

2025

Duke University The Baccalaureate Service



Duke Chapel

*Friday, the Ninth of May
Two Thousand and Twenty-Five
One in the Afternoon*

and

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 22 religious life groups on campus that serve students, including Buddhist, Catholic, Hindu, Jewish, Mormon, Muslim, and Protestant organizations and groups. Programs such as an interfaith discussion series with professors and an annual interfaith retreat provide students with opportunities to learn about other faiths as they explore their own.

The Chapel is also a vibrant center of interdenominational Christianity. Hundreds of people participate in services in the Chapel each week, encountering stirring preaching, inspiring sacred music, and faithful prayer. With a robust sacred music program, an ecumenical student community, 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, a renowned, twentieth-century Black architect. 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. The Robert Collings Parkins Organ, 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 J. Samuel Hammond 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 1930 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 is constructed of stone from the Duke Quarry near Hillsborough, North Carolina, located twelve miles west of Durham. The trimmings, lectern, pulpit, and the balustrade and vaults of the choir are of limestone from Bedford, Indiana. The walls of the nave and vaults of the nave and transepts are composed of Guastavino tile, a stone composite material. 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 the Bible.

Preparation

CARILLON

ORGAN PRELUDE

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

Gathering

PROCESSION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

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

PROCESSION OF PLATFORM PARTY

All are invited to sing:

Commonwealth Is God's Commandment



1. Com - mon - wealth is God's com - mand - ment; com - mon
2. Shar - ing lav - ish gifts and bless - ings, love that
3. Gen - ders, rac - es, tribes, and na - tions, hear the



goods are meant to share. Ta - bles set and
not one mite with - holds, stretch out arms to
Ho - ly One who calls, bid - ding all to



doors wide o - pen, wel - come an - gels un - a - ware.
friends and stran - gers: God has sheep of man - y folds.
work to - geth - er, bridg - ing lives and breach - ing walls.



Plead for the peace of all cre - a - tion. Pray for a



place where grace is found. *Shan - ti, pax, sha -*



lom, mas - la - ha: com - mon good is ho - ly ground.

shanti (Sanskrit), "peace" | **pax** (Latin), "peace"
shalom (Hebrew), "peace" | **maslaha** (Arabic), "reconciliation"

WELCOME REMARKS

Vincent E. Price, President

PRAYERS

1pm Service

Tanya Singh M.S.Q.M.'25, Duke Buddhist Meditation Community
Elana Friedman, Campus Rabbi and Jewish Chaplain

4pm Service

Indigo Cook M.F.A.'25, Duke Bahá'í Community
Imam Abdul Hafeez Waheed, Program Associate of Center for Muslim Life

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

1pm Service

Melody Irene Tzang A.B.'25, harp
Une châtelaine en sa tour, Op. 110
Gabriel Fauré

4pm Service

Lewis Liewei Zhu B.S.'25, Myles David Bell B.S.E.'25,
Alicia Yufan Yang A.B.'25, Jacob Ryan Ego, B.S.'23, Class of 2031
String Quartet in D Major, Op. 20, No. 4: IV. Presto e scherzando
Joseph Haydn Larkspur Quartet

Proclaiming

STUDENT READINGS

1pm Service

Shreya Goel B.S.'25 and Vishal Lashkari B.S.E.'25
Reading from Hindu tradition: The Brihadaranyaka Upanishad and Rig Vedas

Iyesha Bint Belgrave A.B.'25
Reading from Islamic scripture: Qur'an, Surah Ash-Shura (42:13)

4pm Service

Shreya Goel B.S.'25 and Vishal Lashkari B.S.E.'25
Reading from Hindu tradition: The Brihadaranyaka Upanishad and Rig Vedas

Zeinab Mohamed Osman Mukhtar A.B.'25
Reading from Islamic scripture: Qur'an, Surah Ash-Shura (42:13)

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

1pm Service

Duke Sangeet
Hindu Devotional Music

4pm Service

United in Praise Gospel Choir

Great and Awesome
Allowyn Price

STUDENT READINGS

1pm Service

Lindsey Annika Weingard B.S.E.'25

Reading from Jewish tradition: The Zohar, Vayigash 6

Meredith Morrell Sims A.B.'25

Reading from Christian scripture: John 6:3-15

4pm Service

Ava Claar, Class of 2028

Reading from Jewish tradition: The Zohar, Vayigash 6

Chioma Joy Buchi-Ahiabuikwe B.S.'25

Reading from Christian scripture: John 6:3-15

CHORAL ANTHEM

Duke Chapel Choir

Great Day
Black spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

REFLECTION

Luke A. Powery, Dean of Chapel

Fragments for a Future

Sending

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Duke Chapel Choir

God Be in My Head
John Rutter

COMMUNAL BLESSING

1pm Service

**Ken Rogerson, Professor of Public Policy in the
Sanford School of Public Policy and Faculty Advisor
to the Latter-Day Saint Student Association**

4pm Service

Joy Xiao, Class of 2026, Duke Buddhist Meditation Community

Leader: For the way you've moved through hopes and challenges, failures and successes, fresh starts and final chapters,

People: We bless your work and send you forth.

Leader: For the times you've nurtured a love of learning, asking questions, seeking solutions, pursuing an education that continues to shape your life long after the final exam,

People: We bless your work and send you forth.

Leader: For how you've grown in relationships, finding friends and meeting mentors, deepening your heart as you broaden your mind,

People: We bless your work and send you forth.

Leader: For the ways you will not stop here but will continue to grow in knowledge and wisdom, living out the values of respect, trust, inclusion, discovery, and excellence that you have learned here at Duke.

People: We bless your lives and send you forth.

CLOSING PROCESSION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES AND PLATFORM PARTY

Final from Symphony No. 1 in D Minor, Op. 14
Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

ORGAN POSTLUDE

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

CARILLON

Baccalaureate is a term that derives from two Latin words, *bacca* and *laurens*, which refer to the wreaths of berries and laurels worn by new graduates in medieval Europe. Religion, as a word, in part derives from the Latin word, *religare*, which means to bind, referring to the ties that connect us. *Eruditio et Religio* is the motto of Duke University and this baccalaureate ceremony remains, to this day, an integral part of the commencement exercises at Duke, symbolizing the historic and religious origins of this institution. Today's Baccalaureate is a multifaith ceremony that honors students and their families by drawing on music, readings, and prayers from a variety of religious traditions. Many of our speakers are involved in Religious Life at Duke and invited to speak from their particular religious tradition. No one event can encompass all religious expressions; this ceremony symbolizes the even more diverse array of spiritual communities that are present at Duke. Duke University offers its graduates and their families this Baccalaureate Service, a tradition of Trinity College and Duke University unbroken since 1853.

ORGANISTS:

Robert Parkins
University Organist
Professor of the Practice of Music

Chad Fothergill
Chapel Organist

Katherine Johnson
Organ Scholar

DIRECTOR OF THE CHOIR:

Zebulon M. Highben
Director of Chapel Music
Associate Professor of the Practice of
Church Music

CARILLONNEUR:

Mitchell Joseph Eithun, M.Div.'25

DUKE SANGEET:

Vritti Chopra, Class of 2027
Cyril Rikh, Class of 2027
Palak Jolly, Class of 2026
Venkata Srikar Kavirayuni B.S.E.'25

UNITED IN PRAISE:

Oluwadurotimi Akinyelu, Class of 2028
Gabe Bostick, Class of 2026
Alexandria R. Edwards A.B.'25
Lanaiah Frieson, Class of 2026
Jonathan Garnica, Class of 2028
Neleh Antynette Hopper A.B.'25
Brianna D. Johnson A.B.'25
Hannah Elizabeth McKee B.S.E.'25
Victoria Miringu, Class of 2028
Kendall P. Motley A.B.'25
George Ofori, Class of 2028
Jeremiah Owusu, Class of 2028
Lauren Marie Relaford A.B.'25
Jasmin Riley, Class of 2026
Taliyah Thomas, Class of 2026
Bri'Yon Iyende Watts A.B.'25
Grace Jordan Williams A.B.'25

DUKE CHAPEL CHOIR:

Soprano
Dale Acker
Mary Anderson
Jaclyn Brown
Sheri Branson
Jenn Collins
Meghan Cox
Robin Diehl
Amy Elkin
Em Harkness
Carole Klove
Lindsay Sexton Martin
Alissa Roca
Beth Gettys Sturkey
June Tirpak

Alto
Courtney Bailey
Kathy Bauman
Elaine Brown
Anna Cambron
Elaine DeAlmeida
Jan Gwyer
Brenda Knox
Jamee Lynch
Nancy McLaughlin
Bec Mueffelmann
Karen Steinhauser
Monica Szabo-Nyeste

Tenor
Alain Arvelo
Mateja Bokan
Chris DeStasio
Russell D. Owen
Margot Wuebbens

Bass
Mark Brown
Gwen Hyland
Arya Krishnan
Daniel Orr
Joseph Riddick
Vitor Roveri

Duke
CENTENNIAL
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