



Duke UNIVERSITY CHAPEL

BRIDGING FAITH & LEARNING

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24, 2024, 5:00 p.m.



Manger, Liz Valente, 2021.

Christmastide (named after the principal celebration of the “Christ Mass”) is the twelve-day festival during which Christians celebrate the birth of the Christ child in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago. This vulnerable infant, long awaited and yet still a surprise, is the incarnation of God on earth. As we share gifts with our friends and families this season, we seek to capture the joy and wonder of the original gift of Christmas: Jesus Christ, coming into a broken world to dwell among us as the Son of God, our Savior.

Gathering

Carillon

*All rise as able

Choral Prelude

A La Nanita Nana (with Coventry Carol)

arr. Greg Gilpin

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

arr. Pinkzebra

O Magnum Mysterium

Ivo Antognini

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Gathering Hymn | UMH 240

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN
arr. Václav Nelhýbel

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

Almighty God, who sent a star to guide the magi to the holy child Jesus: we confess that we have not followed the light of your word. We have not searched for signs of your love in the world or trusted good news to be good. We have failed to praise your Son's birth and refused his peace on earth. We have expected little and hoped for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew in us all fine desires, so we may watch, wait, and once more hear the glad story of our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. 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:

Almighty God, as we prepare with joy to celebrate the gift of the Christ child, embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson | OT page 600 in pew Bibles.

Isaiah 9:2–7

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

arr. Alex Gartner

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appears.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

—*Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710*

New Testament Lesson | NT pages 202–203 in pew Bibles.

Titus 2:11–14

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***Gradual Hymn** | UMH 238, stanzas 1 and 2. Turn to face the Gospel procession.

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

arr. Nelhýbel

***Gospel Lesson** | NT pages 54–55 in pew Bibles.

Luke 2:1–20

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Gradual Hymn | UMH 238, stanzas 3 and 4. Turn to face the Gospel procession.

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

arr. Nelhýbel

Sermon

For a Child is Born

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.**

Offertory Anthem

O Holy Night

arr. Stephen DeCesare

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appears and the soul felt its worth.

A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;
Fall on your knees, oh, hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night, O holy night, O night divine!

Truly he taught us to love one another;
His law is love, and his gospel is peace.
Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother,
And in his name all oppression shall cease.

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise his holy name.
Christ is the Lord, then ever, ever praise we,
His power and glory ever, evermore proclaim.
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

—John Sullivan Dwight (1813–1893)

*Offertory Hymn | UMH 219

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

Thanksgiving

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Lord's Prayer | All are encouraged to pray the Lord's Prayer in the language of their choosing.

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.

Sending Forth

*Benediction

*Sending Hymn | UMH 246

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

arr. Robert Hobby

Postlude

My Spirit Be Joyful

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685–1750)

arr. Harry Herford

Carillon

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers

Lynn Holmes *Interim Pastor, Congregation at Duke Chapel*
Bruce Puckett *Assistant Dean, Duke University Chapel*

Preacher

Luke A. Powery *Dean, Duke University Chapel*

Lectors

Tamela Davis *Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel*
Mitchell Eithun *Chapel Scholar, Divinity '25*

Musicians

Durham Children's Choir *Choir*
Dena Byers *Artistic Director, Durham Children's Choir*
Amy Davis *Accompanist, Durham Children's Choir*
Caroline Stinson *Cellist, Durham Children's Choir*
 *Professor of the Practice of Music, Duke University*
Chad Fothergill *Chapel Organist, Duke University Chapel*
Zebulon Highben *Director of Chapel Music, Duke University Chapel*
Paul Neebe *Trumpet, Amalgam Brass*
Tim Altman *Trumpet, Amalgam Brass*
Abigail Pack *Horn, Amalgam Brass*
Mike Kris *Trombone, Amalgam Brass*
Steve Truckenbrod *Tuba, Amalgam Brass*
Mitchell Eithun *Chapel Carillonneur, Duke University Chapel*

Head Ushers

Ken Arneson *Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel*
James Ferguson *Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel*

Christmas Eve Offering | All of today's cash offerings and checks written to Duke University Chapel will go to support the relief efforts from Hurricane Helene in Western North Carolina. The offerings will be sent to the United Methodist Committee on Relief, where 100% of the funds will be used to help those in need. Send checks to: Duke University Chapel, Box 90974, Durham, NC 27708-0974. You are invited to give online at chapel.duke.edu/offering.

About the Durham Children's Choir | The Durham Children's Choir (DCC) seeks to provide exceptional choral education to children regardless of race, creed, or socio-economic station. Founded in 2004 by Scott Hill, the DCC is currently under the leadership of Artistic

Director Dena Byers. The DCC performs music from various cultures and genres at public and private events. The DCC collaborates with local music educators, composers, and arts organizations, including their annual participation in an event celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. and their performance at the WRAL Tower Lighting ceremony at the American Tobacco Campus. They have performed internationally and nationally, have opened for Grammy Award-winning musician Lauren Daigle, and have also performed in Carnegie Hall. These ventures enable the DCC to have a strong presence in the community and provide the children with invaluable learning opportunities. For more information, please visit their website at durhamchildrenschoir.org. Duke University Chapel has been a supporter of the DCC since its founding.

Today's Flowers | The Advent Wreath is made possible by the Elizabeth Lucina Gotham Memorial Endowment, established by Dr. and Mrs. James H. Semans in loving memory of Elizabeth Gotham. The interior decorations and the wreaths on either side of the front entrance of the Chapel are given to the glory of God in celebration of the Christmas season by Dr. and Mrs. James G. Ferguson, Jr.

Liturgical Acknowledgments | Prayer of Confession. *The Worshipbook*, published by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

ENGAGE

Duke Chapel Email Newsletter | The Chapel publishes a weekly newsletter with news about worship services, concerts, special events, and more. Signing up at chapel.duke.edu/email.

Holiday Hours | The Chapel is open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. except for Christmas Day, when it is closed all day, as well as December 31 and January 1, when it closes at 5:00 p.m. The Chapel also closes to the public for weddings and other private ceremonies, so before planning a visit, please check chapel.duke.edu/events.

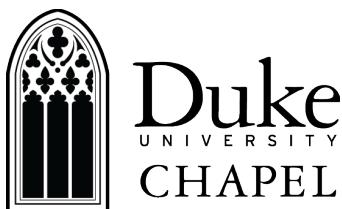
Worship at Duke Chapel | On Sundays at 11:00 a.m., join us in worship that offers stirring preaching, inspiring sacred music, and faithful prayer. Held year-round amid the beautiful, soaring architecture of Duke Chapel, this interdenominational Christian service is characterized by vibrant faith, intellectual depth, diverse cultural expressions, and a welcoming community. Learn more about all of the Chapel's services at chapel.duke.edu/worship.

ACCESSIBILITY

Hearing assistance units, as well as large-print worship guides and hymnals, are available at the AV console in the rear of the Chapel. There, you can also find directions to download a listen-assist app on your phone. Please let us know if you need other accommodations by approaching a minister or usher, or email us at dukechapel@duke.edu.

LET'S KEEP 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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Connect with us



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*The Congregation
at Duke Chapel*

congregation.chapel.duke.edu
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The Congregation at Duke University Chapel joyfully welcomes all persons regardless of age, race, class, origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other distinction and invites membership and participation in all of its ministries.

Please email congregation@duke.edu to receive the weekly eNews.