



Greenwood Forest
Baptist Church





Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

February 14, 2021

ORDINARY TIME
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In honor of Black History Month, our worship services during February will feature music from Black composers and artists. Throughout the month, Rev. Dr. Stacks will highlight one of the pieces of music in the service, providing further history and context so that we may “sing with understanding.”

Rev. Chalice Overy, associate pastor at Pullen Memorial Baptist in Raleigh, wrote this week that “White institutions can [extend Black History Month's witness against white supremacy] by considering it as more of an indictment than an indication of progress; by remembering that Black History Month is a response to the whitewashing of American history; by using it as a time to take inventory of our sustained efforts towards equity and justice; by pulling together resources—images, readings, music—that we can use to decolonize worship throughout the year.”

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Here at GFBC, we celebrate Black History Month alongside our Black congregants and Black siblings everywhere as a way to honor Black stories, Black beauty, and Black contributions, but also as a way to signal our continued commitment to Black lives throughout the year. We celebrate Black History Month, not as an excuse for normalizing White history and culture for the remainder of the year, but as a way to catalyze within our institution and the world the important work of decentering whiteness, so that all God's children might thrive. For us, Black History Month is not a way to absolve ourselves of the year-round and life-long work of anti-racism, but a moment to celebrate and to recommit ourselves to the gospel work of inclusivity in our worship and in our lives.

Guest Preacher: Rev. Jo Belser

Church of the Resurrection; Alexandria, VA

Hello, Greenwood Forrest Baptist Church. My name is Jo Belser and I'm delighted to be your virtual preacher on Sunday, February 14, also known as Transfiguration Sunday. I am the pastor of Church of the Resurrection, a small Episcopal congregation in what is sometimes called "immigrant alley" in the West End of Alexandria, Virginia.



For the past 8 years, Resurrection has been working to discern and then carry out God's mission for us. Turns out, our mission was to build 113 units of affordable housing for working families, a project that will be completed next month. After a few months off to recuperate, we plan to begin discerning our next big mission by mid-year.

Building affordable housing was not our pet project. Instead, it has been a Transfiguration experience for us. Perhaps Resurrection's Transfiguration story will coincide in some way with whatever God might be calling your church to do.

I have no special skills or experiences or even abilities required to do God's work. I was a chemistry major in college a long time ago, a U.S. Navy intelligence officer, a government consultant, and then newly ordained when I came to Resurrection in 2012. So, I won't bore you with my credentials; I have none that matter, other than I profess and preach Christ Jesus.

The people of Resurrection are equally improbable stewards of the mission God gave us. And yet, together we somehow have the right mix of everything we need to have done this mission. God made us fit and gave us what we needed to succeed—mostly commitment, flexibility, and persistence. I think God chose us so you all would know it was God, not us, who accomplished this very challenging task.





Order of Worship

Transfiguration Sunday

Prelude *Fanfare on* Wayne L. Wold
Bright and Glorious is the Sky

Chiming of the Hour

Gathering Hymn (vv. 1 and 3) Lift Every Voice and Sing
(see page 5-6)

Welcome to Worship Rev. Lauren Efrid
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship (Psalm 50:1-6) Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome
Leader: The mighty one, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth
People: From the rising of the sun to its setting.
Leader: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
People: God shines forth.
Leader: Our God comes and does not keep silence,
People: Before God is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around.
Leader: God calls to the heavens above and to the earth,
People: That God may judge the people:
Leader: "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"
People: The heavens declare God's righteousness, for God is judge.

Invocation Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Hymn (vv. 1 and 3) Swing Low Sweet Chariot
(see page 7)

Offertory Prayer Gerry Ritter

Presentation of the Offering

GLORIA PATRI

As our offering is presented back to God, we will sing the following doxology:

Glory be to the Father,
And to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Luke Perrin

We affirm each prayer with the following response:

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

We conclude the Prayers of the People with the Lord's Prayer:

**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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

Scripture Reading

2 Kings 2:8-12

Rev. Efrid

Mark 9:2-9

We affirm the reading of Scripture with the following response:

Reader: The word of God for us, the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

1. Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing, Till earth and heav - en
2. Ston - y the road we trod, Bit - ter the chas - t'ning
3. God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, Ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -
rod, Felt in the days when hope un - born had
tears, Thou who hast brought us thus far on the

ty; Let our re - joic - ing rise High as the lis - t'ning
died; Yet with a stead - y beat, Have not our wea - ry
way; Thou who hast by Thy might, Led us in - to the

skies, Let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
feet Come to the place for which our peo - ple sighed?
light, Keep us for ev - er in the path, we pray.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met Thee,

Sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has
 We have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the
 Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we for -

brought us; Fac - ing the ris - ing sun Of our new
 slaugh - tered; Out from the gloom - y past, Till now we
 get Thee; Shad - owed be - neath Thy hand, May we for

day be - gun, Let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 stand at last Where the bright gleam of our bright star is cast.
 ev - er stand, True to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Swing Low Sweet Chariot

Refrain

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, Com - ing for to car - ry me home.

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, Com - ing for to car - ry me home.

Verses

1. I looked o - ver Jor - dan, and what did I see
 2. If you get there be - fore I do,
 3. The bright - est day that ev - er I saw
 4. I'm some - times up and some - times down,

Com - ing for to car - ry me home. A band of an - gels
 Com - ing for to car - ry me home. Tell all my friends I'm
 Com - ing for to car - ry me home. When Je - sus washed my
 Com - ing for to car - ry me home. But still my soul feels

D.C.

com - ing af - ter me, Com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,
 com - ing too, Com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,
 sins a - way, Com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,
 heav'n - ly bound, Com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,

Anthem

Total Praise
(Sanctuary Choir)

arr. Richard Smallwood

Lord, I will lift mine eyes to the hills,
Knowing my help is coming from you.
Your peace you give me in time of the storm.

You are the source of my strength;
You are the strength of my life;
I lift my hands in total praise to you!

Amen.

Sermon

Rev. Jo Belser

Hymn

We Are Marching in the Light of God
(see page 9-10)

Benediction

Rev. Efirid

Postlude

*Lord, Build Me a Cabin
in Glory Land*

arr. Uzee Brown, Jr.

*Today's hymns come from The African American Heritage Hymnal
(GIA Publications, Inc.). Copyrighted music use is covered by CCLI License #1243530
and OneLicense #A-721397.*

We Are Marching in the Light of God

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
We are march - ing* in the light of God,

1.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

2.

kwen - khos' of God si - ya - we are
hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - we are
march - ing in the light of the light of God, kwen - khos' of God'

*Alternate text: dancing, singing, praying...

African phonetics:

See-yah-hahmb eh-koo-kah-nyen kwen-kose

See-yah-hahm-bah

ham - ba, march-ing

Oo
Oo

Si - ya - We are

ham - ba, march-ing, ham - ba, march-ing, Si - ya - ham - ba, march-ing, ham - ba, Si - ya - we are

kwen - khos' of God

si - ya - we are

hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - we are

march - ing in the light of the light of God,

kwen - khos' of God

ham - ba, march-ing

Oo
Oo

Si - ya - We are

ham - ba, march-ing, ham - ba, march-ing, Si - ya - ham - ba, march-ing, ham - ba, Si - ya - we are

hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

march - ing in the light of God.



Prayer List*

Emma Aepli	Frances Parker
Jim Allen	<i>(Felice Parent's mother)</i>
Nell Allen	
Peter Barboriak	Barry Patchett
<i>(Valerie Brooks' friend)</i>	Sara McMillan
Gilles Bikindou	Perkinson
Kitty Blanton	<i>(Leon and Sue Perkinson's daughter-in-law)</i>
Ashley Brooks	
Carol Crews	Bryant Stallings
<i>(Katie Lockhart's aunt)</i>	Carol Wells
James Mark	Gladys Wells
Frazier	Alison Zieglmeier
<i>(Sue Hughes' brother)</i>	Our partner church,
Annette King	Ebenezer
Marian McGill	Baptist, Cuba
<i>(Leta Huntsinger's aunt)</i>	
Janet Merriman	
<i>(Roz Slawson's friend)</i>	
Sylvia Morgan	

**To add a name to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Names rotate off and can be re-added upon request.*

Prayer for this Week

Spend some time this week meditating on transfiguration. How could God be leading you toward it? How could God be leading your family, workplace, community, and church toward transfiguration?

Consider this tale of the desert monks about the extent to which God can radically transform our lives:

Abba Lot went to Abba Joseph and said to him, "Abba, as far as I can I say my little office, I fast a little, I pray and meditate, I live in peace as far as I can, I purify my thoughts. What else can I do?" Then the old man stood up and stretched his hands toward heaven. His fingers became like ten lamps of fire and he said to him, "If you will, you can become all flame."

From The Sayings of the Desert Fathers, trans. Benedicta Ward.



Family Promise Week | March 7-14

During the pandemic, Family Promise of Wake County has continued to provide for families in transitional housing. The pandemic has only exacerbated the housing crisis in Wake County, making their programs all the more important. Similarly to last year, we will be acting as hosts for families from a distance. The primary responsibilities of host churches include grocery shopping and providing meals during their host week while families are hosted at Family Promise properties. If you would like to help do some grocery shopping or providing meals, please contact Vivian Denning or Rev. Spears-Newsome (wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org).

ONE Wake Internal Assembly | February 25 @ 7:30pm via Zoom

ONE Wake publicly launched in October 2020 with a Founding Assembly attended by over 3,000 institution members, journalists, business leaders, and county and state politicians. Attorney General Josh Stein committed to working with ONE Wake members on renters' rights, county commissioners vowed to work with ONE Wake on building affordable housing on the sites we identified as publicly-owned land, and Mayor Mary-Ann Baldwin (Raleigh) and developer John Kane committed to working with us to establish an equitable development process at Downtown South. While the attorney general and county commissioners have kept their

promises, Mayor Baldwin and Mr. Kane have not. As Kane asks for millions in Wake County tax dollars to fund Downtown South, ONE Wake will be striving to ensure ordinary people get some return on their investment. To that end (and our other priorities), **the February 25 Internal Assembly will discuss and ratify our strategy and goals for 2021.**



ONE Wake
Internal Assembly
Feb. 25 @ 7:30pm via Zoom



February 17 Ash Wednesday

You'll receive ashes and an at-home liturgy by mail.
Media resources will be available at gfbccary.org/ash

Property Repurposing Report Available Online

Since October 2020, we have engaged in a listening campaign to discover where God might be leading us to use our property in the future. You can read about the findings of that process in a new report at gfbccary.org/repurposing. You can join the discernment committee for a time of response to the report on **February 22, from 12-1pm**. You will receive a Zoom invite.

New Teaching Series Begins February 14 at 9:30am via Zoom

Rev. Dr. Stacks will lead in an overview of the concepts from Brené Brown's book *Rising Strong*, which is about embracing transformative and courageous recovery as individuals and as institutions in the wake of trauma. In this case, we will be applying the book (and its intersections with Christianity) to how we might seize the opportunities available to us in the wake of this collective trauma to rise strong as a church, and move courageously into the future. A Zoom invite will be sent out in advance.

Updated Event Book

You can access an updated event book containing information for the first part of 2021 at gfbccary.org/eventbook. It includes updates on our ministry areas and events you can expect for the next several months.



In the midst of the pandemic, there is something simple that we can all do for the church that will make a huge difference: set up online giving. Every Sunday that we are not at church, we experience a decline in giving. Even though we are not physically together, the church still has to pay its bills, our wonderful staff, and make sure that our church is prepared to help the most vulnerable—especially during this pandemic.

January 2021 Finance Update

Updated when the previous month's books have closed.

	Jan. 2021	Year-to-Date
Congregational Giving	\$48,911	\$281,254
Congregational Giving Target	\$67,030	\$312,820
Congregational Giving Under/Over	(\$18,119)	(\$31,566)
Other Receipts	\$3,121	\$12,249
Total Giving and Receipts	\$52,032	\$293,503
Total Disbursements	\$58,963	\$298,877
Under/Over Receipts vs. Disbursements	(\$6,931)	(\$5,374)
Together We Build Giving	\$17,543	\$76,935

Ways to Tithe

1. Set up an automatic payment through your bank using the "Bill Pay" function. This results in your bank mailing a check to the church weekly or monthly.
2. Give online through the church website. Simply go to gfbccary.org/give to access the online giving module.
3. Set up an automated bank draft by filling out the form on the next page of this bulletin, attaching a voided check, and mailing it to the church office at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, 110 SE Maynard Road, Cary, NC 27511.



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church
 110 SE Maynard Road
 Cary, NC 27511
 (919) 467-0481
 info@gfbccary.org

- New Draft
- Replace Existing Draft
- Cancel Draft

Effective Date: _____

Authorization Agreement for Automated Bank Draft

Automated Payment Authorization

I (we) hereby authorize Greenwood Forest Baptist Church to initiate debit entries to my (our) account designated below at the depository financial institution named below and to debit same account. I authorize credit entries, if necessary, for any debit entries that are determined to be in error. I acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law.

This authorization is to remain in full force and effect until Greenwood Forest Baptist Church has received written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination that is to be received at least five (5) business days prior to the proposed effective date of the termination of the authorization.

Financial Institution Information

Financial Institution Name: _____

Routing Number: _____ (9 digits on bottom left corner of check)

Account Number: _____ Type: Checking Savings

Account Information

Account Holder Name(s): _____

Full Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Debit Account Every: Month Twice a Month Week

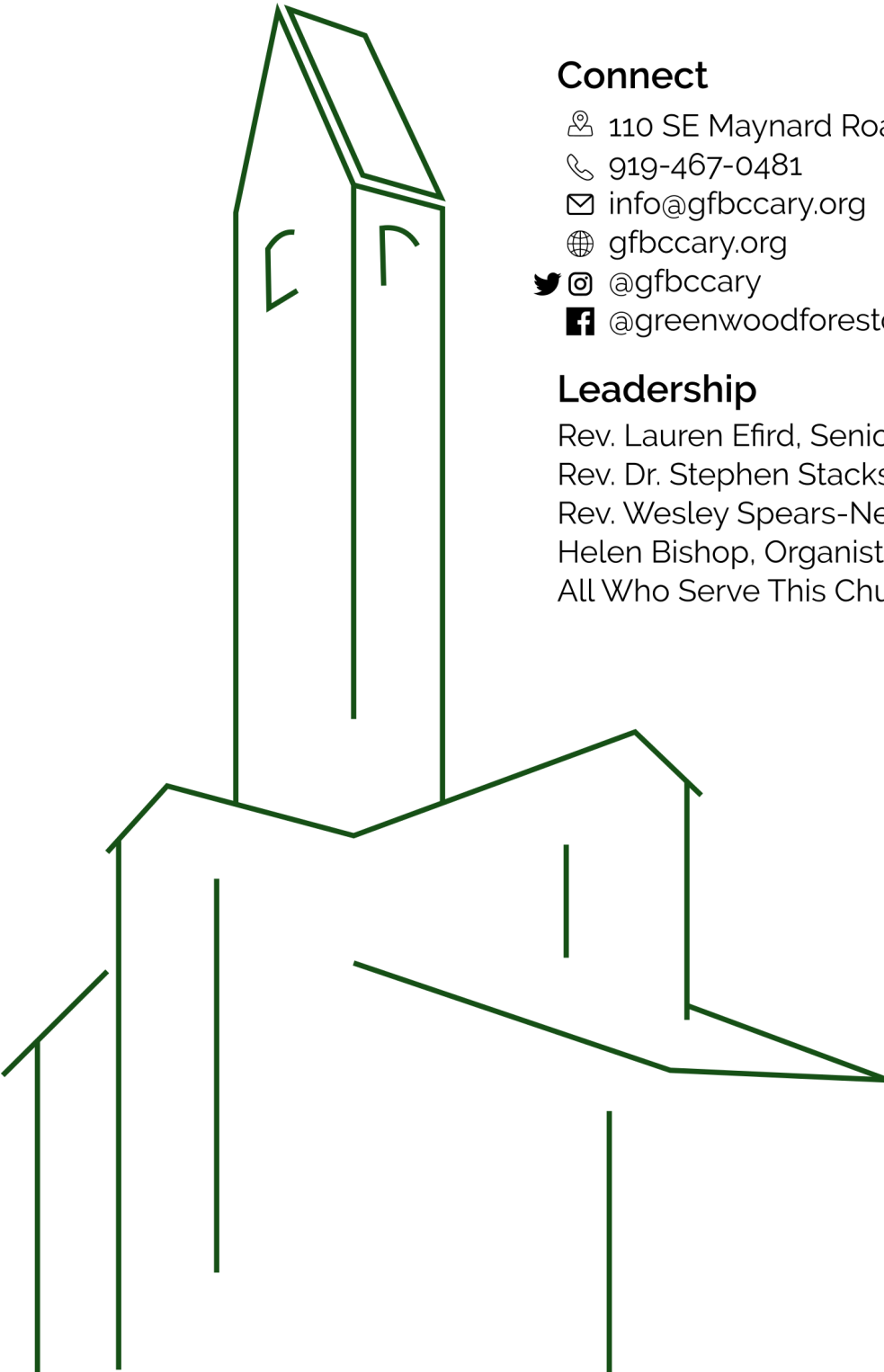
- If weekly, what day of the week: _____ (If on a holiday, debit occurs day before)
- If non-weekly, what date(s) of the month: _____

Amount of Each Debit: \$ _____

- Stewardship Giving Portion: \$ _____
- Designated Giving to: _____ Portion: \$ _____
- Designated Giving to: _____ Portion: \$ _____
- Designated Giving to: _____ Portion: \$ _____


Please attach a voided check to this document.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Connect

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Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efrid, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Associate Pastor

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

Helen Bishop, Organist

All Who Serve This Church
