In the third week of Advent, God’s promises of new life and healing echo through the scriptures. In Isaiah, a new age is dawning—an age where the brokenhearted are comforted, the captives are freed, and where places of destruction and ruin are transformed into places of life through the power of God. In the gospel of John, John the Baptist identifies himself as the voice in Isaiah who cries in the wilderness, “make straight the way of the Lord” with the promise that God was doing a new thing in the midst of his people.
The congregation is asked to remain silent during the prelude as a time of prayer and meditation.

GATHERING

CARILLON

PRELUDE

Ave Maria  Jacob Arcadelt (1514-1575)
A Spotless Rose  Christopher Wiggins (b.1956)
Cantique de Jean Racine  Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

GREETING

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 214

Savior of the Nations, Come  NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

*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)

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
prepare us now to hear your word,
and give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 (page 650 in the pew Bible)

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
*GRADUAL HYMN 207 *(repeat as necessary)*
Prepare the Way of the Lord
(All turn to face the Gospel Procession.)

*GOSPEL LESSON—John 1:6-8, 19-28 (page 86)*
Lector:  This is the word of the Lord.
People:  Thanks be to God.

*GRADUAL HYMN 207 *(repeat as necessary)*
Prepare the Way of the Lord

SERMON—Putting the Wild back in Wilderness

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 ANTHEM
Gaudete! Gaudete! (from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582)  arr. Lana Walter
Rejoice, Christ is born of the Virgin Mary
Now the time of grace has come answer to our praying.
Let us sing a joyful song, gladly celebrating.
God is made a man on earth, wond’ring nature watches,
Christ the King in human birth, life renewing for us.
The portal of Ezekiel opens to his coming,
Rising with the eastern light comes salvation dawning.

*DOXOLOGY

Veni Emmanuel
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.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

This morning we give thanks for the Duke Board of Trustees. We celebrate its stewardship of Duke’s life in ways that support and sustain the University while modeling a culture of excellence. The ushers bring a Duke seal to the altar.

In Durham we lift up those who live with mental illness and the organizations and people who seek to walk with them. A representative brings a flower to the altar.
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(The congregation will stand and sing the text in bold type.)

The Lord our God is with us, lift up your hearts and voices high;
Let us unto the Lord give thanks in all the world and at all times:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

All glory be to you, O God, as we await your Advent here.
We praise the gift of your own son, foretold by prophets from of old.
We thank you that you sent to us your only son, our Savior, our friend,
Who served the world and gave his life that all who love him die to sin.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Our Lord, the night he was betrayed by his disciples, took the bread;
He blessed and broke it as he said, “This is my body, broken for you.”
He took the cup when all had supped, he gave you thanks,
and giving said, “This cup drink in remembrance of me;
this is my blood pour’d out for you.”
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

When we partake this holy bread, when we this holy wine do drink,
We sense anew his presence here, and we await his victory.
The mystery of faith we proclaim:
proclaim that Christ the Lord has died.
He rose the third day from the grave, ascended, and will come again.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Accept our sacrifice of praise as we surrender of ourselves.
Send down, O God, your Holy Ghost upon us and upon our gifts.
Empow’r us through this bread and wine
to know the presence of our Lord;
To make us one with him today and one with humankind, we pray.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

*THE LOR D’S PRAYER (number 895 in the hymnal, in unison)

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

All those who have become members of Christ’s body through baptism and
seek to be united with God and at peace with their neighbor are invited to
receive communion. Wine is used for communion. The tradition as understood
at Duke Chapel is that the Holy Spirit makes Christ fully present in both
the bread and the wine. If you receive only the bread, be assured that you are
nonetheless in full communion with Christ and the Church.

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 DISTRIBUTION

HYMN 626 (sung by all)
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence  PICARDY
COMMUNION ANTHEM
What Sweeter Music
Eleanor Daley (b.1955)

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol for to sing
The birth of this our heav’nly King?
Awake the voice! Awake the string!
Dark and dull night, fly hence away, and give the honor to this day,
That sees December turn to May.
If we may ask the reason, say: We see him come,
And know him ours, who with his sunshine and his showers,
Turns all the patient ground to flowers.
The darling of the world is come,
and fit it is we find a room to welcome him.
The nobler part of all the house here is the heart,
Which we will give him and bequeath this holly and this ivy wreath,
To do him honor who’s our king, and Lord of all this reveling.

—Robert Herrick

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION

*RECESSINAL HYMN 202
People, Look East

POSTLUDE
Fugue and Finale on BESANÇON

CARILLON

*All who are able may stand.

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Presiding Ministers
The Rev. Nancy Ferree-Clark
The Rev. Dr. Samuel Wells
Preacher
The Rev. Abby Kocher
Lectors
Mr. Frank Coble
Member of the Congregation at Duke Chapel
Ms. Carolyn Sangokoya
Duke School of Medicine ’09, Member of the Congregation at Duke Chapel
Organist
Dr. David Arcus
Guest Choir
The Cantabile Singers of Capital City Girls Choir, Raleigh, NC
Dr. Fran Page, conductor
Ms. Sarah Combs, student conductor
Ms. Brenda Fernandez, piano
Ms. Alicia Reed, harp
Ministers of Anointing
The Rev. Meghan Feldmeyer
The Rev. Craig Kocher
The Rev. McKennon Shea
Head Ushers
Mr. Charles Roedel and Ms. Charlotte Harrison
FLOWERS—The wreaths on both sides of the front entrance of the Chapel, the Advent Wreath, and the red poinsettias that adorn the balustrade are made possible by the Elizabeth Lucina Gotham Memorial Endowment, established by Dr. and Mrs. James H. Semans in loving memory of Elizabeth Gotham.

TODAY’S OFFERING—All of today’s cash offerings and undesignated checks will be used to support human service organizations in the greater Durham area. These nonprofit organizations are identified to receive funds by a panel of Congregation members, Friends, and students. The grant-making process not only benefits people in need, but also seeks to introduce students to faithful stewardship and community development.

ABOUT TODAY’S GUEST MUSICIANS—Cantabile Singers is the advanced choir of the Capital City Girls Choir, a vocal and music training program for girls from Raleigh and the surrounding communities. CCGC is associated with the community outreach program of the School of Music at Meredith College. The choir has performed extensively in the United States, Europe, and Canada.

NORTH CAROLINA BOYS CHOIR CONCERT—The North Carolina Boys choir will perform a Christmas concert on Monday, December 15, at 7:30 p.m. in Duke Chapel. Tickets are $12 for adults and $8 for children 12 and under, and will be available at the door. Doors open at 6:30pm. For more information, call 489-0291 or visit www.nchboyschoir.org.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR WEEKLY SERVICES—The Tuesday Communion Service and Choral Vespers service will not meet over the Christmas break. The Morning Prayer service will take place once a week on Mondays at 9:00 a.m. These services will resume their regular schedule at the start of the spring semester, which begins on Wednesday, January 7.

“GREEN” NRSV BIBLE—If you are interested in learning more about the Biblical basis for humane and sustainable living, consider purchasing the Green Bible. Copies are available in the narthex immediately after the service today and next Sunday. The Bibles are printed on recycled paper, using soy-based ink, with a cotton/linen cover. The cost is $24.00 including tax.

THIS WEEK AT DUKE CHAPEL
Today at 4:00 p.m.
Choral Society of Durham Christmas Concert
Rodney Wynkoop, conductor
featuring Christopher Rouse’s Karolju and other American carols
$20 adults, free for full-time students
Tickets available at the Duke University Box Office

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16 ~ 12:30 p.m.
Holiday Music by Peeler Open School Students
Free admission

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 ~ 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Duke Chapel by Candlelight
Enjoy the beauty of the Chapel by candlelight, and enjoy seasonal organ and carillon music.
Christmas Eve Services
Duke University Chapel

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.

11:00 p.m.
Service of Lessons and Carols
Traditional Lessons and Carols service with a community choir, scripture, and song.
Prelude begins at 10:30.
This service will be broadcast live on News 14 Carolina.

The following Congregation opportunities are open to all.

Adult Forum—There will be no Adult Forum until January 18, 2009.

Winter Clothes Donations—The Congregation is collecting winter clothes for men and hats and gloves for women, children, and men to be given to the Urban Ministries clothes closet. Due to high demand, supplies of this type of clothing are running very low. Used or new items are both acceptable. Please leave your donation on the back pews of the Chapel or in the Congregation office by December 21.

Heifer International and Bethlehem Imports—Today is the last Sunday to purchase alternative gifts to benefit Heifer International as well as olivewood carvings from Bethlehem Imports. Look for the children and youth by the front steps of the Chapel after worship today.

A Living Nativity—The children and youth of The Congregation at Duke University Chapel invite you to attend the annual performance of “A Living Nativity” on December 21 at 3:00 p.m. Please join in celebrating the birth of Jesus in a special outdoor setting at the Clark Farm in Bahama. For directions, see the bulletin board beside the Congregation office, Room 031, in the Chapel basement.
DUKE UNIVERSITY CHAPEL

Duke Chapel is 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.

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

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 and a Braille hymnal are 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 the worship service this morning.

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 (for children 5 and under) and Liturgy Boxes (ages 5-8) are available at the rear of the Chapel to help children engage in worship. Please return after the service.

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 at 684-3917. www.congregation.chapel.duke.edu

STAFF OF DUKE UNIVERSITY CHAPEL

The Rev. 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
The Rev. Meghan Feldmeyer
Director of Worship
The Rev. Patrick Thompson
Director of Black Campus Ministries
Ms. Mollie Keel
Chapel Events Coordinator and Wedding Coordinator

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
Mr. Mark Storslee
Program Coordinator for 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. Lisa Moore
Accounting Specialist and Office 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
Senior Pastor
The Rev. McKennon Shea
Assistant Pastor
Ms. Elizabeth Clift
Director of Children’s Ministry