Christmas is the festival during which Christians celebrate the birth of the Christ Child in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago. This fragile 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.
The congregation is asked to remain silent during the prelude as a time of prayer and meditation.

**Entrance**

**Carillon Music**

**Organ Prelude**

Noël Polonais: Variations on “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” Alexander Guilmant (1837–1911)

Meditation on “Silent Night” David Conte (b. 1955)

Go Tell it on the Mountain Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

**Choral Prelude**

O Magnum Mysterium Ivo Antognini (b. 1963)

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella arr. Dave & Jean Perry

In Dulci Jubilo arr. Vicki Tucker Courtney (b. 1954)

**Greeting and Announcements**

*Opening Procession: Hymn 234

O Come, All Ye Faithful ADESTE FIDELES

**Proclamation**

*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 and 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.)

**Old Testament Lesson**—Psalm 96 (OT page 520)

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.


Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.
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: “Hear our prayer.”)

OFFERTORY ANTHEMS

Angels O’er the Field Were Singing
arr. Tucker Courtney

Angels were singing, singing hymns from heav’n on high;
Mountain echoes ringing, answered to their joyful cry.
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this celebration? Why this burst of heav’nly song?
What could cause such jubilation? What inspired the heav’nly throng?
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

They are bringing wond’rous tidings, tidings of an infant King,
who will bring us peace abiding. ‘Tis of the holy babe they sing.
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria! Gloria, in excelsis Deo! in excelsis Deo!

The First Noel
arr. Dan Forrest
(b. 1978)

Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King, Noel.
The First Noel, the angels did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay,
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star,
Shining in the east, beyond them far.
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!

Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heav’nly Lord,
That hath made heav’n and earth of naught,
And with His blood mankind hath bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King, Noel!
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King, Noel, Noel.
DOXOLOGY

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
(Repeat refrain as needed.)

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
(Musical Setting A, on page 17 of the hymnal)

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Minister: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The leader gives thanks, remembering God’s acts of salvation, and concludes:

...Give us such joy and peace in your company that our hearts join
the angels in the Christmas sky and around your eternal throne,
singing their hymn of unending praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and
earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is
he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The leader continues, invoking the presence of the Holy Spirit, and recalling
the institution of the Lord’s Supper. The leader concludes:

...Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The leader praises the Trinity, concluding:

...through whom and with whom and in whom, in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

*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 com-
munion. If you would prefer to receive grape juice, it is available upon request
at the communion station near the main entrance of the Chapel, on the pulpit
side and the station at the front by the pulpit side transept. If you have a glu-
ten allergy, those serving communion nearest to the Memorial Chapel will be
ready to serve you gluten-free wafers and wine on request. You may also come
forward to receive a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.

If you would like to receive individual anointing with oil and prayers for
healing, ministers will be in the Memorial Chapel during communion.
Music During Communion
(The congregation will sing the following hymns during the distribution.)

Hymn 240
Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hymn 251
Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Hymn 230
O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hymn 239
Silent Night, Holy Night

*Prayer After Communion

Sending Forth

*Benediction

*Closing Procession: Hymn 246
Joy to the World

Postlude
Carillon on ‘Orientis Partibus’

Carillon Music

*All who are able may stand.

Ministry of Worship

Presiding Ministers
The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg
The Rev. Bruce Puckett

Preacher
The Rev. Dr. Luke Powery

Lector
Ms. Anna Wirzba
Member, Congregation at Duke Chapel

Organist
Mr. Christopher Jacobson

Guest Choir
The Durham Children’s Choir
Ms. Dena Byers, director
Mr. David Cole, accompanist

Soloist
Ms. Claire Wagner, cello

Minister of Anointing
The Rev. Andrew Phillips

Carillonneur
Mr. J. Samuel Hammond

Head Ushers
Dr. James Ferguson Mr. Rick Wilfong
ADVENT WREATH AND DECORATIONS—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.

ABOUT TODAY’S GUEST CHOIR—The Durham Children’s Choir is a community organization made up of outstanding young singers from elementary and middle schools, public and private, and home-schooled children, in the Durham and neighboring communities. Their mission is to learn a wide variety of high quality choral music, both sacred and secular, and to share that music with the community through public performances. The choir is under the direction of Artistic Director, Dena Byers and was founded in 2004 with generous support from the Durham Arts Council, Duke University Chapel Music, Durham Public Schools, the BIN Charitable Foundation and supporters from the community. For more information on the choir, see the website at www.durhamchildrenschoir.org.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING AND PHOTOS ADORNING THE CHAPEL—Each year during the Christmas season, photographs depicting the work of Family Health Ministries hang in the Chapel. As part of the Chapel’s decade-long commitment to building relationships with the people of Haiti, the Christmas Eve offerings will go, for the fourteenth consecutive year, to Family Health Ministries (FHM). FHM is a nonprofit agency, founded by Duke professors Dr. David and Kathy Walmer, which provides medical care and support to the people of Haiti. Since 2004, the Congregation’s work with FHM has included building the Blanchard Health Clinic, and the Nancy Ferree-Clark Guesthouse named in honor of the former Congregation pastor. These offerings provide most of the clinic’s annual operating support. Ongoing funding is crucial to continue to address the unmet needs of access to affordable healthcare, health education, and disease prevention. To donate online, go to www.familyhm.org.

COMMUNITY CHOIR AT THE 11:00 P.M. CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE—All are invited to come and sing in the community choir for the 11:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols service tonight. There is a required rehearsal at 9:00 p.m. The choir will sing several anthems, including the “Hallelujah Chorus” from Messiah.

CHRISTMAS DAY—There will be a service of worship in Duke Chapel tomorrow morning at 11 a.m., which will focus on the retelling of the Christmas story and the singing of favorite Christmas carols.

SUNDAYS AT DUKE CHAPEL—Duke Chapel offers worship services every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. throughout the year. The Chapel welcomes members of both the university and greater Triangle community to join in the journey of Christian discipleship throughout the year.

EMAIL UPDATES—To receive weekly updates on Chapel news and events, sign up for the email list at chapel.duke.edu/email.
The following Congregation opportunities are open to all.

**Congregation Ministries**—The Congregation at Duke University Chapel is the interdenominational church home for people who consider Duke Chapel to be their primary place of worship. The Sunday morning service at 11:00 a.m. draws worshipers from all areas of campus as well as from many of our neighboring communities. Recognizing that the Christian life is more than a Sunday morning experience, members of the Congregation long to deepen their relationships with God, with each other, and with their neighbors. Through education, mission, and fellowship the Congregation helps participants to strengthen these precious relationships. The Congregation welcomes singles, couples and families, students, faculty, staff, and community members to join the church to grow together in Christ.

**Christian Education Classes**—The Congregation provides weekly Sunday morning classes from 9:45–10:45 a.m. in the lowest level of the Westbrook Building in the Divinity School. There are three classes for children and youth and two classes for adults. All classes are open to the public and new participants are welcome at any time. Classes for all ages will resume on Sunday, January 8.

**Habitat House Dedication**—The Habitat for Humanity house sponsored by numerous Duke organizations, including Duke Chapel and the Congregation at Duke Chapel, will be dedicated on Saturday, January 14, at 11:30 a.m. The house is located at 106 N. Blacknall Street in Durham. All are welcome to attend.

**January Service Project**—The Saturday Service Project in January will benefit the Durham Crisis Response Center, which works to end domestic and sexual violence. Volunteers are needed on January 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to organize supplies for shelter residents and clean common areas. To volunteer for this or other Saturday Service Projects contact the Congregation office at congregation@duke.edu or 919-684-3917.

**Fellowship Events**—The congregation offers regular gathering for Christian fellowship. Youth meet on Sunday evenings, young adults gather for monthly dinners, and all are invited to stay for monthly fellowship events after worship. New participants are always welcome.

**Monthly Shelter Dinner**—The Congregation serves dinner once a month at the Urban Ministries Shelter in downtown Durham. The meal is prepared at the shelter kitchen with volunteers bringing cooked party-size lasagnas. Shelter residents do all the clean-up. Ten volunteers and twenty cooked lasagnas are needed each month. Please contact the Congregation office at congregation@duke.edu or 919-684-3917 for more information or to volunteer.
Duke Chapel is a Christian church of an unusually interdenominational character, with a tradition of stirring music, preaching, and liturgy. It is also a grand building, suitable for hosting major events in the life of the University and its members; it further acts as a moderator for the diversity of religious identity and expression on campus. We welcome you to our life of worship, learning, dialogue, and service.

chapel.duke.edu • Box 90974, Durham, NC 27708 • 919-684-2572

Staff of Duke University Chapel

Office of the Dean
The Rev. Dr. Luke A. Powery
Mr. Jack Adams

Dean of the Chapel
Assistant to the Dean

Student Ministry
Dr. Christy Lohr Sapp
Dr. Adam Hollowell
The Rev. Joshua Lazard
Ms. Gerly Ace

Associate Dean for Religious Life
Director of Student Ministry
C. Eric Lincoln Minister for Student Engagement
Staff Specialist for Student Ministry

Music
Dr. Rodney Wynkoop
Dr. Robert Parkins
Mr. Christopher Jacobson
Dr. Brian A. Schmidt
Mr. J. Samuel Hammond
Mr. John Santoianni
Mr. Michael Lyle
Ms. Brandi Melvin-Scammell

Director of Chapel Music
University Organist
Chapel Organist
Assistant Conductor and Administrative Coordinator of Chapel Music
University Carillonneur
Curator of Organs and Harpsichords
Office Coordinator for Chapel Music
Staff Assistant for Chapel Music

Community Ministry and Events
The Rev. Bruce Puckett
Ms. Rachel White
Ms. Blanche Williams
Ms. Ann Hall
Ms. Wanda Cobb
Mr. Jordan Council

Director of Worship and Community Ministry
Visitor Relations Specialist
Chapel Wedding Director
Visitor Relations Assistant
Visitor Relations Assistant
Visitor Relations Assistant

Development and Administration
Ms. Amanda Millay Hughes
Ms. Joni Harris
Mr. James Todd
Ms. Andie Rea
Ms. Lisa Moore
Ms. Ava West
Mr. Oscar Dantzler
Ms. Beverly Jordan

Director of Development and Strategy
Business and Facilities Manager
Communications Manager
Communications Specialist
Accounting Specialist and Office Coordinator
Staff Assistant for Development
University Housekeeper
University Housekeeper

Staff of the Congregation at Duke University Chapel
The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg
The Rev. Andrew Phillips
Ms. Phyllis Snyder
Mr. Nelson Strother

Pastor
Assistant Pastor
Children’s Pastor
Financial and IT Administrator

11 a.m. Christmas Day Worship at Duke Chapel
Preacher—Our preacher will be the Rev. Bruce Puckett, Director of Worship and Community Ministry