |** Have you ever wanted to read scripture for a Chapel worship service? Are you interested in serving communion on a Sunday morning? Would you be interested in welcoming people into worship and inviting them into the praise of God? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please write Rev. Bruce Puckett, the Chapel’s assistant dean, at bruce.puckett@duke.edu. All are invited to serve.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES |** The Congregation provides weekly Sunday morning Christian education from 9:45–10:45 a.m. for all ages. Classes, which are held both in person and virtually, are open to the public. New participants are welcome at any time. Please contact congregation@duke.edu for Zoom link. Classes are as follows:

- **Wee Praise:** Music and movement for children ages 0–3 with parents or caregivers (available virtually).
- **Godly Play:** Spiritual formation for children ages 4 through 5th grade (available virtually).
- **Youth Bible Study:** Youth grades 6–12 will explore the Book of Genesis in Westbrook 0013.
- **Adult Forum:** Guest speakers address a variety of topics.

**LET'S BE IN TOUCH**

We would like to get to know you. What are your questions? What is your story? Take a moment to fill out a very brief form and a Chapel minister or other staff member will contact you soon. Scan the QR code or visit chapel.duke.edu/connect.

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**The Congregation at Duke Chapel**

chapel.duke.edu  
congregation.chapel.duke.edu  
919-684-3917

The Congregation at Duke University Chapel joyfully welcomes all persons regardless of age, race, class, origin, sexual orientation, or any other distinction and invites membership and participation in all of its ministries. Please email congregation@duke.edu to receive the weekly eNews.