



# Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

April 9, 2023



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Greenwood Forest  
Baptist Church

an inclusive  
community  
of faith

# Welcome

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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](http://gfbccary.org)



[greenwoodforestcary](https://www.facebook.com/greenwoodforestcary)



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# Artist Statement

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## *Rabbouni!*

**T. Denise Anderson | Inspired by John 20:1-18  
Oil on Canvas**

In the days immediately after a loved one's passing, we often muddle through life until the closure of the funeral, when it will all—or mostly—be over. What happens when it doesn't appear you'll have that closure anytime soon, or ever? Some of us have experienced delayed burials due to difficult circumstances. The closure the funeral provides helps us begin piecing life together in our loved one's absence. Without that ritual, it's incredibly difficult to move on.

This is the space in which Mary Magdalene finds herself. She arrives at the tomb to provide burial services for her dear teacher, only to find his body is gone. What grief that must have thrown her into, having her last act of love for him arrested like that! There is no reason to expect that the stranger speaking to her is her beloved teacher, and maybe that's why she doesn't recognize him immediately. It's in the intimacy of him calling her name that she realizes what's happening.

Here, I attempt to convey the grief, befuddlement, and ultimate realization that I imagine Mary experienced in this encounter. The light source is above her, as Jesus' simple address—"Mary"—invites her to shift from any potential navel-gazing and to pay attention to the heaven-crafted phenomenon before her. Moreover, Jesus' address to her comes from a deeply intimate place and is the only thing powerful enough to pierce through her grief. She is profoundly seen and known by her teacher. I want us to behold her the way that Jesus might have in that moment.

# Announcements

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## *ONE Wake Listening Sessions*

ONE Wake's organizing priorities depend on the concerns of its member institutions, including us! We'll be hosting listening sessions on April 18 (in the evening) and May 21 (in the afternoon/evening) to hear directly from you what pressures you're experiencing and what you'd like to see change where you live.

## *The Greenwood App*

A greenwood is a forest that is filled with life and abundance and that is what we hope for in your spiritual life. As a tool for you, we've developed an app called The Greenwood that you can use on your spiritual journey.



The Greenwood includes most of the practices and disciplines we explored together on the Discipleship Retreat this year, daily prayer for each day of the week, and access to all of our available discipleship resources. The Greenwood is coming soon to the Google Play store and Apple App Store but you can access a preview right now at [gfbccary.org/app](http://gfbccary.org/app).

## *Freedom School*

We'll be hosting a special Faith Formation series on faith and freedom movements April 23, May 7, 14, 21, and June 4. The curriculum is designed to prepare Freedom Riders for their trip this summer, but everyone in the church is invited to attend if they are interested! Freedom School will meet in Room C221.

## *Property Repurposing Meetings*

Come receive updates on the property repurposing process at a Town Hall on April 16 at 9:45am and Business Meeting on April 30 at 9:45am in the Fellowship Hall.

# Easter Lily Dedications

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Terry Allen in memory of Beverly Allen.

Chris and Toni Beal in honor of Faye Beal.

Faye Beal in memory of Don Beal.

The Beck Family in memory of Alvin and Hattie Beck, Bob and Alice Curti, and Leroy Walters.

The Brewer Family in memory of Dr. Luther Brewer.

Tom and Pat Brooks in honor of their children and grandchildren and in memory of their parents.

Nathan Bullock in honor of the GFBC staff.

Carol and Greg Carter in honor of their children and grandchildren.

Bill, Monty, and Sophie Coleman, Tess and Clay Setser in memory of Jennifer Denning.

Jane Griffin in memory of Ann Griffin Clawson and in honor of Greg Anderson Long.

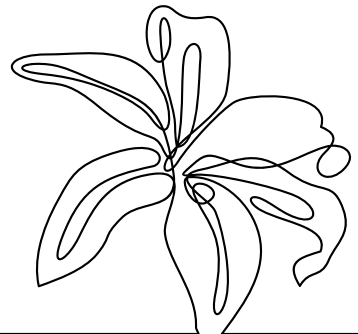
Jean Harris in memory of her husband, Jerry Harris.

Lisa and Teresa Mangum in memory of their father, Fred Mangum.

Randy and Zelma Palmer in memory of Zelma's parents, Thomas and Isabel Edwards, and Randy's father, Rev. W. L. Palmer, and in honor of Randy's mother, Katheron Palmer.

Gerry Ritter in memory of Harold D. Ritter and Dean Ritter and in honor of Scott and Denise Ritter and their children Ava and Erica Dean Ritter.

Richard Whisnant in memory of Elaine Whisnant.



# Community Notes Prayer Requests and Giving



## PRAY

*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  
Gilles Bikindou  
Katie Buchanan (Pat and Tom Brooks' niece)  
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)  
The Ragan Family at the death of Ernestine Ragan  
Fred Seeger  
Lee and Patti Webb  
Our partners at Ebenezer Baptist in Cuba



## GIVING

*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](http://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:**

#### **Media Center**

*The Greenwood Forest Media Center is a curated collection of progressive and inclusive Christian theology. If you've wanted to dive deeper into any special topics we've talked about in the past several years, we have books for you! You can reserve books online at [gfbccary.org/mediacenter](http://gfbccary.org/mediacenter) using your username (first initial and last name). On Sunday, it will be ready for you in the Narthex!*

*Your gifts to Greenwood Forest make this ministry possible!*

# Order of Worship Easter Sunday

† 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

† **Processional Hymn** | *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* (pg. 7)

**Welcome to Worship** | *Rev. Lauren Efird*

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed!**

**Passing of the Peace** 📖

**Preparation for Worship** | *Hosanna!* | arr. Jason Krug  
*GFBC Handbell Ensemble*

**Call to Worship (A Sanctified Art)** | *Johnny Jackson*

What are you looking for?

**The light before dawn.**

What are you looking for?

**A reason to hope.**

What are you looking for?

**Joy after grief and flowers after winter.**

What are you looking for?

**A place to belong.**

What are you looking for?

**We are looking for the Messiah.**

Good news! Come in. Love is alive!

**Surely God is in this place.**

**Invocation** | *Johnny Jackson*

**Hymn** | *The Day of Resurrection* (pg. 8)

**Offertory Prayer** | *Steve Denning*

Today's color is **white**, representing the glory and triumph of the resurrection.

## 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.

## Offering

We are taking up a physical offering this morning. Ushers will pass the plate down the pews to gather our gifts. Thank you for your generosity!

Our brass and percussion ensemble today includes Blair Biser, Catherine Glasgow, Julianne Rejesus, and Sean Glasgow.

**Offertory** | *The Trumpet Shall Sound* | G.F. Handel (pg. 10)  
Soloist: Yi Chen; Trumpet: Catherine Glasgow

† **Doxology** | *Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN* 📖

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
O praise God. Alleluia!  
Praise God above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
O praise God! O praise God!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**The Prayers of the People** | *Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome* 📖  
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.**

**Scripture Reading** | *John 20:1-18* | *Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks*

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

**Anthem** | *Easter* | *Ralph Vaughan Williams* (pg. 10)

**Sermon** | *Who Are You Looking For?* | *Rev. Efirid*

† **Hymn** | *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* (pg. 9) 📖

**Benediction** | *Rev. Efirid*

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

### 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.

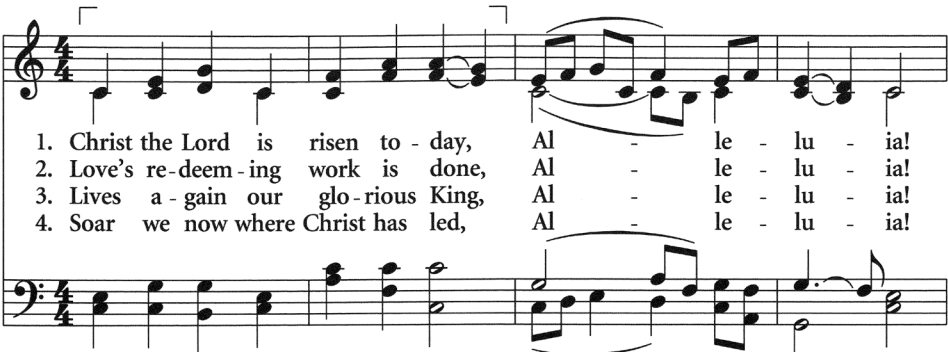
### Final Hymn: An Invitation

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!

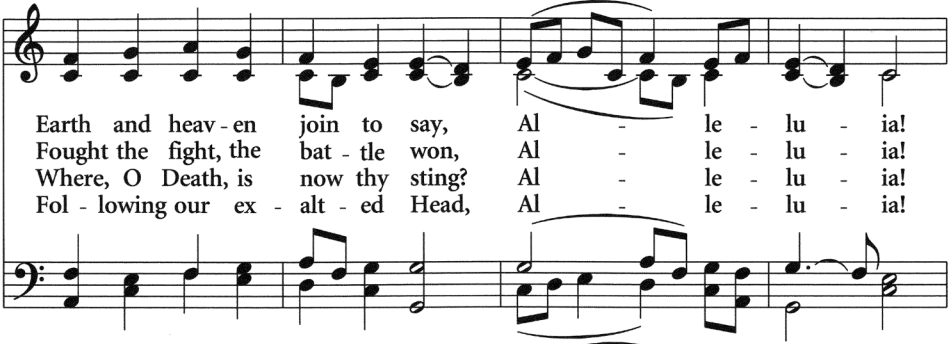
### Hallelujah Chorus

All are invited to come join the choir in the choir loft during the final hymn to sing the Hallelujah Chorus. Copies will be available in the choir loft.


# Christ the Lord is Risen Today



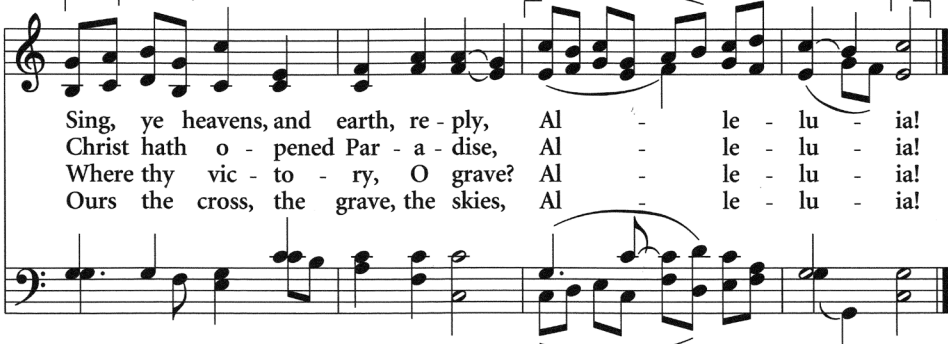
1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2. Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!



Earth and heav - en join to say, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where, O Death, is now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Death in vain for - bids Him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Dy - ing once He all doth save, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!



Sing, ye heavens, and earth, re - ply, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ hath o - pened Par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!



# The Day of Resurrection


1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;  
2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right  
3. Now let the heavens be joy - ful! Let earth her song be - gin!

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness; the Pass - o - ver of God.  
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light;  
The world re-sound in tri - umph, and all that is there - in;



From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,  
and, lis - tening to His ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend;

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.  
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end.



# Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee





1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
2. All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, earth and heaven re - flect Thy rays,  
3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,  
4. Mor - tals, join the might-y cho - rus which the morn-ing stars be - gan;




hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore Thee, o - pening to the sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!  
love di - vine is reign - ing o'er us, bring - ing all with - in its span.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;  
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ, our Broth - er — all who live in love are Thine;  
Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife;



giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day!  
sing - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in Thee.  
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine.  
joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward, in the tri - umph song of life.



# **Offertory** The Trumpet Shall Sound

G.F. Handel

Soloist: Yi Chen

Trumpet: Catherine Glasgow

Behold, I tell you a mystery:

We shall not all sleep; but we shall all be changed,

In a moment, in a twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

The trumpet shall sound

and the dead shall be raised incorruptible,

and we shall be changed.

# **Anthem** "Easter" from Five Mystical Songs

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Rise heart; thy Lord is risen. Sing his praise

Without delays,

Who takes thee by the hand, that thou likewise

With him may'st rise;

That, as his death calcined thee to dust,

His life may make thee gold, and much more, just.

Awake, my lute, and struggle for thy part

With all thy art.

The cross taught all wood to resound his name

Who bore the same.

His stretched sinews taught all strings, what key

Is best to celebrate this most high day.

Consort both heart and lute, and twist a song

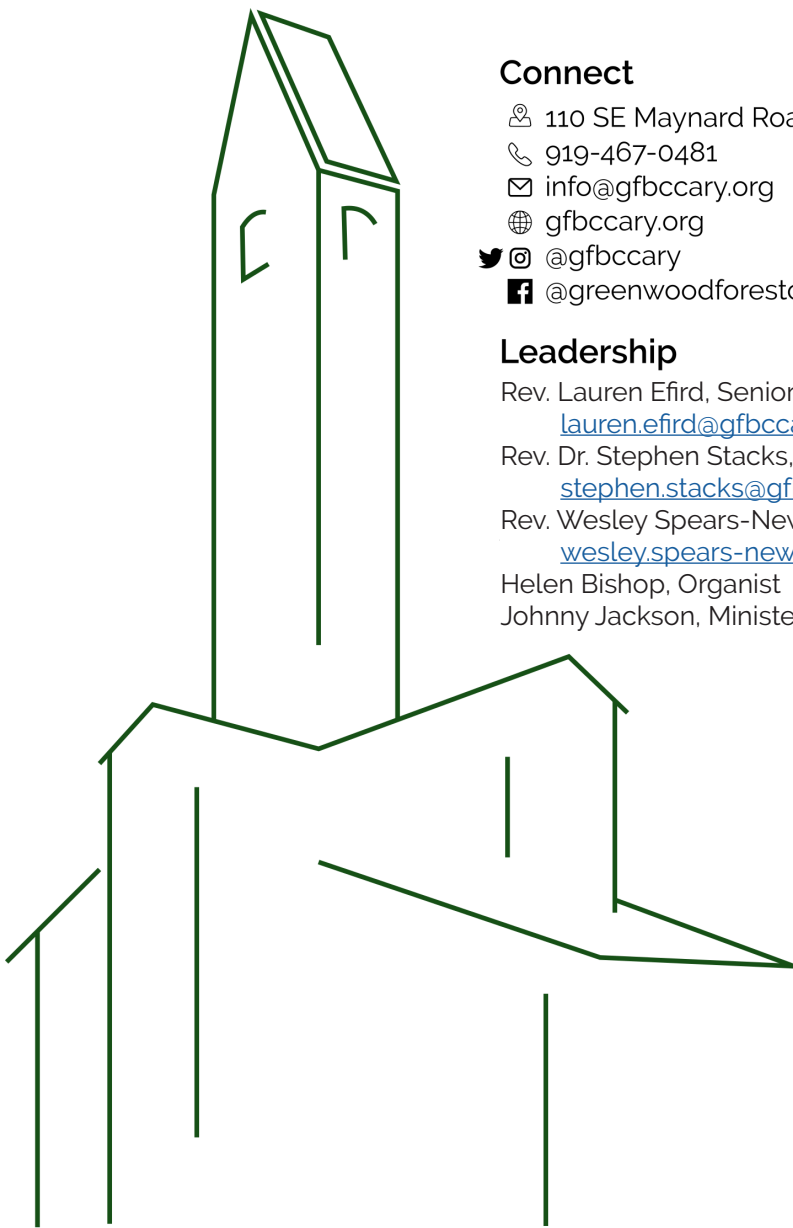
Pleasant and long:

Or since all music is but three parts vied,

And multiplied;

O let thy blessed Spirit bear a part,

And make up our defects with his sweet art.



## Connect

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## Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efird, Senior Pastor

[lauren.efird@gfbccary.org](mailto:lauren.efird@gfbccary.org)

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Associate Pastor

[stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org](mailto:stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org)

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

[wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org](mailto:wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org)

Helen Bishop, Organist

Johnny Jackson, Ministerial Intern

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