The season of Advent is a time of waiting on the promises of God. The God who has drawn near to Israel is about to draw nearer still in the form of a baby. The scripture lessons emphasize the promises that are to be fulfilled. Isaiah foretells the birth of a child to be called Immanuel, meaning “God with us.” The introduction to Paul’s letter to the Romans reveals how Jesus was the fulfillment of God’s promise and opened the door of salvation to Gentiles as well as Jews. In Matthew, Joseph is visited in the night with the strange message of Jesus’ coming birth, and he responds God by asking Mary to become his wife.
FOR WORSHIPERS & VISITORS
† Prayer requests may be placed in the prayer box located by the Memorial Chapel.
† For a tour of Duke Chapel, meet today’s docent near the front steps of the Chapel following the service.
† Hearing assist units are available at the sound board and a Braille hymnal is available at the attendant’s desk at the entry way of the Chapel. See the Chapel attendant if you would like to use one of our large-print Bibles or hymnals.

FOR FAMILIES & CHILDREN
† Children 4 and younger are welcome to visit the nursery (capacity limited), located in the Chapel basement, beginning at 10:50 a.m. each week. Pagers are available for parents to keep with them during worship. Parents needing a place to feed, quiet, or change infants are also welcome.
† Activity Bags are available at the rear of the Chapel for children 5 or younger. Please return the bags at the end of the service. Children’s bulletins are available from the ushers.

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We are a grand building, suitable for hosting major events in the life of the University and its members; it acts as a moderator for the diversity of religious identity and expression on campus; and it is a Christian church of an unusually interdenominational character, with a tradition of stirring music, preaching, and liturgy. We welcome you to our life of worship, learning, dialogue, and service.

STAFF OF DUKE UNIVERSITY CHAPEL

The Rev. Canon Dr. Samuel Wells
Dean of the Chapel

Student Ministry and Chapel Worship
The Rev. Craig Kocher
Associate Dean of the Chapel and Director of Religious Life
Worship Coordinator
The Rev. Meghan Feldmeyer
Director of Black Campus Ministries
The Rev. Patrick Thompson
Chapel Events Coordinator and Wedding Coordinator
Ms. Mollie Keel

Chapel Music
Dr. Rodney Wynkoop
Director of Chapel Music
Dr. Robert Parkins
University Organist
Dr. David Arcus
Chapel Organist and Associate University Organist
Dr. Allan Friedman
Assistant Conductor and Administrative Coordinator of Chapel Music
Mr. John Santoianni
Curator of Organs and Harpsichords
Mr. J. Samuel Hammond
University Carillonneur
Ms. Meredith Hawley
Administrative Secretary for Chapel Music

Community Engagement
The Rev. Gaston Warner
Director of University and Community Relations
The Rev. Abby Kocher
Community Minister
Ms. Mandie Sellars
Manager of Chapel Communications
Ms. Layne Baker
Visitor and University Relations Specialist

PathWays Program
The Rev. Keith Daniel
Director of Duke Chapel PathWays
Ms. Becky Smith
Staff Assistant to PathWays

Chapel Administration
Ms. Lucy Worth
Director of Development and Administration
Ms. Emily Wilson-Hauger
Staff Assistant to the Deans and Faith Council Coordinator
Ms. Bonnie McWilliams
Staff Assistant to the Director of Development and Administration
Mr. Oscar Dantzler and Mr. William Earl
Housekeepers

Staff of the Congregation at Duke University Chapel
The Rev. Nancy Ferree-Clark
Pastor
Ms. Elizabeth Clift
Director of Children’s Ministry
Mr. McKennon Shea
Director of Youth Ministry
The congregation is asked to remain silent during the prelude as a time of prayer and meditation.

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**GATHERING**

**CARILLON MUSIC**

**Prelude**
- Sing We Now of Christmas  
  French Carol  
  arr. Tom Fettke
- Ding-a-Ding-a-Ding  
  Greg Gilpin  
  (b. 1964)
- The Little Drummer Boy  
  Traditional  
  arr. Robert Sterling

**GREETING**

**Procesional Hymn 200**
- Tell Out, My Soul  
  Woodlands

**Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance (in unison)**

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.

The minister speaks words of assurance.

**Peace**

(All exchange signs and words of God’s peace.)
PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION  (in unison)

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; as we hear your word today, bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Isaiah 7:10-16 (page 598 in the pew Bible)

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

ANTHEM

Sing Noel

Sing Noel, sing Noel, Noel, Noel!
While shepherds kept their watching
O’er silent flocks by night,
Behold! thro’ out the heavens
There shone a holy light.
The shepherd feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior’s birth!
Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And brought us God’s salvation
That blessed Christmas morn!
Sing we all Noel!

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON—Romans 1:1-7 (page 142)

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

*GRADUAL CHANT MAGNIFICAT (from the Taize community)
(All turn and face the Gospel Procession.)

Ma-gni-fi-cat. Ma-gni-fi-cat. Ma-gni-fi-cat a-ni-ma me-a Do-mi-num.
Ma-gni-fi-cat. Ma-gni-fi-cat. Ma-gni-fi-cat a-ni-ma me-a!
**GOSPEL LESSON—Matthew 1:18-25 (page 1)**

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**GRADUAL CHANT**

SERMON—The Genesis of Jesus

**RESPONSE**

**THE APOSTLES’ 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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; 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 Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**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**

Sweet Little Jesus Boy

Sweet Little Jesus boy, born long time ago
Sweet little Holy Child, didn't know who you was!
Sweet little Jesus boy, they made you be born in a manger,
Sweet little Holy Child', didn't know who you was.
Didn't know you come to save us, Lord; to take our sins away.
Oh, Lord our eyes was blin’, we couldn’t see, we didn’t know 'twas you.
Long time ago you was born, born in a manger low, sweet little Jesus boy,
The world treat you mean, Lord treats me mean, too,
O Lord, but that’s how things is down heah!
We simply don’t know You.
You done tol’ us how. We is a-tryin’.
Mastuh, you done tol’ us how ev’n when you’s dyin’.
Jus’ seems like we can’t do right. Look how we treated you,
But please, sir, forgive us, Lord. We didn’t know 'twas you.
Sweet little Jesus boy, born long time ago
Sweet little Holy Child, and we didn’t know who you was.
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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

This morning we give thanks for the Duke Clinical Research Institute. As the world’s largest academic research organization, the faculty and staff of the DCRI are committed to improving patient care throughout the world by conducting clinical research trials that have an impact in many fields including medicine, biotechnology, and pharmacology. A representative brings a poster that describes the mission of DCRI to the altar.

In Durham we lift up those who are homeless and the organizations that work to offer safe shelter and opportunities for home ownership. A representative brings a blanket to the altar.

*THE LORD’S PRAYER (number 895 in the hymnal)

*All who are able may stand.
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 wreaths on either side of the front entrance to the Chapel and the interior decorations are given to the glory of God in celebration of the Christmas season by Dr. and Mrs. James G. Ferguson, Jr.

TODAY’S OFFERING—Today’s offering supports the Chapel Development Fund, which is the primary source of contributed funds for building care and preservation. The Chapel fulfills James B. Duke’s desire that the building exert a profound influence on the lives of the young women and men who attend the university.

ABOUT TODAY’S GUEST CHOIR—The Wilson Chorale from Wilson and the Johnston County Chorale based in Smithfield have sung in the White House, the National Cathedral, the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City, and throughout North Carolina. Today marks the final day they will be directed by Chris Watkins, who has directed both groups for a total of 18 years.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING—All of the offering from tomorrow’s 5:30 and 11:00 p.m. services will go to Family Health Ministries for our clinic in Blanchard, Haiti. This is the fifth year the Chapel has provided the primary financial support for this clinic in the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Please plan to give generously.

SING WITH THE CHRISTMAS EVE CHOIR—If you would like to sing in the community choir for the Chapel’s 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols, please plan to attend the two rehearsals on December 19 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and December 24 at 9:00 p.m. in the chancel. All singers welcome.

BROADCASTS—Thanks to the Friends of Duke Chapel, the Sunday service is broadcast live every week over AM 620 WDNC and one week later on Raleigh station AM 570 WDOX and Franklin County station AM 1480 WYRN at 10:00 a.m. The service is also available on the web via streaming video at www.chapel.duke.edu. The service is broadcast live on patient TV channel 50 in Duke Hospital.
The Congregation at Duke University Chapel
919-684-3917 • www.congregation.chapel.duke.edu

The following Congregation opportunities are open to all.

Adult Forum—The Adult Forum will not meet on December 30. It will return on Sunday, January 6, with a reflection by the Rev. Nancy Ferree-Clark, pastor to the Congregation at Duke Chapel. The forum will be held in Room 0012 of the Westbrook Building at 9:45 a.m.

Join the Congregation—We invite you to consider joining the Congregation at Duke Chapel. The Congregation is an interdenominational church with a variety of vibrant ministries, including discipleship and spiritual formation (for children, youth, and adults), mission and outreach, and pastoral care. If you are interested in making Duke Chapel your home church, contact the Rev. Nancy Ferree-Clark.

Christmas Eve Services
Duke University Chapel
December 24, 2007

3:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Service for Children
Join the children of the Congregation for this highly participatory worship service including drama and music in which children and storytellers together announce the birth of Christ.

5:30 p.m.
Service of Carols and Holy Communion
This evening service includes Christmas carols and Holy Communion, the Durham Children’s Choir and a sermon from Dean Sam Wells.
A maximum of 1650 persons will be admitted, so please plan to arrive early.

11:00 p.m.
Service of Lessons and Carols
Traditional Lessons and Carols service with a large community choir, scripture and song.
Prelude begins at 10:30.
A maximum of 1650 persons will be admitted, so please plan to arrive early.