On this third Sunday of Advent, we hear Mary’s joyful song of praise—the Magnificat—as she extols God’s goodness in choosing her for the greatest of purposes, despite her lowly status. Her response reminds us of the importance of song in the life of faith. In his letter, James encourages his readers to be faithful as they patiently await the coming of the Lord, even through suffering and trial. Just as the farmer awaits the rain to produce the precious crop, so too James calls those to whom he writes to wait on the Lord, the coming Judge of the world.
Gathering
Prelude Music

Hymn of Promise
“Rondeau” from *Abdelazer*  
Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992)  
Henry Purcell (1659-1695)  
arr. Philip M. Young (b. 1937)

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” from *Advent Triptych*  
Welsh tune  
arr. Jason Krug (b. 1978)

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” from *Advent Triptych*  
Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)  
arr. Jason Krug

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn*

Prepare the Royal Highway

BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN

1. Prepare the royal high-way; the King of kings is near!
2. God’s peo-ple, see him com-ing; your own e-ter-nal king!
3. Then fling the gates wide o-pen to greet your prom-ised king!
4. His is no earth-ly king-dom; it comes from heav’n a-bove.

Let ev’ry hill and val-ley a lev-el road ap-pear!
Palm branch-es strew be-fore him! Spread gar-ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev-ry na-tion its trib-u-te too may bring.
His rule is peace and free-dom and jus-tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo-ry, fore-told in sa-cred sto-ry:
God’s prom-ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as-sail you!
All lands will bow be-fore him; their voic-es join your sing-ing:
So let your praise be sound-ing for kind-ness so a-bound-ing:

Ho-san-na to the Lord, for he ful-fills God’s word!

*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.

**Proclamation**

Prayer for Illumination | In unison:

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by your grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**New Testament Lesson** | NT page 217 in the pew Bibles.

James 5:7-11

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**Handbell Anthem**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
French carol  
arr. Alan Lohr (b. 1955)

*Gradual Hymn*

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding  
MERTON

1 Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding! “Christ is near,” we hear it say. “Cast away the works of darkness, all you children of the day!”

2 Wakened by the solemn warning, from earth’s bond age let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling, shines up on the morn ing skies.

3 See the Lamb, so long expected, come with pardon down from heav’n. Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all, to be for giv’n;

4 So, when next he comes in glory and the world is wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mercy and the Son with the everlasting Spirit draw near.

5 Hon or, glory, might, and blessing to the Father while unending ages run!

* All rise as able
Gospel Lesson | NT pages 53-54 in the pew Bibles

Luke 1:46b-55

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

Sermon

Suffering Patience

Response

Prayers of the People | The congregation responds to each petition:

People: Hear our prayer.

Offertory Anthem

Shades of Forest Green

English melody
arr. Tim Waugh (b. 1952)

*Doxology

VENI EMMANUEL

Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

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

*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.
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 a Communion station on the pulpit side.

If you have a gluten allergy, there is a server near the Memorial Chapel who will be ready to serve you gluten-free wafers and wine. If you will not receive Communion, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.

Music During Communion

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” from Advent Triptych French carol
arr. Jason Krug

Communion Hymn 626
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence PICARDY

*Post-Communion Prayer

Sending Forth

*Benediction

*Closing Hymn 202

People, Look East BESANÇON

Closing Voluntary

Carillon, Op. 27 Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

TODAY IN WORSHIP

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

PREACHER
The Rev. Dr. Luke A. Powery Dean, Duke University Chapel

LECTORS
Ms. Tamela Davis Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel
Dr. Soren Palmer Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel
TODAY’S FLOWERS
Today’s flowers are provided by the generosity of 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 MUSICIANS
One of the largest youth handbell programs in the United States, The Bell Ringers of The First Baptist Church of Henderson, North Carolina, have concertized and taken part in major handbell festivals from Florida to the Canadian border. First Baptist’s Minister of Music Mark L. Hopper directs the group. In addition to regular participation in the worship services of their own church, The Bell Ringers have made an annual appearance in Duke University Chapel for over four decades, providing music for a Sunday morning Advent worship service. In recent years, The ringers have performed in Hill Hall on the campus of UNC-Chapel Hill for the North Carolina Music Teachers Association, the Greensboro Coliseum for the annual meeting of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and on several occasions in joint concerts with the North Carolina Boys Choir.

ACCESSIBILITY
Large print hymnals and bulletins are available at the visitor desk. Hearing assistance units are available at the rear sound desk.

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.

MUSIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**ENGAGE**

**WELCOME TO DUKE CHAPEL** | Students, staff, visitors, and community members are always welcome at Duke Chapel. For more information, please see the websites listed on the back page and sign-up for weekly e-newsletters.

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

**CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE** | Welcome the splendor of the season at the annual Duke Chapel by Candlelight Christmas Open House at the Chapel this Wednesday, December 18, from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. All are invited to tour the Chapel fully decorated for the Christmas season and listen to familiar Christmas music. Admission is free and no tickets are required.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES** | The Chapel will hold four services on Christmas Eve. People attending a service are encouraged to arrive at least thirty minutes early to allow for time to park and to be seated. If the Chapel reaches capacity, no one else will be allowed in. The services are: at 2:00 p.m., a family-friendly Christmas Eve service for children with hymns and storytelling; at 4:00 p.m., a worship service that includes the Durham Children’s Choir and a sermon from Dean Powery; at 6:00 p.m., a worship service with Holy Communion that includes the Amalgam Brass Ensemble and a sermon from Dean Powery; and at 11:00 p.m., a Service of Lessons and Carols that includes a community choir, scripture readings, and Christmas carols. All four of the services will stream live on the Chapel website and air on Channel 12 of the Duke Hospital TV system. The final service will be broadcast live on WDNC Radio 620 AM and also on Spectrum News Channel 14.

**JOIN THE CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNITY CHOIR** | Each year members of the Duke community and surrounding communities come together to form a Community Choir that sings in the Chapel’s Lessons and Carols Christmas Eve service at 11:00 p.m. Led by the director of Chapel Music, Dr. Zebulon Highben, the Community Choir sings anthems and leads the congregation in carols. To participate in the Community Choir, there is a required rehearsal from 9:00 to 10:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve (December 24) in the Chapel. There is also another rehearsal, which choir participants are strongly encouraged to attend, on Monday, December 23, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in Goodson Chapel, which is located next door to Duke Chapel in the Divinity School's Westbrook Building.

**CHAPEL BUILDING HOURS OVER WINTER BREAK** | The Chapel is open to visitors daily from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. with these exceptions: Christmas Day, closed all day; New Year’s Eve, closing at 5:00 p.m.; and New Year’s Day, closing at 5:00 p.m. The Chapel is also sometimes closed for private events, including most of the day on Saturday, December 28. Before planning a visit to the Chapel, please confirm the building schedule at chapel.duke.edu or by calling (919) 681-9488.
DEAN POWERY’S SPRING 2020 SABBATICAL | As previously announced, Dean Luke A. Powery will take a sabbatical leave from January 1 to June 30, 2020. During his sabbatical he will be a visiting associate professor in the Department of Africa, African American, and Diaspora Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences at UNC-Chapel Hill. He will do research for a book on the Spirit, race, and the church and invites the prayers of the Chapel community for a fruitful and refreshing sabbatical. While he is on leave, the Rev. Bruce Puckett, the Chapel’s assistant dean, and Amanda Hughes, the Chapel’s director of development and strategy, will assume day-to-day leadership of the Chapel.

MARVEL OF THIS NIGHT BROADCAST | The Marvel of This Night: Christmas at Duke University Chapel, a service of music and readings, will be broadcast nationally on the CBS Television Network, and also stream on the CBS All Access website, on Christmas Eve, December 24, at 11:35 p.m. local time. This hour-long special, produced by the Chapel and campus partners, features beloved Christmas carols accompanied by three of the Chapel’s organs as well as traditional scripture readings. In it, all of the Chapel’s choirs and a sixteen-piece orchestra perform music from around the world. The program will also be available on the Chapel’s YouTube channel from December 26 through January 6.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES | Classes for all ages are offered every Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the lowest level of the Westbrook building, Duke Divinity School. Refreshments and fellowship begin at 9:30 a.m. Classes are:

- Wee Praise and Godly Play classes will not meet on December 22.
- Youth Bible Study: For youth in 6th–12th grade in 0013 Westbrook
- Adult Forum: On December 22 – Dr. Brian Stratton, Associate Professor of Philosophy, UNC-Pembroke, will discuss “Philosophy, Mystery, and the Incarnation” 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