



Duke
UNIVERSITY
CHAPEL

BRIDGING FAITH & LEARNING

CHORAL EVENSONG

Customary — Spring Semester 2026



Welcome to Choral Evensong at Duke Chapel. You are welcome here, whether you are a student, a member of the community, or a visitor. Most of today's service is sung by the choir and clergy. The congregation is invited to participate through prayer and meditation and by singing the hymns. We thank you for joining us and hope that this offering of worship will be a blessing to you.

CHORAL EVENSONG AT DUKE CHAPEL

Choral Evensong combines music, scripture, and prayer and is celebrated in cathedrals, churches, and chapels around the world, drawing people from diverse backgrounds and faith traditions. Its roots stretch back to early Temple worship, and its timeless beauty and contemplative nature make it a cherished tradition for regular worshipers, and for those seeking solace or reflection in their busy lives. Evensong has inspired composers to write some of their most beautiful music. We hope that these services will provide a restorative and uplifting experience. The services are live-streamed and archived on Duke Chapel's YouTube page.

This customary provides the outline of the liturgy for the semester; the lessons, anthem, and other information particular to today's service may be found on the insert. Please return this customary upon your departure from the Chapel.

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Organ Voluntary

Introit

***Procession** | Please rise as able as the liturgical party processes into the chancel. Remain standing for the opening responses.

***Opening Responses** | Sung by the choir.

O Lord, open thou our lips.

And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

***All rise as able**

Psalmody

The First Lesson

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Canticle

Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord:

and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my savior.

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 showed 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*

The Second Lesson

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

***Canticle**

Nunc Dimittis

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*

***The Apostles' Creed** | The officiant invites all to recite the 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 Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead,
and buried: he descended into hell; the third day he rose again 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.**

***The Responses** | Sung by the choir.

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

All sit or kneel as the choir continues.

Let us pray.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

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. Amen.

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
And grant us thy salvation.
O Lord, keep this nation under thy care;
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Endue thy ministers with righteousness;
And make thy chosen people joyful.
O Lord, save thy people;
And bless thine inheritance.
Give peace in our time, O Lord;
Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
O God, make clean our hearts within us;
And take not thine Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect of the Day is sung, followed by these Collects:

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
savior. Amen.

—*The Collect for Peace*

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 Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.

—*The Collect for Aid against All Perils*

Anthem

Prayers | The prayers conclude with the Prayer of St. John Chrysostom, said by all:

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

*Benediction

Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore.

People: **Amen.**

*Hymn

***Procession** | Please remain standing as the liturgical party processes out of the chancel. You may be seated for the organ voluntary.

Organ Voluntary

RESTROOMS

For public restrooms, exit the Chapel through the main front doors and turn left to enter the Divinity School. Restrooms are along the Divinity School hallway.

LEARN MORE AND ENGAGE

Scan the QR code to learn more about the missions and ministries of Duke Chapel. Also, read this week's announcements, see upcoming events, and find out how to engage with the Chapel.

