Today’s lessons provide reminders of the repentance and renewal of life that Lent represents in the Christian year. The Old Testament lesson promises a new covenant between God and God’s people, written in the hearts of believers. The psalmist cries out to be washed clean and given renewed joy in the salvation that God offers. In the Gospel, we are reminded by Jesus that the Christian life is not always easy; at times it calls for yielding of our wants and the death of old habits. With this reminder, Christ offers the reassurance that this new life in him will bring fruitfulness. Like seed sown in the earth, we too will grow and bear much fruit, to the glory of God’s name.
Gathering

Carillon

Handbell Prelude

Endless Song

arr. Tim Waugh
(1954–2024)

Greeting and Call to Worship

*Gathering Hymn | UMH 168

At the Name of Jesus

KING’S WESTON

*Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance

Minister: Holy God, we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.

People: We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.

Minister: We speak in ways that silence others.

People: We are silent when we should speak up.

Minister: We keep score in our hearts.

People: We let hurts grow into hatred.

All: For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Minister: Here is a flood of grace:
Out of love for the whole world,
God draws near to us,
breaks every snare of sin,
washes away our wrong,
and restores the promise of life through Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

*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, open our minds and hearts to your word, that we might be filled with grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, in the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may be fixed where true joys are to be found, in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Voluntary

Steal Away

Black spiritual
arr. Sandra Eithun

Old Testament Lesson | OT page 691 in pew Bibles.

Jeremiah 31:31–34

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

Psalmody | Chanted in dialogue by half-verse: the congregation sings the bolded text.

Psalm 51:1–12

Have mercy upon me, O God, in accordance with Your | covenant-love;
in accordance with Your vast compassion,
blot out | my transgressions.
Cleanse me entirely from | my wrongdoing,
and from my sin | make me pure.
Well I know | my transgressions,
and my sin is e- | ver before me.
Against You, You alone, have I sinned,
and what is evil in Your eyes | I have done—
so you are in the right in Your sentence,
and fair | in Your judgment.
Surely I was birthed in wrongdoing,
    and in sin my mother conceived me.
Surely truthfulness You desire in the very depths,
    and in hidden ways You teach me wisdom.
Strip sin from me with hyssop, so I may be pure;
    wash me, so I am brighter than snow.
Let me hear jubilation and joy,
    the bones You have crushed be glad.
Hide Your face from my sins,
    and all my wrongs blot out.
A pure heart create for me, O God,
    and a steadfast spirit make anew within me.
Do not cast me away from Your presence,
    nor take Your holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the gladness of Your deliverance,
    and may a generous spirit uphold me.

—trans. Ellen F. Davis

*Gospel Lesson | NT page 100 in pew Bibles.

John 12:20–33

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

Sermon

Response

*Response Hymn | See hymn printed at back of worship guide.

Rich in Promise

NOS TRANSITUS

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 Music

Prelude on herzliebster jesu arr. Fred Gramann

*Doxology  OLD IOOTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

*The Great Thanksgiving | Musical Setting D, found on page 23 in the hymnal.

*The Lord’s Prayer | All are encouraged to pray the Lord’s Prayer in the language of their choosing. The text is found on page 895 at the back of 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. Bread and wine are used for communion. After a server places bread in your hands, you may receive wine by dipping your bread into the chalice. If you desire gluten-free bread or grape juice, or to drink from a common cup, these are available from servers at the front near Memorial Chapel and near the back opposite the attendant’s desk. 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 Voluntary

Compassion  Jason Krug

Communion Hymn | UMH 138

The King of Love My Shepherd Is  ST. COLUMBA

*Post-Communion Prayer
Sending Forth
*Benediction

*Sending Hymn | UMH 451

Be Thou My Vision

Postlude

Prelude on SLANE

Carillon

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers
Kathryn Lester-Bacon ............... Director of Religious Life, Duke University Chapel
Luke A. Powery........................... Dean, Duke University Chapel

Preacher
Bruce Puckett ....................... Assistant Dean, Duke University Chapel

Lectors
Jamee Lynch ...................... Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel
Kenyon Davenport .................. Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Musicians
Bell Durham................................. Handbell Ensemble
Mitchell Eithun ....................... Conductor, Bell Durham Handbell Ensemble
Chapel Carillonneur, Duke University Chapel
Chad Fothergill .................... Chapel Organist, Duke University Chapel
Alissa Roca ......................... Cantor

Head Usher
James Ferguson ....................... Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Today's Flowers | The beautification of the Chapel for all of Lent is provided by the generosity of the Elizabeth Lucina Gotham Memorial Chapel Endowment.
**Today’s Offering** | All of today’s cash offerings and checks written to Duke University Chapel will be used to support the Chapel’s student engagement programming. Send checks to: Duke University Chapel, Box 90974, Durham, NC 27708-0974. Give online at chapel.duke.edu/offering.

**Guest Ensemble** | Bell Durham was founded in September 2023 and is Durham’s first community handbell ensemble. The ensemble’s goal is to provide high-caliber handbell music at local venues and to promote the art of handbells in Durham and beyond. Two of today’s musical selections—*Endless Song* and *Steal Away*—honor Tim Waugh, a friend of the ensemble who died suddenly in February 2024. Tim was the artistic director of the Charlotte Bronze Handbell Ensemble and served as clinician and ambassador for handbell ensembles all over the world. Bell Durham also presents *Compassion*, an emotional original piece that reflects the sorrow of Lent, and *Prelude on Herzliebster Jesu*, a juxtaposition of hymn tunes associated with Christ’s passion and strains of ancient Easter chant—a musical demonstration of the paradox of the cross. The ensemble offers its sincere thanks to Trinity United Methodist Church (Durham), Cary First Baptist Church, Olive Chapel Baptist Church (Apex), and the Raleigh Ringers for the use of their instruments in today’s service.


**ENGAGE**

**University Prayer of Thanksgiving** | Each week, we focus on a different campus unit, school, or department for whom to give thanks to God for their service and contributions to the wider university community and beyond. Today, we give thanks for the Department of Athletics.

**Restrooms in Divinity School** | Public restrooms are available in the Divinity School. To access them, exit the Chapel through the main front doors and enter the Divinity School. Restrooms are along the hallway in the Divinity School.

**Chapel Flowers** | If you would like to honor a loved one and the worshiping community of the Duke Chapel with a gift of flowers to decorate the chancel for Sunday worship, please contact Angela Flynn, coordinator of worship and ministry, at angela.flynn@duke.edu.
Robert Parkins Organ Recital | Dr. Robert Parkins, university organist at Duke, will present a recital of “Music for the Lenten Season” today, at 5:00 p.m. The performance on the Chapel’s Brombaugh and Flentrop organs will feature works by early Italian and Spanish composers, as well as music of Brahms and J. S. Bach. No charge for admission.

Theology Underground | The next meeting of our Theology Underground discussion series will take up the topic “I Talk to God and My Coach Too: Theology and Sports Culture” with special guests Rev. Jay Augustine from the Duke Center for Reconciliation and Rev. Regina Graham from The Fuller Foundation. The event will be this Tuesday, March 19, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity in the Bryan Center. Learn more and listen to recordings of past conversations at chapel.duke.edu/theologyunderground.

Compline During Lent | Candlelight, darkness, mystical chant, and meditative silence are the hallmarks of Compline, or Night Prayer. The service has a posture of quietly waiting and hopefully watching for the dawn of the resurrection. The Chapel is holding this ancient prayer service this Thursday, March 21, at 9:00 p.m. The music for the services will be led by the Chapel’s Vespers Ensemble.

Apply to the PathWays Fellowship | The PathWays Fellowship is a year-long (August 15 to May 15) residential program for students in any of Duke Divinity School’s graduate programs that offers opportunities for vocational exploration, mentorship, service, and formation deeply rooted in the Durham community and the fellows’ Christian traditions. Learn more and apply by April 15, at chapel.duke.edu/pathways.

Durham CROP Hunger Walk | On Palm Sunday, March 24, the Durham community will gather in front of Duke Chapel and set out on the 50th annual Durham CROP Hunger Walk. The Congregation at Duke Chapel will be taking part in the walk and raising money for hunger-fighting initiatives in our community and across the world. Please email congregation@duke.edu if you are interested in getting involved.
Holy Week and Easter | Beginning next Sunday, join us as we move through the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ, with worship services and concerts during Holy Week and Easter. See the full schedule at chapel.duke.edu/holyweek.

- **Palm Sunday Service**—Sunday, March 24, at 11:00 a.m.
- **Palm Sunday Choral Evensong**—Sunday, March 24, at 4:00 p.m.
- **Holy Week Midday Services**—March 25–28 at 12-noon
- **Maundy Thursday Service**—Thursday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m.
- **Procession of the Stations of the Cross**—Friday, March 29, at 11:30 a.m. on the Duke Chapel Quad
- **Good Friday Noon Service**—Friday, March 29, at 12-noon
- **Good Friday Tenebrae**—Friday, March 29, at 7:30 p.m.
- **Holy Saturday Organ Recital**—Saturday, March 30, at 12-noon in Goodson Chapel at Duke Divinity School
- **Easter Sunrise Service**—Sunday, March 31, at 6:30 a.m. in Duke Gardens
- **Easter Service with Holy Communion**—Sunday, March 31, at 9:00 a.m.
- **Easter Day Service**—Sunday, March 31, at 11:00 a.m.
- **Easter Day Choral Evensong**—Sunday, March 31, at 4:00 p.m.

ChorWorks Summer Program in Early Sacred Music | Through Duke Chapel, the nonprofit organization Chorworks is offering their summer program “Henry Purcell—England’s Orpheus” from June 10 to 16, at Duke University. The workshop is led by Dr. Philip Cave, executive director of Chorworks and conductor-in-residence at Duke Chapel. Those invited to the program will receive a scholarship covering the full cost of tuition and housing. Learn more and apply at chapel.duke.edu/chorworks.

Bach’s St. John Passion | First performed 300 years ago on Good Friday, April 7, 1724, J.S. Bach’s *St. John Passion* is renowned for its dramatic choruses, expressive arias, and compelling narrative. It sets text from the Gospel of John, chapters 18 and 19, composed in two parts: Part I ends with Peter’s denial of Jesus, and Part II concludes with Christ’s burial. The Chapel will present *St. John Passion* on Sunday, April 7, at 4:00 p.m. Purchase tickets at tickets.duke.edu.
**Concert Celebrating the Music and Legacy of Mary Lou Williams** | As part of Duke University’s Centennial Celebration, the Mary Lou Williams Center for Black Culture, Duke Arts, and Duke Chapel will present the “Our First Lady of Jazz” on Sunday, April 14, at 4:00 p.m. in the Chapel. This dynamic concert celebrating the pioneering composer Mary Lou Williams will feature a wide range of Black sacred music, from vocal jazz and gospel to spirituals, classical, and the blues. For the performance, the Duke Chapel Choir and the North Carolina Central University Vocal Jazz Ensemble will join forces with guest artists. Free admission. Learn more at chapel.duke.edu.

**Sunday Morning Classes** | Sunday morning Christian Education classes are available for all ages. These classes are offered from 9:45–10:45 a.m., with coffee and refreshments provided at 9:30 a.m. Classes meet in the lowest level of the Westbrook building. Please contact congregation@duke.edu for the Zoom link.

- **Wee Praise:** Music and movement for children ages 0–3 with parents or caregivers in 0011 Westbrook
- **Godly Play:** spiritual formation for children ages 4 to 1st grade in 0054 Langford
- **Godly Play Advanced:** continued formation for children ages 2nd–5th grades in 0050 Langford
- **Youth program:** Youth in 6th–12th grades will discuss the Gospel of Mark in 0015 Westbrook
- **Lenten Study for Adults:** A discussion of Jesus’ essential spiritual practices in Westbrook 0012 and over Zoom
1. Rich in promise, rich in present, dry as dust and
desert sand, buried in the potent land,
deep and dark the grain lies dormant:
Be hold, God does a new thing,
through death God brings new life.

2. Running river in the desert, water meets the
wilder ness, transformation, more from less,
swollen seed sends newness skyward:
Refrain
Behold, God does a new thing,

3. Portable of grain and greening, paradox of
death and birth, story of our wait in earth
for the sacramental raining:

4. So we move from seed to ripeness, so we move from
grain to green, letting go of what has been,

Be hold, God does a new thing,
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.

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.