

(gentle piano music) (choir sings) (gentle piano music) ♪ ♪ All creatures of our God and King ♪ ♪ Lift up your voice and with us sing ♪ ♪ Hallelujah, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Thou burning sun with golden beam ♪ ♪ Thou silver moon with softer gleam ♪ ♪ O praise Him, O praise Him ♪ ♪ Hallelujah, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Thou rushing wind that art so strong ♪ ♪ Ye clouds that sail in heaven along ♪ ♪ O praise Him, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Thou rising morning, praise rejoice ♪ ♪ Ye light of evening find a voice ♪ ♪ O praise Him, O praise Him ♪ ♪ Hallelujah, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Thou flowing water pure and clear ♪ ♪ Make music for thy Lord to hear ♪ ♪ Hallelujah, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Thou fire so masterful and bright ♪ ♪ That gives to man both warmth and light ♪ ♪ O praise Him, O praise Him ♪ ♪ Hallelujah, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Dear mother earth, who day by day ♪ ♪ Unfoldest blessings on our way ♪ ♪ O praise Him, hallelujah ♪ ♪ The flowers and fruits that in thee grow ♪ ♪ Let them God's glory also show ♪ ♪ O praise Him, O praise Him ♪ ♪ Hallelujah, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ And everyone with tender heart ♪ ♪ Forgiving others, take your part ♪ ♪ O praise Him, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Ye who long pain and sorrow bear ♪ ♪ Sing praise and cast on God your care ♪ ♪ O praise Him, O praise Him ♪ ♪ Hallelujah, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ And thou, most kind and gentle death ♪ ♪ Waiting to hush our final breath ♪ ♪ O praise Him, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Thou leadest home the child of God ♪ ♪ As Christ before that way hath trod ♪ ♪ O praise Him, O praise Him ♪ ♪ Hallelujah, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Let all things their Creator bless ♪ ♪ And worship God in humbleness ♪ ♪ O praise Him, hallelujah ♪ ♪ To God all thanks and praise belong ♪ ♪ Join in the everlasting song ♪ ♪ O praise Him, O praise Him ♪ ♪ Hallelujah, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Amen ♪

- Grace be unto you, and peace, from God who creates us and redeems us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Render your heart and not your garments, and turn into the Lord, your God. For God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness. And thus my friends in Christ, as we approach the presence of God to rejoice in God's love, we become aware of our need for forgiveness and for cleansing. And therefore, I invite you to accompany me in these moments, in word and in spirit, unto the throne of unending love and pardon. Let us confess our sin. Oh, Lord, we so often forget that we belong to you. We are often trying to prove something or be somebody when we really do not have to. You have already done something for us in Jesus Christ, and you have already made us somebody because we belong to you. We ought to realize this Lord, but we do not. We ought to be free to belong to each other, but we are not. We do not serve each other because we forget that we belong to you. Be present for us in this service so that we may be cleansed from our forgetfulness and know that we belong to you, amen. Dearly beloved, in spite of noise and confusion, and the press of the world upon us, in spite of the difficulty to pray and to know that our prayers are heard, now in this moment, hear this word. God has mercy upon us. You are free to live for you are forgiven. You are loved as you are. Your life does have real meaning in this world. Your future is open. If we walk in the light as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from our sin, amen. (gentle piano music) (choir sings)

- May we listen for word from God through the reading of this morning scripture lesson. The first lesson this morning comes from the book of Isaiah, the 32nd chapter, the first through the third verses: behold, a king

will reign in righteousness and princes will rule in justice. Each will be like a hiding place from the wind, a covered from the tempest, like streams of water in dry place, like the shade of a great rock in a weary land. Then the eyes of those who see will not be closed and the ears of those who hear will hearken. May all stand for the reading of the gospel. The gospel lesson this morning comes from the gospel according to Matthew, the 35th through the 40th verses: and one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question to test Him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, "with all your heart and with all your soul, "and with all your mind. "This is the great and first commandment. "And a second is like it. "You shall love your neighbor as yourself. "On these two commandments depend all the law "and the prophets." Thus in the reading this morning. (gentle piano music) (choir sings)

- Together as with one voice, let us affirm our faith. We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in the truly human Jesus to reconcile and make new. Who works in us and others through the spirit. We trust God who calls us to be the church, to celebrate life and its fullness, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen. Our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us, we are not alone. Thanks be to God. The Lord be with you.

- And with your spirit.

- Let us pray. Oh, God, you who have created each of us and placed us in this place at this moment, we give you thanks for the good gift of life, with all its joys and responsibilities, its demands and its possibilities. We thank you for good health which we have and for food for each day, for daily shelter and daily care, and for the love and loyalty which we know from friends and family. We thank you for work honestly done, for games of sport played well, for the truth we have learned, and for the good, large or small which we have been able to do. On this holy, humbling Lord's day, we thank you for the teaching and the life of Jesus Christ, our Lord, for the forgiveness and the wholeness which we do receive through Him, for His caring presence with us always, and for the service to others, to which He has called each of us and all of us together. For all this, ye, and much more too, oh, God, we give you thanks and praise. But hear us now, oh, God, as we pray for the sick and for relief to come to a troubled world. Oh, God, we ask of you that the gracious work done by Jesus, the Christ, as he went about healing others may be continued among us today, especially in the hospitals, infirmaries, and nursing of our communities in our land. Cheer, heal, and comfort the sick. Grant to the doctors, surgeons, and nurses, wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience. Bless all who work to prevent and to relieve our suffering. Bring peace and tranquility, oh, God, peace and tranquility of mind, body, and spirit to those who are distressed in this troubled world. Where there is division, bring union. Where there is enmity, bring concord. Where there is hatred, bring charity. Where there is despair, give assurance that there is a tomorrow. Where there is darkness, shed your light. Upon every troubled breast, troubled for whatever reason, place your calming, soothing, reassuring spirit. But deliver us, oh, God, from asking for anything, for others or for ourselves, for which we are not willing to work and to give our time and our energy. But especially, now, oh, God, may your spirit reveal to each of us, the love and the truth, and the hope, that each of our lives need. May we be faithful to You in obedience to Jesus Christ, your son, our Lord, who taught us to pray as we pray together now. 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. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever, amen. May I welcome you in the spirit of Christ, our Lord. To this service of worship on this beautiful day, may your spirit be touched and your life in some way, be reshaped for having worshiped God and worshiped with one another as we have come together in His name this day. I invite you to participate in two other services of worship in this place, this week, tonight at 6:30, and Thursday evening at 5:15. This week, I was talking with an alumnus of Duke, who asked about Dr. Clellan, and said, "You know, I'm sure that that man has more friends "who have had some connection with Duke University "than anyone else who has ever been there." In the 30 years of ministry, which Jim Clellan, Dr. Clellan, Dean Clellan, your friend, my friend, a friend probably also to more people than anyone else this university has ever known, we welcome him as he celebrates and as we celebrate with him today, the 30th anniversary of the preaching of his first sermon in this chapel. It was September 16th, 1945. It's been a joyous ministry which he has shared; a ministry of love and compassion, a ministry of support and caring, and understanding. I don't need to say that though, because all of you both in this congregation and in many, many, many other places know it. I've wondered how might be an appropriate way to express some of our appreciation to Dr. Clellan; what that way might be. And I have thought and I guess I will do just as I often do; namely do as the spirit moves me. And so as he comes to preach with us, will you stand with me and give him a warm welcome to this service as he breaks God's word, the bread of life to us? Jim.

(congregation applauds)

- Thank you, Bob, and thank you all. Saint Augustine said that when you hear a great sermon, you ought to applaud. But he never said anything about cheering before the sermon. (congregation chuckles) I'm grateful to all of you. They've been good years. I came to Duke for three years and stayed 30, discovering for myself that the difference between a groove and a grave is only a matter of death. (congregation chatter) And I mean it. But thank you, and the grace of the Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you all. Now, the first thing, of course, after Bob asked me to preach today, was to ask myself, "What should be my theme, my topic?" Then I decided, "Well, why not preach the same sermon "as 30 years ago?" So I checked the manuscript and found that I had already preached it again. (congregation laughs) On September 3, 1972, to the freshman class of 1976, some of whom may be here. So that was up. Then I thought I might analyze the sermon to show how my theology, my faith has changed in 30 years, but it hasn't, not radically. I'm still a Presbyterian, which in practice means that I'm either an Old Testament Christian or a New Testament Jew. (congregation laughs) Perhaps I'm a hybrid, why not? Judaism and Christianity have much in common, more than many of us are willing to grant. I'm grateful, Bob, and I should say it that you did mention Mrs. Clellan in that wonderful paragraph; untrue, but wonderful, in the bulletin. She's the one who with patience and encouragement has kept me going at Duke for 30 years and for 13 years before that at Amherst College in New England. She is my Alice, and I'm grateful. My mother's only objection to my marrying her was when she said it frankly, "The girl is too good for you." (congregation laughs) I said, "That is what a mother-in-law says. "There's no use of you both being against me." Well, let me talk with you about the Christian faith as I understand it, under three headings and with a conclusion of application. First, the spirit of the Christian faith is love. The spirit of the Christian faith is love. Now, what do we mean by spirit? The life principle, the guiding principle, the key element. And that life principle is loved because God is assumed and affirmed to be loved. Now, that is true for the Old Testament as well as for the New. Now, what kind of love is this love?

It is benevolence rather than affection. Jesus commanded his followers to love their enemies. He never suggested that they like their enemies. Now, such love shows itself in our respect for God, in a tolerance for the views of other Christians and for our Jewish kin, and for yet others in ever widening circles. You see, God loves us, though we're unworthy. His favor is not something we deserve. His favor is an act of grace, a gracious act. That is how in gratitude to Him, we should behave to others, all others. But particularly and inevitably to those of the household of faith. It is a matter of fact that many of us who do worship regularly here, do behave in love. I know it, I've watched it, I'm grateful for it. We are grateful to God (indistinct). And they live as His sons and His daughters who seek to reveal to others that love. Second, the heart of the Christian faith is peace. The heart of the Christian faith is peace. What is peace? Harmony within ourselves, harmony in our relation with our fellows. Peace is poise, poise. Like the behavior of a good quarterback when chaos seems to surround and engulf him. John Buchan in his autobiography says that peace is that state in which fear of any kind is unknown. Peace is that state in which fear of any kind is unknown. Peace is not so much the absence of something, but the presence of something or someone, and that should result in inner (indistinct). Let me give you a for instance. From the First World War in the grim days of trench warfare, a chaplain is talking to some of his men whom is going to accompany across no man's land. He speaks quietly. Remember three things: if we live, it's victory. If we are wounded, it's blighty; the Cockney name for home. If we are killed, it's the resurrection. That's quiet, pepped up, with a British flare for underemphasis. But for some of his heroes, it meant peace at the heart. Let me give you a for instance on the New Testament where Paul is writing to his favorite church at Philippi: "I have learned in whatsoever state I am, "therewith to be content. "The God revealed in Jesus," stated Paul, "He was not unacquainted with peace at the heart, "a continuing contentment." The heart of our faith then is peace, poise. Third, the blessing of the Christian faith is joy. The blessing of the Christian faith is joy. Here are some synonyms: beatitude, bliss, delight, exultation, happiness, satisfaction. That is what Jesus promised His disciples, His pupils. But it is the promise of all great religion. Here is a Hindu swami speaking: "The first sign of your becoming religious "is that you are becoming (indistinct)." The noun, joy, is found 164 times in the Bible. The verb, rejoice, is found 191 times. And Billy Graham... No stop, and Billy Sunday, the evangelist who I think was a baseball player, back in 1914, said in a sermon, "The trouble with many folk is that they've got "just enough religion to make them miserable. "If there is not joy in your religion, "you've got a leak in your religion." Really Sunday. Here is a Scottish, for instance. In Trinity College, one of the two divinity halls at Glasgow University, there was a professor, an able one, who always made me think of Cassius in Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar." Cassius, who had a lean and hungry look. At times though, it was worse than that. Then the professor's face looked like the edge of a hatchet, dipped in vinegar. He was literally a sour puss. One day he stopped by an open air Salvation Army meeting in an act of ecumenicity. A Cockney girl, Salvationist, said to him, "Are you a Christian?" He answered, "Lassie, of course, I'm a Christian." And she responded, "Gorblimey," which is God blind me. "Gorblimey, what a face for a Christian!" Gorblimey, Webster says, is an exclamation expressing surprise and perplexity. She couldn't understand how any Christian could look like that. Well, the professor told the story against himself with a twinkle. But it makes one appreciate the little (indistinct) prayer: Oh, God, make all the bad people good, and all the good people, nice. For the blessing of our faith is supposed to be joy. Love, peace, and joy; three keywords in the Christian faith. Now, one aim of a sermon based upon the Bible should be to keep in constant juxtaposition, two complementary facts. First, the word of God as it had revealed in scripture, in the hymns and anthems of the church, in the lives of the saints, on the one hand. And second, the contemporary world, the real world to

quote the chronicle, on the other hand. Is Jesus in agreement with these three words chosen as basic in the faith? What does He say about love? Well, listen, he's answering a Pharisaic lawyer who's asked him, "Which is the greatest commandment "in the law?" Jesus said to him, "Thou shall love the Lord, thy God, "with all thy heart, with all thy mind, "with all thy soul, and with all thy strength. "This is the first and great commandment." But Jesus is a great believer in the one-two punch, especially the two, so He adds, "And the second is like unto it; "thou shall love thy neighbor as thy self." He never tells us to love ourselves. He assumes it, just assumes it. Part of being a human being; you love yourself. And then Jesus would tie that great statement with a parable like "The Good Samaritan," which must have made his Jewish haters mad. What'd he say about peace? He's trying to study the inner group of disciples. He says, "Peace, I leave with you, "my peace, I give unto you; "not as the world giveth, give I unto you. "Let not your heart be troubled, "neither let it be afraid." And he acted out what He taught. What did he say about joy? "These things I've spoken unto you "that my joy might remain in you "and that your joy might be full." And so His enemies accused Him of being a glutton and a drunkard, a winebibber. And if ever He denied it, the word now ever came down through the evangelists. Now, there is a word from God made up of three words. They're central in the good news, the gospel, but what about the contemporary situation? Well, when I was at Amherst, there was a fraternity which elected as its president, the mildest, gentlest, quietest member of the rising senior class. It seemed to me a strange choice for a fraternity which was not known for its decorum. I asked a member the why of their choice. He admitted that this unusual selection did not smoke or drink or raise even the mildest hell, but... And it was the but which elected him unanimously. But he said to me, "He puts the drunks to bed." (congregation chatter) Now, that is goodwill, love in action. (congregation laughs) Which resulted in a measure of peace and some joy in the fraternity. Let me come nearer home. Some years ago, I entered the Duke Hospital, bleeding profusely from a long cherished ulcer which decided to let rip. A call went out to the Divinity School for seven pints of blood. Seven students came to the blood bank. I discovered their names and found to my embarrassment that I didn't particularly like two of them. Then it dawned in me that they probably didn't like me either. But liking was not involved in the transaction. A member of the beloved community was in need and seven responded in love, goodwill, and I benefited. The gospel is not really grasped until it is experienced in a contemporary situation. What a revolution that'd be on this campus if we who worship in the chapel learned from all the different parts of the service what our faith really is; widening and deepening from one Lord's day to another, and then expressing itself on the other days of the week in love, peace, and joy. For as G.K. Chesterton, the great Roman Catholic layman said way back in 1910: "The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting, "it has been found difficult and not tried. "Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting, "it has been found difficult and not tried." Amen, let us pray. Oh, God of love, make us the receivers of that love, transmitters also. Oh, God of peace, grant us so to know thy peace, that we may become peacemakers. Oh, God of joy, teach us to delight in that joy and to share it with others for thy sake, for our own sake, and for the sake of others as glad followers of thy Son, our Lord, amen. (gentle piano music) (choir sings) (gentle piano music) (gentle piano music) ♪ Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore him ♪ ♪ Praise Him angels, in the height ♪ ♪ Sun and moon, rejoice before Him ♪ ♪ Praise Him, all ye stars of light ♪ ♪ Praise the Lord for He has spoken ♪ ♪ Worlds his mighty voice obeyed ♪ ♪ Laws which never shall be broken ♪ ♪ For their guidance He has made ♪ (gentle piano music) ♪ Praise the Lord for He is glorious ♪ ♪ Never shall His promise fail ♪ ♪ God has made His saints victorious ♪ ♪ Sin and death shall not prevail ♪ ♪ Praise the God of our salvation ♪ ♪ Hosts on high His power proclaim ♪ ♪ Heaven and earth, and all creation ♪ ♪ Laud and magnify His name ♪ (gentle piano music) ♪ Worship, honor,

glory, blessing ♪ ♪ Lord, we offer unto thee ♪ ♪ Young and old, thy praise expressing ♪ ♪ In glad homage bend  
the knee ♪ ♪ All the saints in heaven adore thee ♪ ♪ We would bow before thy throne ♪ ♪ As thine angels serve  
before thee ♪ ♪ So on earth thy will be done ♪ (gentle piano music) (choir sings) ♪ Hallelujah, hallelujah ♪  
(indistinct) ♪ Hallelujah, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah, hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Amen ♪

- Not to impress others with outward show of generosity nor to bring relief from our feelings of guilt for  
having done too little, but in real gratitude for the life we have received. And as a symbol of our giving our all  
to the service of our neighbors, we offer these gifts to you, oh, God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, amen.  
(gentle piano music) (choir sings) (gentle piano music) (indistinct) please. Now, will you receive this  
blessing? The grace of our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ, the love of God, the communion and fellowship of  
the holy spirit be with you and with those whom you love, now and forever. ♪ Amen ♪ ♪ Amen ♪ ♪ Amen ♪ ♪  
Amen ♪ ♪ Amen ♪ ♪ Amen ♪ (bell dongs) (gentle piano music)