Welcome to Duke Chapel and to this service of Choral Evensong. The service of Choral Evensong seeks to offer a glimpse of heaven. The congregation largely remains silent, while the choir, like the angels of God in traditional Christian imagery, sings God's praise in the heavens. Inwardly, we are lifted into his presence; and so we join in the worship of God. Evensong has been sung daily in churches across the world for nearly 500 years.

In this service all human experience is brought before the God of heaven and earth because he has shown, most clearly in Jesus Christ, that it matters to him. The Psalms, the hymnbook for ancient Israel, explore the heights and the depths of human experience. The scripture readings are the readings appointed for the day. The Magnificat is the response to Jesus’ coming from his mother, a young Jewish woman; the Nunc Dimittis is the response of an aged man. In the Creed, the Prayers and the Hymns we too, choir and congregation, make our response - of penitence, faith and joy. In this way, the lips of all are opened to ‘show forth’ in this world the never-ending heavenly praise of God.

The service draws from the tradition of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, instituted shortly after the restoration of the monarchy in England (1660) and seeking to harmonize Protestant and Catholic understandings of liturgy.

February 2 marks the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple, also known as Candlemas or the Feast of the Purification of the Virgin, among others. It is celebrated 40 days after the birth of Jesus, when Mary and Joseph brought him to the Temple in Jerusalem for rituals involving the purification of Mary and the redemption of her firstborn child, as prescribed by Jewish law. Today’s service seeks mark this occasion.
The congregation is asked to remain silent during the prelude as a time of prayer and meditation.

*Please stand as you are able

**Organ Voluntary**

(Please stand as you are able for the entrance of choir and clergy.)

**Introduction and Confession** (congregation speaks the text in bold)

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God’s love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all men such things as their well-being doth require. Wherefore let us kneel in silence, and remember God’s presence with us now. (Please kneel or sit)

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against thy holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.
Restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.

**Prayer for Absolution**

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins: he pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in 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.
*Preces (officiant and choir)*

**Officiant:** O Lord, open thou our lips.
**Choir:** And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

**Officiant:** O God, make speed to save us.
**Choir:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

**Officiant:** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
**Choir:** As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Officiant:** Praise ye the Lord.
**Choir:** The Lord’s Name be praised.

Psalm 84 (please be seated, sung by the choir)

C. Hubert Parry (1848-1918)

O how amiable are thy dwellings thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord;
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house,
And the swallow a nest where she may lay her young;
Even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house; they will be alway praising thee.
Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are thy ways.
Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well;
And the pools are filled with water.
They will go from strength to strength,
And unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.
O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob.
Behold, O God our defender, and look upon the face of thine Anointed.
For one day in thy courts is better than a thousand.
I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God,
Than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
For the Lord God is a light and defense; the Lord will give grace and worship,
And no good thing shall he withhold from them that live a godly life.O Lord God of hosts; blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee.

*(Please stand for the Gloria)*
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

First Lesson—Malachi 3:1-4

*Office Hymn (please see hymn in the final pages of this bulletin)*

Jesus Christ our Lord

*Canticle (choir only)*

Magnificat (from Short Service)  
Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them
that fear him: throughout all generations. He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen. —Luke 1:46-55

SECOND LESSON—Luke 2:22-40

*CANTICLE (choir only)
Nunc Dimittis (from Short Service) Gibbons

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; to be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. —Luke 2:29-32

*APOTLES’ CREED (in unison, all turning to cross at the end wall of the chancel)
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 Ghost,
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 Ghost,
The holy catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.

*KYRIES AND LORD’S PRAYER (officiant and choir) Tomkins
Officiant: The Lord be with you.
Choir: And with thy spirit.
Officiant: Let us pray. (the congregation sits or kneels)
Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
THE LORD’S PRAYER (choir alone)
Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done in 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. Amen.

THE RESPONSES (officiant and choir)
Officiant:  O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
Choir:  And grant us thy salvation.
Officiant:  O Lord, keep the nations under thy care;
Choir:  And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Officiant:  Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.
Choir:  And make thy chosen people joyful.
Officiant:  O Lord, save thy people.
Choir:  And bless thine inheritance.
Officiant:  Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Choir:  Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.
Officiant:  O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Choir:  And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY
Almighty Father, whose Son Jesus Christ was presented in the Temple and
acclaimed the glory of Israel and the light of the nations: grant that in him
we may be presented to you and in the world may reflect his glory; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PEACE
O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works
do proceed; give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give;
that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that,
by thee, we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time
in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

COLLECT FOR EVENING
Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only
Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

ANTHEM (choir only)
When Mary to the Temple Went

When to the temple Mary went and brought the holy child, him did the
aged Simeon see as it had been revealed. He took up Jesus in his arms and,
blessing God, he said: In peace I now depart, my saviour having seen, the hope of Israel, the light of men. Help now the servants, gracious Lord, that we may ever be, as once the faithful Simeon was, rejoicing but in thee; and when we must from earth departure take, may gently fall asleep, and with thee wake.

—John Troutbeck (1832-1899)

**MINISTRY OF WORSHIP**

| **Officiant** | The Rev. Nils Chittenden  
**Chaplain for the Duke University Episcopal Center** |
| **Lector** | Mr. Daniel Moore  
**Divinity ’15** |
| **Intercessor** | The Rev. Meghan Feldmeyer  
**Director of Worship, Duke University Chapel** |
| **Organist** | Dr. Robert Horton  
**Interim Chapel Organist and Associate University Organist** |
| **Choir Director** | Dr. Brian Schmidt  
**Assistant Conductor and Administrative Coordinator of Chapel Music** |
| **Crucifer** | Ms. Katie Benjamin |
| **Thurifer** | Mr. Daniel Reeves |

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**Please join the Duke Choral Vespers Ensemble on other Thursday evenings at 5:15 p.m. for a 30-minute service of scripture, prayer, and song.**

The Vespers will be offering a spring concert featuring Orlando di Lasso’s Tears of St. Peter on **Sunday, March 30, at 4:00 p.m.**

All are welcome and admission is free.
Jesus Christ our Lord

Unison or harmony

Lord God, you now have set your servant free to go in peace as promised in your word; my eyes have seen the

Savior, Christ the Lord, prepared by you for all the world to see, to shine on nations trapped in darkest night,

the glory of your people, and their light.

Words: Rae E. Whitney (b. 1927); para. of The Song of Simeon
Music: Song I, melody and bass Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

1. Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
joyful sound, may the fruits of love possessing,

2. Thanks we give and adoration for thy gospel's pilgrim way, let us each, thy thy salvation

3. Savior, when thy love shall call us let no fear of death appall us,

4. joy and peace; let us each, thy thy salvation

5. in our hearts and lives a-bound; let your summons to obey.

6. triumph in redeeming grace. O refresh us, ever faithful,

7. in our hearts and lives a-bound; ever faithful, may we ever,

8. O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.

9. ever faithful to the truth may we be found.

10. may we ever reign with you in endless day.


Tune: Koralpsalmboken, Stockholm, 1697

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