





## **Greenwood Forest**Baptist Church

April 17, 2022

# EASTER

# an inclusive community of faith

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#### Welcome to worship!

We are so glad you've chosen to join us this week. Greenwood Forest Baptist Church is an inclusive community of faith, which means we welcome, affirm, and include all God's people in their diversity of genders, sexual orientations, races, ethnicities, ages, abilities, and backgrounds. We are each beloved by God and we are happy to welcome you to our church this morning exactly as you are.

- Today's colors are white and gold. White and gold for the Easter season symbolize divine light, the joy of resurrection, and the glory of God.
- Hearing assistance devices are available at the back of the sanctuary.
- Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera.



Easter Sunday

Chiming of the Hour

Processional Hymn Christ the Lord is Risen Today

(see page 3)

Welcome to Worship Rev. Lauren Efird

Leader: He is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Passing of the Peace Rev. Efird

Call to Worship (Sanctified Art)

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Leader: Today is not like any other day.

People: Today let's slow down. Leader: Today let's take it all in.

People: Today let us rest in good news. Leader: Today is not like any other day.

People: Today we are singing!

Leader: Today we are full to the brim!

People: Today joy cannot be contained!

Leader: Today is not like any other day!

People: Today the stone was rolled away.

Leader: Today the women saw the empty grave.

People: Today we know death does not win.

Leader: Today is not like any other day.

People: Alleluia!

**Invocation** Rev. Spears-Newsome



What can wash away my sin?
What can make me whole again?
What can make me white as snow?
Nothing but your royal blood

What can heal the heart of stone?
What can resurrect these bones?
There's no other fount I know
Nothing but your royal blood
Nothing but your royal blood

Your blood will never lose it's power
Your blood will never lose
Your victory will stand forever
Your blood will never lose

This was won upon the cross This was written on his scars This has made us conquerors Nothing but your royal blood Nothing but your royal blood

Now by this we'll overcome
Now by this we'll reach our home
Now our sin and shame are gone
Only by your royal blood
Now by this we'll overcome
Now by this we'll reach our home
Now our sin and shame are gone
Only by your royal blood

Baptism Rev. Lauren Efird

Alma Gazzaniga Anna Claire Jarrell Ella Biser Emily Nuss

Hymn The Day of Resurrection!

(see page 5)

Offertory Prayer Andy Jarrell

Presentation of the Offering

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Praise God all creatures here below! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts!

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

O praise God, O praise God!

Alleluia, Alleluia!



#### The Prayers of the People

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

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

Luke 24:1-12

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.

Anthem Alleluia Randall Thompson

Sermon More than an Idle Tale Rev. Efird

Hymn Thine Is the Glory

(see page 7)

Presentation of Baptismal Gifts Rev. Spears-Newsome

Benediction Rev. Efird

Postlude "Hallelujah" from *Messiah* G.F. Handel

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Today's hymns come from Celebrating Grace. Copyrighted music use is covered by CCLI License #1243530 and OneLicense #A-721397.

Thank you to our instrumentalists for helping lead us in worship today:
Blair Biser (trumpet), Catherine Glasgow (trumpet), Sean Glasgow (percussion), and
Julianne Rejesus (trombone)

Exterior Art provided by A Sanctified Art (sanctifiedart.org): "Prepared" by Hannah Garrity, paper lace inspired by Luke 24:1-12.



#### **PRAYPRAYPRAY**

#### Prayer List\*

Richard Adair (Janice Medford's brother) Peter Barboriak (Valerie Brooks' friend) Gilles Bikindou

Scott Davenport (friend of the Biser family)

Brittany Foster (Kevin Schaefer's friend) Vanna Fox

James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes' brother)

Janet Merriman (Roz Slawson's friend)

Sylvia Morgan

Kate (Alma Gazzaniga's friend)

Jennie Pegram

Gerry Ritter

Fred Seeger

**Greg Upchurch** 

Marta Whitehouse (Al Whitehouse's mother)

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.

#### **GIVEGIVEGIVE**

#### Ways to Tithe

- Set up an automated bank draft by filling out a form requested from the church office, attaching a voided check, and mailing it back to the church office.
- Set up auto pay through your bank using the "Bill Pay" function. Then, your bank will mail a check to the church weekly or monthly.
- Give online through the church website at <u>afbccary.org/give</u>.

#### March 2022 Finance Update

Updated when the previous months' books close.

	Mar. 2022	YTD
Congregational Giving	\$42,459	\$325,955
Congregational Giving Target	\$51,000	\$395,180
Congregational Giving Under/Over	(\$8,541)	(\$69,225)
Other Receipts	\$8,131	\$77,653
Total Giving and Receipts	\$50,590	\$403,609
Total Disbursements	\$57,549	\$430,682
Under/Over Receipts vs. Disbursements	(\$6,959)	(\$27,073)
Together We Build Giving	\$14,305	\$147,947



### **Easter Lily Dedications**

Terry Allen	in memory of	Beverly Allen
Dave and Elise Atkins	in memory of	Katherine Taylor Delores Atkins
Chris and Toni Beal	in memory of in honor of	Don Beal Faye Beal
Faye Beal	in memory of	Don Beal
The Beck Family	in memory of	Alvin and Hattie Beck Robert Curti Leroy Walters
The Brewer Family	in memory of	Luther Brewer
Tom and Pat Brooks	in honor of in memory of	their children and grandchildren their parents
Lisa Butcher	in memory of	Jo Hay
Greg and Carol Carter	in memory of	Wilma Caldwell Frances Jones
	in honor of	their children and grandchildren
Jennifer, Tom, and Sarah Coltrane	in honor of in memory of	Jean Harris Jerry Harris
Joe and Laura Crook	in memory of	Mary Ruth Crook Jasper and Frances Baker
Alice Curti	in memory of	Robert Curti

Jane Griffin	in memory of	Ann Griffin Clawson
Jean Harris	in memory of in honor of	Jerry Harris her family
Gail and Virgil Jones	in memory of	Gerald and Anna Jones Ford and Dorothy Mastin
The JOY Faith Formation Class	in memory of in honor of	Annette King Lydia Hoyle Bucky Sydnor
Henry and Susan Meador	in honor of	Lee and Patti Webb Henry Francis Meador and Shirley Wheldon
Randy and Janice Medford	in memory of	Dorothy and Howard Beard
Lynn Newsome	in honor of in memory of	Evelyn Anne Spears-Newsome Fred Newsome
Evan and Lou Owoc-Edwards	in memory of	Joan Edwards Dorothy Dawson
Natalie, Brian, and Kathleen Patten	in honor of in memory of	Oscar Hinton Lou Nell Hinton Bill and Kathleen Parks Joseph Patten, Sr. and Rita Conlon
Harold and Gerry Ritter	in memory of	Dean Ritter E.T. and Geneva Parham Walter and Ruth Ritter Annette King
Meg and Wes Spears-Newsome	in honor of	Lynn Newsome
Bucky and Carole Sydnor	in honor of	Jyoti, Wes, and Eli Valerie and Aurora

#### CONNECTCONNECT

#### Save the Date: Business Meeting 4/24

We will be having a church business meeting on Sunday April 24 at 2pm. The meeting will be held virtually. This includes a vote on proposed bylaw changes. If you need help accessing Zoom to participate, please contact the church office. A link will be sent out on the day of the meeting. Printed reference materials will be available for pickup after worship on the morning of the 24th.

#### Senior Pastor Sabbatical

#### From the Personnel Committee:

One of the great traditions and church disciplines of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church is the practice of a minister's sabbatical. Per our church's tradition and policy, every 5 years we provide for a period of intentional sabbatical for our Senior Pastor. The purpose of this period away from normal pastoral duties is for renewal, rest, creative work, professional development, and other experiences in order to reinvigorate the Senior Pastor and enhance their work in ministry at GFBC.

Rev. Lauren Efird, has served at Greenwood Forest for almost 11 years and is approaching her 6 year anniversary as our Senior Pastor. Rev. Efird offered to delay her sabbatical in the midst of the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in order to provide necessary leadership for the church. To mark her years of service, Rev. Efird will start a sabbatical May 22 lasting for 12 weeks. The rest of the church staff will be providing coverage of her critical duties during this time and we have an exciting series of voices lined up to fill the pulpit while she is away. We are grateful that Rev. Efird is able to continue this tradition at GFBC and are excited for the experiences she will share with us as a result!



#### Easter Lillies

If you dedicated a lily, you can take it home with you today!



#### Will you be an affordable housing voter?

We have unusually-timed local elections coming up this May! We need you to pledge to vote to help our church and our partner churches and institutions in ONE Wake make affordable housing a priority for our new Town Council. ONE Wake is engaging in a strictly non-partisan Get-Out-The-Vote campaign and you can pledge to vote at the display in the narthex!

Also, we want to see you at the April 28 Voting Rally hosted by ONE Wake on April 28, the first day of early voting, at 6pm. We will hear from candidates running for Town Council and then march to the polls together and cast our ballots. All candidates who have filed have been invited to the event and will be given equal treatment. This event will be in-person at FUMC Cary, near the early voting site at the Community Center.

Register to attend today at <a href="mailto:gfbccary.org/vote">gfbccary.org/vote</a>!



#### We have an exciting new resource just for you!

We're excited to share a great new tool and resource with you to interact with your church! Realm is an online platform (either on your computer or your smartphone) that will give you easy access to everything you need at church. Realm will give you access to your Faith Formation and Small Groups, contact information that church members wish to share with you, signups for events and volunteering, and even discipleship resources for retreats and more! Realm will be a one-stop-shop for Greenwood Forest members to access everything they need at church straight from their computer or smartphone.

#### How can you get a Realm account?

Signing up is really easy. Just go to <a href="mailto:onrealm.org/GreenwoodForest">onrealm.org/GreenwoodForest</a>:



- If you've ever given online and set up an account for that, you already have a Realm account!
- If you don't have an account for giving, just click "Sign Up"! If you're not sure, just click "Sign Up" and it will walk you through the steps to access your account.
- If you have trouble accessing your account or creating one, please email Rev. Spears-Newsome (wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org).

More information, including a tutorial and FAQ document, is in your email inbox. If you need a copy because you didn't receive one, email Rev. Spears-Newsome.

