Duke University
The Baccalaureate Service

Duke Chapel

Friday, the Twelfth of May
Two Thousand and Twenty-Three
Four in the Afternoon
Duke University Chapel

“I want the central building to be a great towering church which will dominate all of the surrounding buildings, because such an edifice would be bound to have a profound influence on the spiritual life of the young men and women who come here.”
— James Buchanan Duke

Duke University Chapel is, indeed, the “great towering church” that James B. Duke requested and has become a widely recognized symbol of the university. As such, it offers a magnificent gathering space for significant events in the life of the university and its members. While the Duke family was Methodist, Chapel services have always been ecumenical, and the Chapel itself is a sanctuary open to all people throughout the year for important personal moments of prayer, reflection, grief, and gratitude.

As a profound symbol of faith on the campus, the Chapel is a suitable institution to act as the moderator for Religious Life at Duke. The Chapel, in partnership with the Division of Student Affairs, convenes, supports, and advocates for all of the 23 Religious Life groups on campus that serve students, including Buddhist, Catholic, Hindu, Jewish, Mormon, Muslim, and Protestant organizations and groups. Programs such as Voices for Interfaith Action and Interreligious Scholars provide students with opportunities to learn about other faiths as they explore their own.

The Chapel is also a vibrant center of interdenominational Christianity. About one thousand people participate in services in the Chapel each week, encountering deep traditions of compelling preaching and stirring choral music. With a robust sacred music program, a comprehensive vocational discernment program, an active Congregation for care and service, and a community ministry that partners with Durham nonprofits and churches, the Chapel serves the campus and the community in fulfillment of the University’s historic motto (Eruditio et Religio) by bridging faith and learning.

Standing at 210 feet in the center of campus, of the original buildings at Duke University, the Chapel was planned first and built last. The architectural style of the Chapel is English Gothic, but it is modeled upon no particular cathedral, college chapel, or parish church. The architects of the Chapel were Horace Trumbauer of Philadelphia and his chief designer, Julian Abele, America’s first black architect of renown. The cornerstone was laid October 22, 1930, and construction of the Chapel required more than two years. It was first used at commencement in 1932 and was formally dedicated June 2, 1935.

The sanctuary contains four organs. The Kathleen U.B. McClendon organ, of post-Romantic design, is the last Organ built by the Aeolian Organ Company and was installed in 1932. It was rededicated and named in 2009. With more than 5,000 pipes, the Benjamin N. Duke Memorial Organ rises to a height of almost 70 feet above the floor and was completed in 1976 by the Dutch organ builder D.A. Flentrop. A third organ, a two-manual instrument constructed by John Brombaugh in 1997 for the performance of pre-18th-century music, rests in a swallow’s nest gallery in the Memorial Chapel (adjacent to the south transept). The most recent addition is a portative (portable) built by Bennett and Giuttari in 2014 and used primarily for services and small ensemble accompaniment.

The Duke Carillon in the Chapel Tower, one of the finest in North America, has fifty bells ranging in weight from ten pounds to over five-and-one-half tons. Cast in 1950 and fully renovated in 1992 by the John Taylor Company of Loughborough, England, bell founders since the fourteenth century, the carillon is played in concert each weekday afternoon at 5:00 p.m. and before and after Sunday services.

The Chapel’s 77 stained-glass windows were designed and composed by G. Owen Bonawit, of New York, working with fifteen other artists and craftsmen. The windows contain an estimated 800 to 900 figures, including 301 larger-than-life-sized figures in the chancel and transept windows. Duke Chapel reportedly was the first building in the United States with windows depicting all of the major stories from both the Old and New Testaments.

On May 11, 2016, the Chapel reopened after a year-long restoration project. In 2017, the University removed the statue of Gen. Robert E. Lee from the Chapel’s entrance and engaged the Duke community in an ongoing consideration of how the campus represents its history and its values in campus memorials.
Preparation

Carillon

Organ Prelude

Fantasy in G Major, BWV 572
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Gathering

Procession of Candidates for Degrees and Platform Party

Symphony No. 1 in C Minor, Op. 68, IV. Allegro non troppo
Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

Choral Anthems

Duke Chapel Choir

Psallite Domino
William Byrd (c. 1540–1623)

Jubilate Deo
Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)

Welcome Remarks

President Vincent E. Price
PRAYERS

Duke Baha’i Advisor Tasha Curry-Corcoran

Imam Abdul Hafeez Waheed

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Francesca Isabel Herrera A.B.’23, soprano

Daniel Seyfried, piano

You’ll Never Walk Alone

Richard Rodgers (1902–1979) and Oscar Hammerstein II (1895–1960)

PROCLAIMING

STUDENT READINGS

Rennica Huang B.S.’23
Reading from Buddhist Tradition: Dhammapada, Chapter IV, Verses 49-54

Hana Hasna Hendi B.S.’23
Reading from Islamic Scripture: Quran 64:1-4

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Nathaniel Colby Maxwell B.S.’23, piano

Prelude and Fugue in G Major, BWV 860

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)
STUDENT READINGS

Katherine Elizabeth Spencer B.S.E.’23
Reading from Hebrew Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:1-12

Riley Anne Fisher B.S.’23
Reading from Christian Scripture: Colossians 3:12-17

REFLECTION

Dean of the Chapel Luke A. Powery
Surplus Sight

CHORAL ANTHEM

Duke Chapel Choir

Every Time I Feel the Spirit
William Dawson (1899–1990)

SENDING

CLOSING PROCESSION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES
& PLATFORM PARTY

Sonata No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 65, III. Allegro maestoso e vivace, IV. Fugue
Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Nun danket alle Gott (Marche triomphale)
Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)

CARILLON
**Director of the Choir:**

ZEBULON M. HIGHBEN
Director of Chapel Music
Associate Professor of the Practice of Church Music

**Organists:**

ROBERT PARKINS
University Organist
Professor of the Practice of Music

CHAD FOTHERGILL
Interim Chapel Organist

**Carillonneur:**

MITCHELL EITHUN, CLASS OF 2025

**Duke Chapel Choir:**

*Soprano*

DALE ACKER
MARY ANDERSON
SHERI BRANSON
ROBIN DIEHL
BETH GETTYS STURKEY
MYLA GORHAM
BETH JOHNSON
SHER’RON KONECKI
JEANNIE NORRIS
ALISSA ROCA
SALOMÉ SANOVAŁ
JUNE TIRPAK
ELLEN TODD
ANDREA WILSON

*Tenor*

MICHAEL ACCINNO
HENRY BRANSON
JEFFREY B. EVANS
DANIEL JACKY
DONALD KALLGREN
RUSSELL D. OWEN
Duke Chapel Choir:  

**Alto**  
Kathy Bauman  
Elaine Brown  
Rossie Clark-Cotton  
Elaine DeAlmeida  
Abby Johnson  
Brenda Knox  
Nancy McLaughlin  
Barbara Moland  
Kirsten Overdahl  
Karen Rhodes  
Karen Steinhauser  
Monica Szabo-Nyeste  
Margot Wuebbens  

**Bass**  
Kene Anumba  
Mark Brown  
Mitchell Eithun  
Charlie Hyland  
Arya Krishnan  
Vince Manoogian  
Nathan Quinn  
Joseph Riddick  
Hananiel Setiawan  

The baccalaureate is a service inherited from the universities of Western Europe and associated with the commencement exercises of American colleges and universities since colonial times. The term *baccalaureate* is derived from two Latin words, *bacca* and *laurens*, which refer to wreaths of berries and laurel worn by new graduates in medieval Europe. The baccalaureate service remains, to this day, an integral part of the commencement exercises of many of America's privately endowed colleges and universities and symbolizes the connection between these increasingly secular institutions and their historic and religious origins. Today, Duke University offers its graduates and their families and friends this Baccalaureate Service, a tradition of Trinity College and Duke University unbroken since 1853.

The flowers in the chancel today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sterly Lebey Wilder; Pelham Wilder, Jr.; and Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans. Mrs. Wilder died on May 18, 1998, and Professor Wilder died on October 6, 2012. Mrs. Semans, a member of the Class of 1939, died on January 25, 2012.