



Scan for Digital



Greenwood Forest
Baptist Church

March 12, 2023

Artist Statement Living Water

Lauren Wright Pittman | Inspired by John 4:5-42

Digital Painting

In a quick Google image search of this story, I noticed that, in most of the art, Jesus and the Samaritan woman are almost never on the same level. In my piece, the positioning of Jesus and the Samaritan woman is inspired by the work of Karoline M. Lewis in her commentary on John. She introduces a fresh way of looking at this text, with a focus on their “mutuality of need.”¹ Jesus needs water to drink, and the woman needs living water. She writes: “Jesus needs her to be a witness, and she needs Jesus to invite her into this new identity.”²

In this image, their body positioning is mirrored, with their eyes on the same plane. Where their arms overlap becomes a vibrant blue, creating a water drop with a dove in it, representing the living water that springs forth from their mutual need and relationship. Each of their clothing is patterned with the other’s need. In Jesus’ clothing are simplified “springs of water gushing up to eternal life” (John 4:14). In the Samaritan woman’s clothes, her water jar is positioned upright and poured out, representing her wrestling with whether she will interact with this man—and further, whether he is the awaited Messiah.

The image is subtly divided in half by slight shifts in color value. There is a chasm between them socially, culturally, religiously, etc. Referencing a primary dispute between the Jews and the Samaritans, their places of worship are in the background: on the left is the temple in Jerusalem, and on the right is Mount Gerizim.

In the center is the Samaritan woman’s vessel. We are not told whether she fills the jar or gives Jesus water, however, we are told that she leaves the jar behind. Her need is not the water in the well; her need is for grounding in a new identity,³ and to be seen for who she really is. She needs to not be defined by the worst parts of her life, the number of her husbands, or others’ assumptions, but to be seen through the lens of mutual need—to be seen as one of the first witnesses of the Messiah,⁴ and now a vessel of living water herself.



¹ Lewis, Karoline M. John: Fortress Biblical Preaching Commentaries. (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 2014). 55.

² Ibid. 56.

³ Ibid. 56.

⁴ Ibid. 60.



Greenwood Forest
Baptist Church

**an inclusive
community
of faith**

Welcome

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 exactly as you are.

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REMINDERS



Nursery care is available for infants and toddlers. There is also a glider in the back of the sanctuary if you need to rock your little ones.



Hearing assistance devices are available at the back of the sanctuary along with a transcript of the sermon.



Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera.



Gender-neutral, single-occupant bathrooms are located at the back of the sanctuary in the Narthex.



gfbccary.org



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seeking:

honest questions for deeper faith

Lent began on February 22 with Ash Wednesday, and this season we'll be exploring stories of Jesus encountering people who are seeking. In each of these stories, someone is seeking a new beginning, a different life, a deeper faith. What unfolds is an exchange filled with questions and exploration. Join us throughout this season of reflection and repentance to discover what God has for those who are seeking.

Key Events in Lent:

March 19 | The Cry of Jeremiah Performance (11am)

Our choir will be reuniting with the NCCU Choir to present a piece this year called The Cry of Jeremiah by Rosephanye Powell. Based on Jeremiah 20, the piece will draw on a variety of musical traditions from Europe, Africa, and North America.

April 2 | Palm Sunday (11am)

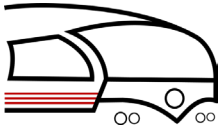
On Palm Sunday, we commemorate the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, which sets off the series of events that leads ultimately to his execution.

April 7 | Good Friday (7pm)

We gather on Good Friday for a Service of Tenebrae, a solemn recounting of Jesus' execution.

April 9 | Easter Sunday (11am)

We begin the Easter season and celebrate the resurrection and Jesus' defeat of death!



FREEDOM RIDE '23



July 2-8

Final Registration Deadline: March 27

Join us on a pilgrimage of transformation and discovery! Explore the history of the Civil Rights Movement and the struggle for freedom where it happened. Meet experts and even eye-witnesses and participants in the Movement. Discover what the freedom struggle means for your life now.

Itinerary Includes (but no limited to):

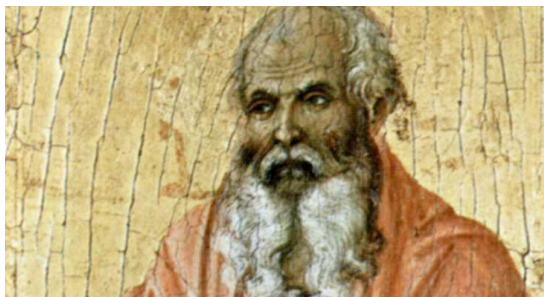
- **The National Memorial for Peace and Justice and The Legacy Museum: From Slavery to Mass Incarceration:** These are sites developed by Bryan Stevenson (Just Mercy, book and film) and the Equal Justice Institute (EJI). The Memorial and Museum are some of the best examples of history and storytelling in the country.
- **Footprints to Freedom Tour in Selma, Alabama:** We'll explore with local experts the sites of the Civil War and the Civil Rights Movement in this unlikely but pivotal small Southern town. This tour includes museums and historical sites.
- **Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and Sixteenth Street Baptist Church:** The BCRI has an unparalleled collection and experience for exploring the history of the Civil Rights Movement. We'll also plan a visit to a pivotal congregation in the Movement and site of one of its most horrific moments in Sixteenth Street Baptist Church.

Join us on the 2023 Freedom Ride to Birmingham, Montgomery, and Selma.

\$500/person; includes transportation, lodging, and meals in Alabama.

Note: This trip is deliberately intergenerational and based on the needs and abilities of participants. If you have reservations about your ability to attend, please contact Rev. Spears-Newsome.

Announcements Church Events and Updates



Cry of Jeremiah (3/19)

Join us on Sunday, March 19 for an unforgettable and moving performance by the GFBC Sanctuary Choir and the NC Central University Choir of Rosephanye Powell's *The Cry of Jeremiah*. The piece features a narrator speaking as the prophet Jeremiah, known as the "crying prophet," as he rages and grieves over the sins and injustice of his people, wrestles with his calling to speak truth, and ultimately praises God in the midst of his struggle. The music is arresting and inspiring, expressing beautifully the fire and hope at the heart of Jeremiah's vision. This is the second year of our collaboration with NCCU and it promises to be a special day—you will not want to miss it!

(Above) The Prophet Jeremiah from the Maesta Altarpiece of Siena by Duccio di Buoninsegna.

Business Meeting (3/12)

We will have a church business meeting this Sunday, March 12, to discuss matters related to the property and other regular business. We'll hold the meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45am before worship.

How to Request and Borrow Materials from the Media Center from Anywhere

The Media Center catalog is always available online at gfbccary.org/mediacenter.

You can search the catalog and **make requests for books!** When your requested book is ready for pickup, you'll receive an email and can then pick up the book from the library cart in the Narthex on Sunday morning. Books can also be returned to this cart.

To request a book, simply search for it in the catalog and click the "Request" button.

 **Disability and the church: a vision for diversity and inclusion**

by **Hardwick, Lamar**

IVP, an imprint of InterVarsity Press 2021 Downers Grove, Illinois

259.4 HAR

Date added: 2022-07-13

AVAILABLE: 1



Request

When prompted to login, your login is the first letter of your first name followed by your last name. No password is required.

On the pop-up "Request" screen, verify your email address and click "Submit Request."

Tip: You can also find old church bulletins and other digital materials in the media center. Choose "PDF Document" when you search and you can look for the month of a service, title of a sermon, hymn, or anthem.

For questions, ask Felice Parent, Donna Scott, or Karen Upchurch. Email us at gfbclibrary@gmail.com

Community Notes Prayer Requests and Giving



Please keep in prayer these members of our community and their friends and family. To add a name to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Names rotate off and can be re-added upon request.

Nell Allen
Peter Barboriak (Valerie Brooks' friend)
Gilles Bikindou
Katie Buchanan (Pat and Tom Brooks' niece)
Greg Clawson (friend of Rick Chappell)
Scott Davenport (friend of the Biser family)
Charles Dial (Carol and Greg Carter's brother-and-law)
Elaine Dodson
Vanna Fox
James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes' brother)
Fred Seeger
Lee and Patti Webb
Gladys Wells
Our partners at Ebenezer Baptist in Cuba



All of the ministries of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church are supported by members of our community like you. Thank you! Supporting us is easy. You can:

- Give online at gfbccary.org/give
- Place your gift in the offering plate before or after worship.
- Set up an automated bank draft through the church office.
- Set up a recurring gift through your bank's "bill pay" function.

A monthly finance update is available in the weekly church email. If you're not receiving our weekly email and would like to, please contact the church office.

Monthly Ministry Highlight:

Music Ministry

Music is a vital part of spiritual and communal life. Here at GFBC, we strive to express the diversity of God's beloved community by using a wide variety of music many different traditions. This month, we will experience a performance of Rosephanye Powell's The Cry of Jeremiah, performed in collaboration with the NCCU University Choir.

Your gifts to Greenwood Forest make this ministry possible!

Order of Worship Third Sunday of Lent

✝ This icon indicates an invitation to stand or express reverence however you see fit.

📖 This icon indicates a worship aid is available in the righthand column.

🎵 Hymns and song lyrics are available in the songbook following the Order of Worship.

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude | *As the Deer* | arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Efird

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (A Sanctified Art) | Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

We gather together—

**the seekers, the dreamers, the shooting-star wishers,
in hopes of seeing God.**

We gather together—

**the curious, the hungry, the loving, the lonely,
in hopes of finding peace.**

We gather together—

**those who are thirsty and those with water to spare,
in hopes of finding justice.**

So come to the well,

come to the table.

Come, let us worship God. Amen.

Invocation | Rev. Dr. Stacks

✝ **Gathering Hymn** | *Come, Ye Sinners* (vv. 1, 3; pg. 9)

Offertory Prayer | Tim Carr

Today's color is **purple**, representing repentance and reflection.

The Passing of the Peace

The passing of the peace is a symbolic enactment of the reconciling love and mercy of God in our midst. We express it through a peace sign, a handshake, a wave, or many other expressions of peace. Be mindful and considerate of others' desire for physical space or distance.

Prayer in Worship

We use many kinds of prayers in worship. The Call to Worship is a communal prayer using call and response. The Invocation is a single individual inviting (or invoking) God into our worship this morning. The Prayers of the People uses intercessory prayer to ask God to come to the world's aid. The benediction is a blessing offered over those gathered in worship.

† **Doxology** | *Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH* 📖

Praise God, who forms us from the dust.
Praise Christ, who frees us through the cross.
Praise Holy Ghost who drives us on
To meet God in the wilderness. Amen.

The Prayers of the People | *Johnny Jackson* 📖

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

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.**

† **Hymn** | *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (pg. 10)

Scripture Reading | *John 4:5-42* |

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem | *Sicut Cervus* | *Giovanni da Palestrina*

*Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum,
ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.*

Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks,
so longeth my soul after thee, O God.

Sermon | *Will you give me a drink?* | *Rev. Efird*

† **Hymn** | *We All Come Thirsty* (pg. 11) 📖

Benediction | *Rev. Efird*

Postlude | *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* | *arr. J. Pathel*

The Doxology

A “doxology” is a short hymn that usually praises the Trinity. We sing the doxology as we symbolically present our offerings back to God.

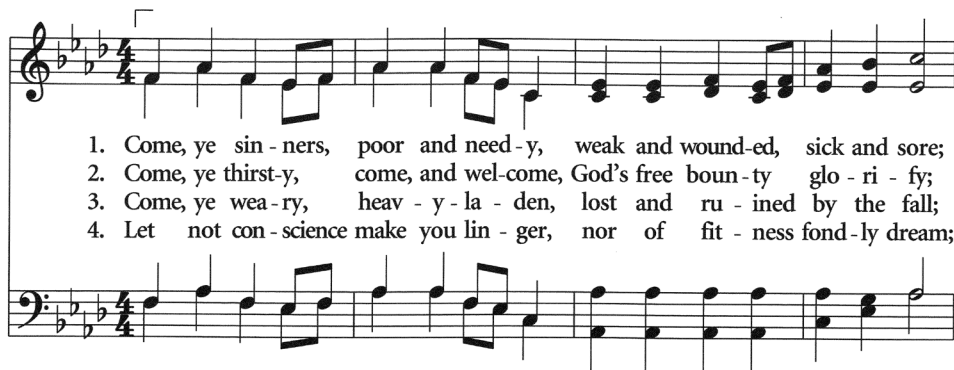
The Prayers of the People

This prayer typically has five parts: a confession, prayers for the earth, prayers for the world, prayers for the church, and prayers for those with needs in our own community.

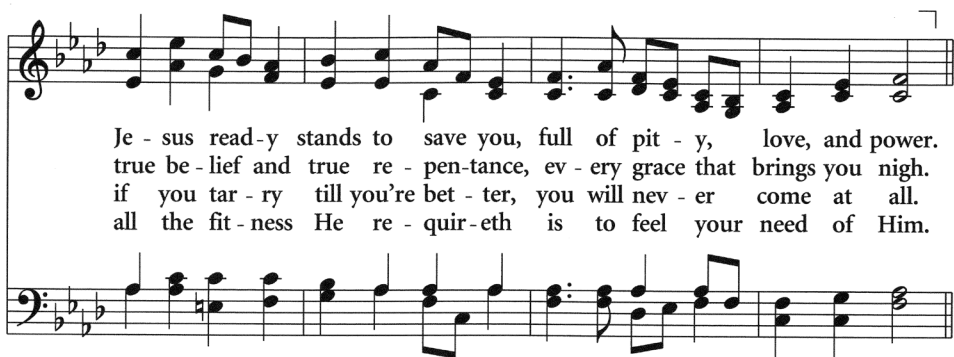
Final Hymn: An Invitation

During the final hymn, if you'd like to join our community at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, we invite you to come forward to the altar. When you come forward, you'll be greeted by a minister and a deacon who will then introduce you to the congregation after the hymn. Welcome!

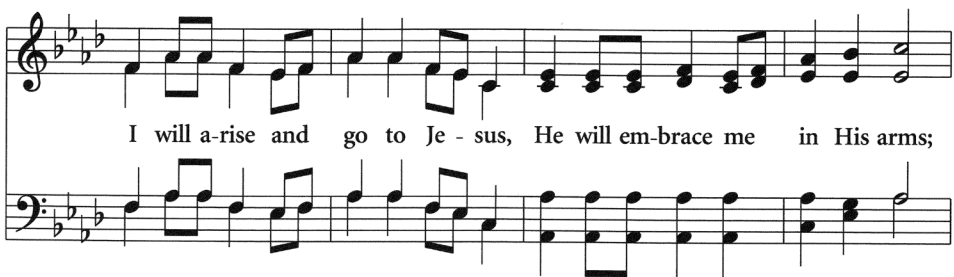
Come, Ye Sinners



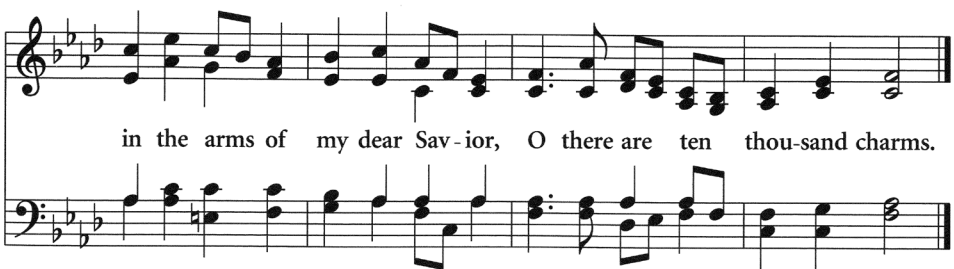
1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound-ed, sick and sore;
 2. Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel-come, God's free boun - ty glo - ri - fy;
 3. Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y - la - den, lost and ru - ined by the fall;
 4. Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness fond - ly dream;



Je - sus read-y stands to save you, full of pit - y, love, and power.
 true be - lief and true re - pen-tance, ev - ery grace that brings you nigh.
 if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter, you will nev - er come at all.
 all the fit - ness He re - quir-eth is to feel your need of Him.

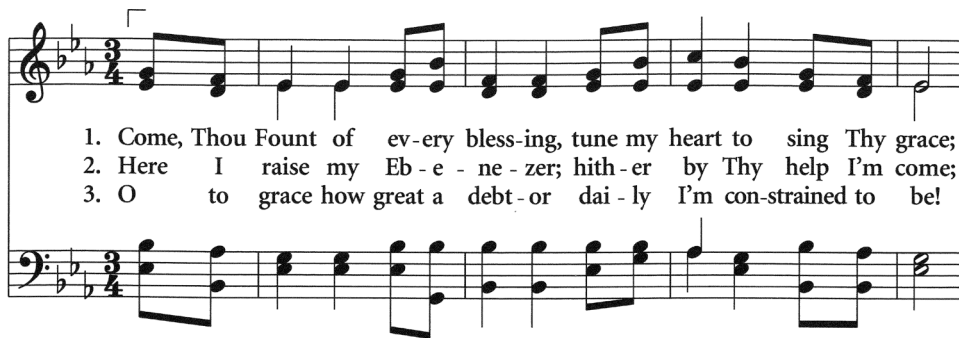


I will a-rise and go to Je - sus, He will em-brace me in His arms;

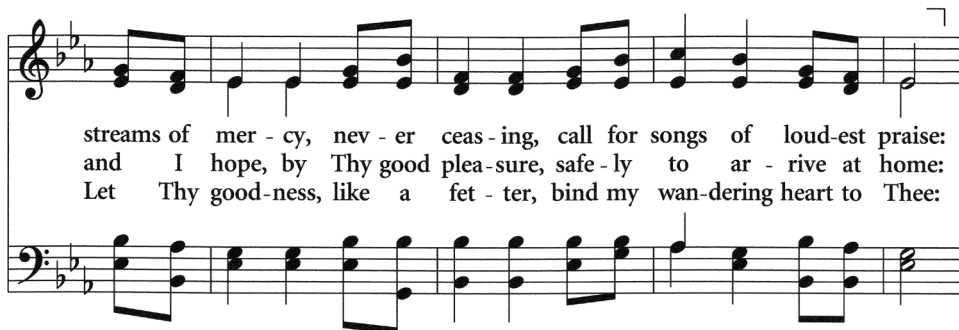


in the arms of my dear Sav-ior, O there are ten thou-sand charms.

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing



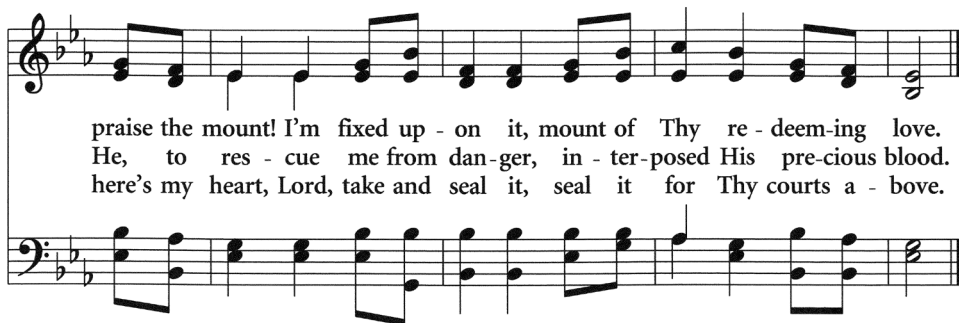
1. Come, Thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
 2. Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by Thy help I'm come;
 3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise:
 and I hope, by Thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home:
 Let Thy good - ness, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to Thee:



teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, wan - dering from the fold of God;
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of Thy re - deem - ing love.
 He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts a - bove.

We All Come Thirsty (Sanctified Art)

First system of musical notation. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: We Through We all dif care - come f'ren for thir ces God's sty our com - to hands the can well reach ty to Our

Second system of musical notation. The melody continues with a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' above it. The lyrics are: seek care mu - the and tual li - hold aid ving each shared wa oth free - ter er ly With There To wounds are all and no we

Third system of musical notation. The melody continues. The lyrics are: pasts stran - we'd gers as ra for we ther they re - hide are ceive But Our With let sib - lings, our sis - ters, grace and lov - ing

Fourth system of musical notation. The melody concludes with a long note. The lyrics are: sof bro deep - - - ten thers ly

Reprinted hymns come from Celebrating Grace, Glory to God, or the The African American Heritage Hymnal unless otherwise noted. Copyrighted music use covered by CCLI License #1243530, OneLicense #A-721397.

Visio Divina A Prayer Exercise

Visio Divina, latin for “divine seeing,” is a method of meditation, reflection, and prayer through a process of intentional seeing. Visio Divina extends the 6th century Benedictine practice of Lectio Divina by the use of visual imagery. Traditionally, Visio Divina was accompanied by Benedictine iconography and illuminations, however, different faith traditions have adapted the process over time, utilizing both secular and religious images. You can use this outline with the art that adorns the bulletin cover during Lent.

Outline:

- Opening Prayer
- Lectio Divina
- Visio Divina
- Read Artist Statement
- Respond
- Discuss (Optional)

Reminders:

- Focus on your breath. If your mind begins to wander, inhale and exhale slowly. Stay mindful of your breathing as a way to bring you back into the present moment.
- When you listen to the scripture reading, hold onto a word or phrase that resonates with you. As you look at the art, consider repeating this word or phrase as a mantra in your head to help you stay focused.
- If you find yourself not knowing what to think, or trying to figure out what the art means, remember that you are invited to simply be an observer. As you look, jot down simple observations about what you see, or ask yourself questions such as, “Why did the artist choose that color?” or “Why did the artist portray the story in this way?” or “How does this art make me feel?” Perhaps your questions will lead to more questions and more observations and then you’ll be getting somewhere.

Opening Prayer

Begin with prayer to open heart, mind, ears, and eyes to connect with God.

Lectio Divina

Begin by engaging the visuals in the imagination. Image what you see as you read the Scripture from today’s worship text aloud. If you have time, read the scripture 2-3 times.

Take a few moments to write or draw any images, words, or colors that emerged for your while reading the Scripture.

Visio Divina

Center yourself by taking a deep breath and relaxing your body as best you can. Allow your shoulders to lower away from your ears. Let your arms rest in your lap and let your feet be

fully supported by the floor. Feel the weight of your body held by the chair. Spend this time in quiet. Open yourself up to God's voice.

(pause)

Take a deep breath in and out. Continue breathing deeply as you read the image. In this moment, simply notice the visual qualities of what you see: colors, line, shape, form, space, and texture.

(pause)

Now, take a deeper look. What parts of the image are your eyes most drawn to? What parts of the image did you quickly brush by or overlook?

(pause)

And now, use your imagination.

[Choose the prompt(s) that make the most sense for the visual]

Imagine yourself in this piece. Where would you be and how would you interact with what surrounds you?

Look at the figure(s). What story do you assign to each of them? What emotions would you give to them?

(pause)

Finally, observe your own emotions. How does this image make you feel?

(pause)

Read Artist Statement

See the inside cover of the bulletin to read the Artist Statement.

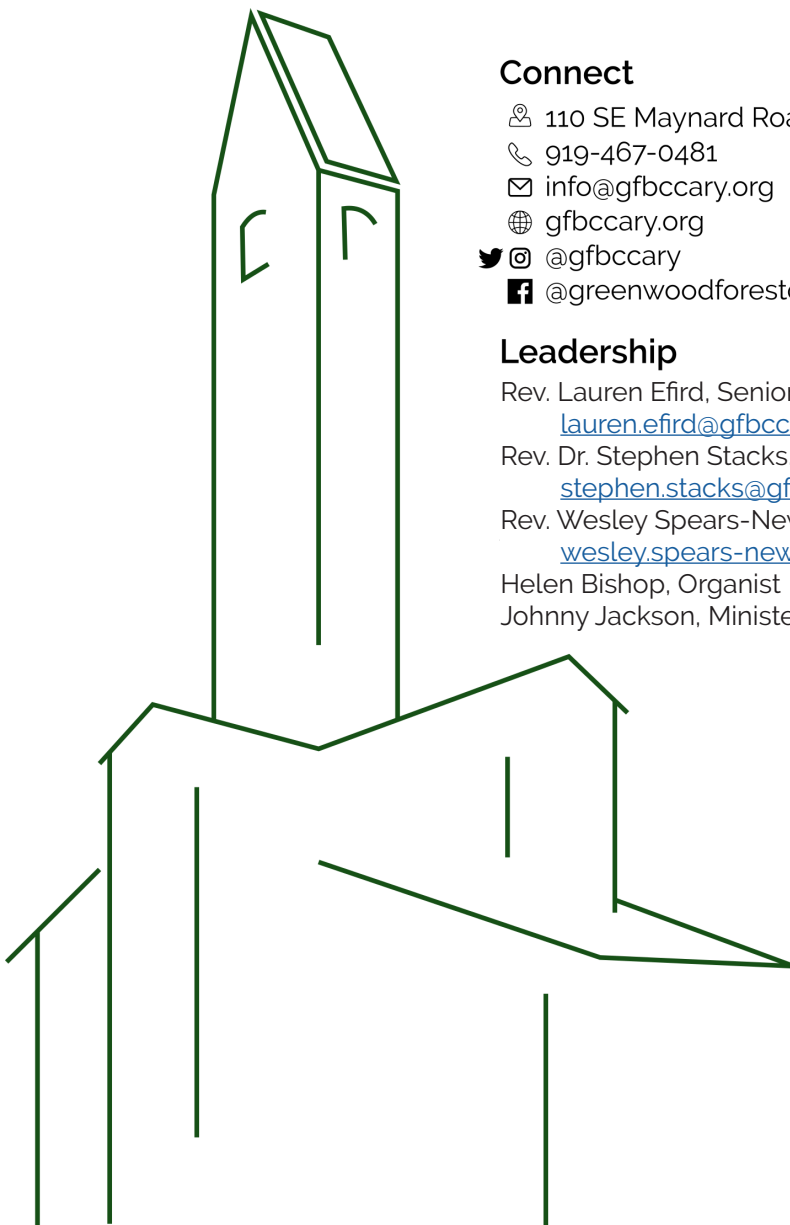
Respond

Take a few moments to write or draw any thoughts, ideas, or questions.

Discuss (Optional)

If doing this exercise as a group, you can use any of the following questions to guide discussion. There are no right or wrong answers; encourage participants to challenge what they see or hear in the scripture. We are called to question and wrestle.

- What do you see? What is most striking to you about this piece?
- What parts of the image are your eyes most drawn to, and what parts did you quickly brush by?
- If you could stand in this scene, where would you stand and why?
- What emotions emerge for you when you observe this painting?
- What primary emotion would you assign to the person/subjects portrayed in the painting and why?
- Do you identify with the artist's reflections? How does hearing the artist's statement influence how you see the art?
- How is the imagery cohesive with the scripture?
- If you were to paint this text, what imagery, colors, and details might you include?



Connect

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Johnny Jackson, Ministerial Intern
