



Greenwood ForestBaptist Church





Greenwood ForestBaptist Church

February 27, 2022

an inclusive community of faith

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Welcome to worship!

During Black History Month, our worship services have featured music from Black composers and artists, as well as liturgical elements from the African American Heritage Hymnal. Today, we complete this celebration by welcoming the NC Central University Choir to join our own Sanctuary Choir to sing Robert Ray's *Gospel Mass*.

We celebrate Black History Month alongside our Black congregants and Black siblings everywhere as a way to honor Black stories, beauty, and contributions, but also as a way to signal our continued commitment to Black lives for the rest of 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.

- Today's color is green for Ordinary Time, a season of spiritual growth.
- Hearing assistance devices are available at the back of the sanctuary.
- Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera.

Eighth Sunday after Epiphany Black History Month

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude To Sit and Dream

Rosephanye Powell, music Langston Hughes, text

To sit and dream,
To sit and read,
To sit and learn about the world.,
Outside our world of here and now,
Our problem world.
To dream of vast horizons of the soul,

Of dreams made whole,
Unfettered, free.
Help me all you who are dreamers too.
Help me make our world anew.
I reach out my hand to you.

Welcome to Worship

Rev. Lauren Efird

Leader: The Lord be with you! People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Efird

Call to Worship (On Black Sacred Music,

Rev. Dr. Stacks

Adapted from the African American Heritage Hymnal)

Leader: Colossians instructs us to sing psalms and hymns.

People: To sing spiritual songs, making melodies in our hearts.

Leader: David told the Levites to appoint singers to play instruments,

People: On harps and lyres and cymbals, to raise loud sounds of joy!

Leader: Within our veins flow the rhythm, timing, and cadence of worship.

People: We praise the Creator with our minds, hearts, souls, and feet!

Leader: We have been sustained by spirituals, by Watts and Tindley hymns,

People: By the gospel songs of Dorsey and Cleveland, and contemporary sounds by Hawkins and Smallwood.

Leader: Where would we be without "Ride On, King Jesus," "Hush, Hush, Somebody's Calling my Name," "Were You There," "Go Tell it on the Mountain," "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross," or "Precious Lord"?

continued->

People: Where would we be without "Roll, Jordan Roll," "O Freedom," "I'll Fly Away," "Blessed Assurance," "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms", "Great is Thy Faithfulness," or "Jesus You're the Center of My Joy"?

Leader: There has been no liberation movement without a song, so let us lift every voice and sing!

People: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

Invocation Rev. Dr. Stacks

Gathering Hymn

Hear Our Prayer

O Lord, please hear my prayer; In the morning when I rise. It's your servant bound for glory. O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.

O Lord, please hear my prayer. Keep me safe within your arms. It's your servant bound for glory. O dear Lord, please hear my prayer. When my work on earth is done, And you come to take me home. Just to know I'm bound for glory; And to hear You say, "Well done!" Done with sin and sorrow. Have mercy. Mercy.

Offertory Prayer

Andy Jarrell

Presentation of the Offering

OLD HUNDREDTH

Transcendent God, we bless your name,
Incarnate Christ, the risen one,
The Spirit with us, Immanent,
The Source, the Word, the Breath of Life! Amen.

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:11-22

Rev. Spears-Newsome

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.

Cantata

The Gospel Mass

Robert Ray

Please refer to your cantata program.

If you're watching online, you can find it at gfbccary.org/gospelmass

Hymn

We Shall Overcome

(see page 4)

Benediction Rev. Efird

Postlude Total Praise Richard Smallwood

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Today's hymn comes from The African American Heritage Hymnal. See cantata program for more information. Copyrighted music use is covered by CCLI License #1243530 and OneLicense #A-721397. Please see the cantata program for more details on todays musicians (online at gfbccary.org/gospelmass).



Righteous Anger & the Work of Peace

We are excited to welcome Melissa
Florer-Bixler to lead our 2022
Discipleship Retreat on her new book,
How to Have an Enemy: Righteous
Anger and the Work of Peace. Melissa is
the pastor of Raleigh Mennonite Church,
one of our partner churches in ONE
Wake, and has written two books and
numerous articles for Christian Century,
Sojourners, Geez Magazine, Anabaptist
Witness, The Bias, Faith & Leadership,
and Anabaptist Vision.

The retreat will take place March 11-13 at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church in the Fellowship Hall. Well-fitting masks will be required indoors at all times; refreshments will be served outside. There will be a virtual option available.

Schedule:

Session 1 — Fri. (3/11) 6-7pm Sessions 2, 3 — Sat. (3/12) 8am-12pm Session 4 — Sun. (3/13) 9:45-10:45am Worship — Sun. (3/13) 11am-12pm

Cost:

In-Person — \$20 Virtual — \$10

Registration fees include the cost for a copy of Melissa's book, which will be available for pickup at the church the week before and after the retreat.

Register now at <u>gfbccary.org/retreat!</u> March 11-13



PRAYPRAYPRAY

Prayer List*

Nell Allen

Peter Barboriak (Valerie Brooks' friend)

Gilles Bikindou

Valerie Brooks

Vanna Fox

James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes'

brother)

Elizabeth Harvey (at the death of her

daughter-in-law, Amy Harvey)

Megan Jarrell

Jack Lancaster (Christy Brown's father)

Doris Martin

Janet Merriman (Roz Slawson's friend)

Sylvia Morgan

Brynn Oliver

Tom Poe (Annie Poe's son)

Fred Seeger

Marta Whitehouse (Al Whitehouse's

mother)

John Wilkes (Rebekah Oliver's father)

Our partners at Ebenezer Baptist, Cuba

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

Note:

January financials can be seen in last week's bulletin and the financial update will return next week.

