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
Carillon
Prelude

Christmastide          Donald Fraser
First Noël              arr. Ken Berg
(b. 1955)
Patapan              Burgundian Carol
(arr. Audrey Snyder)

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Processional Hymn 200

Tell Out, My Soul       WOODLANDS

*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.
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:

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: prepare us now as we hear your word; give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson | OT page 826 in the pew Bibles

Zephaniah 3:14-20

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

* All who are able may stand
Anthem

Lo, How a Rose

Speyer Gesangbuch
(1599)

1. Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming
   From tender stem hath sprung!
   Of Jesse’s lineage coming,
   As men of old have sung.
   It came, a flow’ret bright,
   Amid the cold of winter,
   When half spent was the night.

2. Isaiah ’twas foretold it,
   The Rose I have in mind;
   With Mary we behold it,
   The virgin mother kind.
   To show God’s love aright,
   She bore to men a Savior,
   When half spent was the night.

New Testament Lesson | NT page 187 in the pew Bibles

Philippians 4:4-7

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

Gradual Hymn | Face the Gospel Procession

VENI EMMANUEL

Gospel Lesson | NT pages 56 in the pew Bibles

Luke 3:7-18

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

Organ Improvisation | Face the Gospel Procession

Sermon

Reels of Repetition
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.

Mission of the Month

Offertory Anthem

Candlelight Carol

John Rutter (b.1945)

How do you capture the wind on the water?
How do you count all the stars in the sky?
How can 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.
Gloria! Gloria in excelsis deo
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

Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star-glow
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn.
Gloria! Gloria in excelsis deo
Angels are singing; the Christ child is born.
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.

Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star-glow
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn.
Gloria! Gloria in excelsis deo
Angels are singing; the Christ child is born.

*Doxology

**Doxology**

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Prayer of Thanksgiving* | 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

Choral Benediction

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

John Rutter
(b. 1945)

*Closing Processional Hymn 203

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

ELLACOMBE

Closing Voluntary

Le Monde dans l'attente du Sauveur (The World Awaiting the Savior)

Marcel Dupré
(1886-1971)

Carillon
The wreaths on both sides of the front entrance of the Chapel, the Advent Wreath, and the red poinsettias that adorn the balustrade are made possible by the Elizabeth Lucina Gotham Memorial Endowment, established by Dr. and Mrs. James H. Semans in loving memory of Elizabeth Gotham.

All of today’s cash offerings and checks written to Duke University Chapel will be used to support our mission of the month: ZOE. ZOE is working in 9 countries to provide empowerment for teenage orphans to become socially and economically self-sufficient. Youths are interviewed, evaluated and formed into groups to begin the hard work of providing food security for their families which may include mentally or physically disabled parents, grandparents, siblings or other community members. When that has been accomplished with the provision of seeds and fertilizer, they work in their groups to start businesses that will sustain them for the rest of their lives. There are now 92,000 youths whose lives have been changed by ZOE since 2007. For more information, visit www.wearezoe.org.

The Raleigh Boychoir is a non-profit organization that educates and trains boys in the art of singing. The 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. You are invited to attend one of the Boychoir's concerts including our traditional Carols of Christmas Concert held in Raleigh on December 21. Any boy that wishes to sing with the choir is welcome to join today. For more information, visit www.RaleighBoychoir.org.

**INVOKING THE NAME OF JESUS: ANTIPHONS OF ADVENT** | There are seven great Advent prayers (antiphons) that have 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. Today the Antiphons are most familiar to us in the hymn “O come, O come Emmanuel.” As the O Antiphons and the stanzas of Veni Emmanuel tell the Advent story of Christ’s coming, we will sing verses of this great hymn throughout the season of Advent as the Gospel Procession. Following the reading of the Gospel, the organist will improvise a short piece of music which takes its inspiration from the Gospel reflecting on what has just been read and 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.

**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.

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**ENGAGE**

**ZOE ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET TODAY** | Please stop in the narthex after worship today to visit the 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 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.

**ORGAN SCHOLAR RECITAL TODAY** | Chapel Organ Scholar Joseph Fala performs a recital today at 5:15 p.m. Fala was been named one of "20 under 30" by The Diapason Magazine and has been a featured performer at conventions of the Organ Historical Society. The concert is free and open to the public.

**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 next Sunday December 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.
CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE | The Duke Chapel Christmas Open House is on Wednesday, December 19, from noon to 2:00 p.m. Free and open to the public, this event is an opportunity to see the Chapel lit by candlelight, experience the Chapel’s organs, and hear seasonal choral music.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES | On Monday, December 24, the Chapel offers four worship services to celebrate the birth of Jesus as follows:
2:00 pm Children's Christmas Eve Service, a 40-minute family-friendly service.
4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service, with Dean Powery preaching and the Durham Children's Choir singing.
6:00 pm Christmas Eve Communion Service, with Dean Powery preaching.
11:00 pm Service of Lessons and Carols.
All of the services are well-attended, so please plan accordingly. Typically, the 6:00 pm service has greater availability in seating and parking.

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