



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

Feb. 25, 2024



Scan for Digital

Bulletin Art Golden Hour

Nicolette Peñaranda | Inspired by John 13:1-20 | mixed media on canvas

Within the overall composition of this piece, we see the West African symbol aban, which means fortress and demonstrates power and authority. Aban is the central image of *Golden Hour* and it is duplicated around the perimeter of the piece like a mighty fortress. The gold-plated vessel at the top represents the water Jesus uses to wash the disciples' feet. Around it are miniature mpuannum, the five tufts of hair. In Ghanaian culture, it is said that a priestess wore this hairstyle giving the symbol a meaning of deep loyalty and priestly office. The water drips directly down onto swollen feet, feet that bear no name. The section to the left of the vessel holds a tearful Peter. He refuses Jesus' hospitality and then backtracks when he learns the value of merciful water. Around him contains dwannini mmen, the horns of rams, and nyansapo, the wisdom knot. [...] Across from the image of Peter we see the Eucharist. When orienting this piece in a diamond formation, the cup looks overflowing. But when the canvas is sitting as a square, the wine is tipping out of the chalice, dripping in unison with the vessel onto the aban. The Eucharist is also one of the ways we receive Christ's mercy. Body and blood broken for us. Water is very versatile. The vessel of water is providing mercy. The swollen feet are receiving mercy. Peter is asking for mercy. The chalice has shed mercy.

There is a particular time of day we refer to as the "golden hour." This is when photographers love to take photos as the sun sits at a particular point, either after sunrise or before sunset, when daylight is redder and softer than when the sun is higher in the sky. A serious photographer does anything to capture that moment. [Depicted here] might just be the golden hour for the disciples. Jesus and his crew are tucked away, having their Passover meal. They are cleansing themselves and carrying on not realizing this will be the last moment of peace they will have. Sharing a meal with the people you love is one of the most glorious moments anyone could have—before what will end as a night of torture and betrayal. While Peter is tearful in this image, the overall vibe of *Golden Hour* is soft, rich. It feels like it is captured in marble as if nothing can destroy it.

-- Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda

This piece is normally reserved for Maundy Thursday, but I selected it for today based on the special moment we share with our friends from North Carolina Central University this morning. It is our prayer that the service this morning would be a golden hour that reflects the wonder and mercy of God. Reflected in the music of these composers, the talent of these singers and musicians, and the collaboration of our choirs is a glimmer of what God wants for the world: wisdom, love, and mercy. In particular, I believe the movements of this piece reflect the movements of the Sermon in Song -- the mercy shown to the pilgrim child is the kingdom of God.

-- Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome



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.

CONTENTS

- 3 | Announcements
- 5 | Community Notes
- 7 | Order of Worship
- 9 | Songbook

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



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



[@gfbccary](https://www.instagram.com/gfbccary)

Announcements Church Events and Updates

Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month, our worship services during February feature music from Black composers and artists, as well as liturgical elements from the African American Heritage Hymnal. Our keynote preacher this year was Rev. Racquel Gill. We also welcome back the NCCU University Choir on February 25 to sing a program of spirituals in collaboration with our Sanctuary Choir.

Here at GFBC, 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 throughout the year. 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.

Save the Date for Randy's Retirement Party!

We'll be celebrating Randy Palmer's retirement on March 17 at 2pm. Be sure to mark your calendars and be prepared to join us! In appreciation for Randy's 20 years of service, we will be collecting a love offering. If you'd like to contribute to this offering, please give your contribution to Andy Jarrell. You may make checks payable to Andy Jarrell and drop them at the church office, or you can use Venmo to send money to @Andy-Jarrell (last digits of phone number are 3662). Donations will be collected through, Wednesday, March 13th.

Tucson Orientation and Informational Meeting

If you're coming with us to Tucson this summer or are interested in learning more, we'll be holding an informational meeting at 2pm on March 10.

Bluebird Boxes for Sale

Like last year, Diana Morde will be taking orders for Blue Bird Boxes for you to play host to baby birds this spring! Cost is \$22 per box and proceeds benefit the final stages of the organ reconstruction. You can contact Diana at 919-801-7433 to place your orders.

ONE Wake Annual Meeting (3/7 @ 7pm)

Join hundreds of leaders across Wake County for ONE Wake's 2024 Annual Meeting. In 2024 ONE Wake has the opportunity to take action to win on our diverse set of grassroots priorities, including: winning fair treatment and compensation for the 700 low income adults and children living at the Chatham Estates mobile home park; continuation and expansion of the popular SmartRide microtransit program in Zebulon and Eastern Wake County; and local issue campaigns to address our priorities around mental health, rising utility rates, and permanent White Flag facilities for people experiencing homelessness.

Join GFBC and ONE Wake on March 7 @ 7:00pm at St. Ambrose Episcopal Church (813 Darby St. Raleigh, NC 27610) so we can kick off 2024 with POWER!

HOW TO READ YOUR BIBLE

March 1-3

Sign up at
gfbccary.org/bible



Discipleship Retreat

Our annual discipleship retreat is coming soon (March 1-3). This year we'll be digging into how to read the Bible. Sign up and check out the full schedule at gfbccary.org/bible. Topics will include authorship, canon, translation, interpretation, imagination, and more! Lauren Efir, Stephen Stacks, Wes Spears-Newsome, and Lynn McLaughlin will be facilitating sessions over the weekend. Cost is \$25.

Deadline to sign up is Monday, February 28!

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
Valerie Brooks
George Daniel
Terry Mitchem
Aaliyah Murray (family of Gail Jones)
Katheron E. Palmer (mother of Randy Palmer)
Jennie Pegram
Fred Seeger
Mathias Warne (family of Gail Jones)
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
- 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

We're going to see a lot from our Music Ministry this month! Each week, Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Helen Bishop, and the Sanctuary Choir lead us in hymns; we saw our youth musicians lead us in worship on Feb. 4; and we'll witness the choir's collaboration with NCCU's University Choir on Feb. 25. These efforts wouldn't be possible without your generosity and gifts!

Welcome to the 3rd Annual NCCU/GFBC Collaboration!

Ensembles

The North Carolina Central University Choir has distinguished itself as a North Carolina treasure and one of the nation's most outstanding choral ensembles. With its diverse repertoire of sacred and secular music, the choir delights audiences with traditional church music, anthems, oratorios, spirituals and opera and musical theater choruses as well as contemporary gospel. In its 63-year history, the choir has recorded five albums and one compact disc. The choir has a rich touring history and is composed of music majors and a select group of non-music majors chosen through audition.

The Greenwood Forest Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir is a volunteer chorus that demonstrates the wealth of musical talent at GFBC. In addition to performing major works, the Sanctuary Choir provides leadership for congregational singing and an anthem for worship most Sundays. One of the hallmarks of the GFBC Sanctuary Choir is its versatility—from gospel to Western art music to jazz, the GFBC Sanctuary Choir performs at a level of excellence rarely seen in a church choir.

Conductors

Roberta Laws joined the faculty at North Carolina Central University in 2014 as Instructor of Voice and Director of the University Choir. She is a celebrated vocalist who, after completing her bachelor's and master's degrees in vocal performance at Boston Conservatory, went on to perform on operatic and concert stages around the world with the most elite ensembles. In 2016, Ms. Laws was awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award by the North Carolina Central University Department of Music, and in 2018 she was granted the honor of being a guest conductor for the Concert Choir at the 58th Intercollegiate Music Association Conference.

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks is the Associate Pastor of Worship and Faith Formation at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church where he directs the Sanctuary Choir and leads all aspects of the congregation's musical and educational life. He completed his bachelor's degree in church music at Furman University, his master's degree in choral conducting at Boston University where he studied with Dr. Ann Howard Jones, and his Ph.D. at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he wrote a dissertation on civil rights freedom singing in U.S. culture after 1968. He is also an adjunct professor at NC Central where he has taught musicology and musicianship courses for the Department of Music.

Instrumentalists

Helen Bishop, piano (accompanist for GFBC Sanctuary Choir)

Grover Wilson, piano (accompanist for NC Central University Choir)

Order of Worship Second 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 | *Sorída* | arr. Rosephanye Powell (pg. 13)

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Efirid

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (based on *Over My Head*) 📖

Over our heads, we hear music in the air.

There must be a God somewhere!

We lift up our voices to you, God.

May our singing be a sweet sound to your ears.

Inhabit our praise and inspire our hearts.

Heal us—make us whole.

We need the fire and balm of your Spirit.

We stand in awe of your beauty and majesty.

Over our heads, we hear music in the air.

There must be a God somewhere!

Invocation | Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

✝ **Hymn** | *Wade in the Water* (pg. 9)

Offertory Prayer | Ken Scott

Offertory

✝ **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.

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, expressed through a peace sign, a handshake, a wave, conversation, etc. We hope you will take the time to greet and speak with those around you or with someone you haven't met!

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.

The Offertory

During the offertory music, we pass plates across the pews as a way to make our collective offering to God and the wellbeing of this community. A short doxology follows as we offer our gifts.

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.

† **Hymn** | *Steal Away* (pg. 10)

Meditation | *Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks*

Sermon in Song (pgs. 13-14)

City Called Heaven | arr. Josephine Poelinitz

Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child | John Carter

Here's One | arr. Mark Hayes

Keep Your Lamps | arr. Andre Thomas

† **Hymn** | *Lift Every Voice and Sing* (pg. 11) 📖

Benediction | *Hear My Prayer* | arr. Moses Hogan (pg. 14)

Postlude

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!

Thank You Roberta Laws & the NCCU University Choir!

We are thrilled to have the NCCU Choir back with us this year for the third year of our annual collaboration.

A special thank you to Roberta Laws, Grover Wilson, and all the students who make this incredible day possible. If you'd like to make a gift to the NCCU Choir, make checks out to "NCCU Foundation, Inc" with "University Choir 60323" in the memo line, or give cash to Rev. Dr. Stacks to pass onto them.

Wade in the Water

Wade in the wa - ter, wade in the wa - ter chil - dren,

Wade in the wa - ter, God's gon - na trou - ble the wa - ter.

Verses

1. See that host all dressed in white,
2. See that band all dressed in red, God's gon - na trou - ble the
3. If you don't be - lieve I've been re - deemed,

The lead - er looks like the Is - ra - el - ite,
wa - ter. Looks like the band that Mo - ses led,
Just fol - low me down to Jor - dan's stream,

God's gon - na trou - ble the wa - ter. D.C.

Steal Away

Steal a-way, steal a-way, steal a-way to Je - sus!

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The melody in the treble staff consists of quarter and eighth notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

Steal a-way, steal a-way home, I ain't got long to stay here.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff includes a measure with a flat sign under the second note. The lyrics are positioned below the treble staff.

Verses
Unison

1. My Lord, He calls me, He calls me by the thun - der;
2. Green trees are bend-ing, Poor sin - ners stand a trem-bling;
3. My Lord, He calls me, He calls me by the light - ning;

The verses section is written in unison on a single treble staff. It features a simple melody of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are listed below the staff.

The trum-pet sounds with - in my soul; I ain't got long to stay here.

div. D.C.

The final system includes a *div.* (divisi) instruction above the treble staff and a *D.C.* (Da Capo) instruction above the treble staff. The melody and accompaniment conclude with a final chord.

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 the
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.

Prelude Sorída

arr. Rosephanye Powell | Soloist: Natalie Fariior, Aliyah Busby, Ella Shynett, Leanne Glasgow;
Percussionist: Adam Efrid

Sorída, darida (hello, hello)

Greetings, my brothers

Greetings, my sisters

Greet everybody

Love one another

Wave to your brothers

Wave to your sisters

Greet everybody

Love one another

Sermon in Song

City Called Heaven

arr. Josephine Poelinitz | Soloist: Blair Biser

I am a pilgrim, a pilgrim of sorrow

I'm left in this wide world, this wide world alone

Ain't got no hope, got no hope for tomorrow

Trying to make it, make heaven my home

Sometimes I'm tossed and I'm driven, Lord

Heard of a city, a city called heaven

Trying to make it, make heaven my home

Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child

John Carter | Soloist: Morgan Burgess

Sometimes I feel like a motherless child

A long way from home

Sometimes I feel like I'm almost done

A long way from home

True believer

A long way from home

Here's One

arr. Mark Hayes | Soloist: Aliyah Busby

Talk about a child who do love Jesus,
Here's one, here's one.

Talk about a child who do love Jesus,
Here's one, here's one.

Ever since I heard the gospel story
I've been walking up the road to glory,
Talk about a child that's been converted,
Here's one.

Keep Your Lamps

arr. Andre Thomas | Percussionist: Adam Efirid

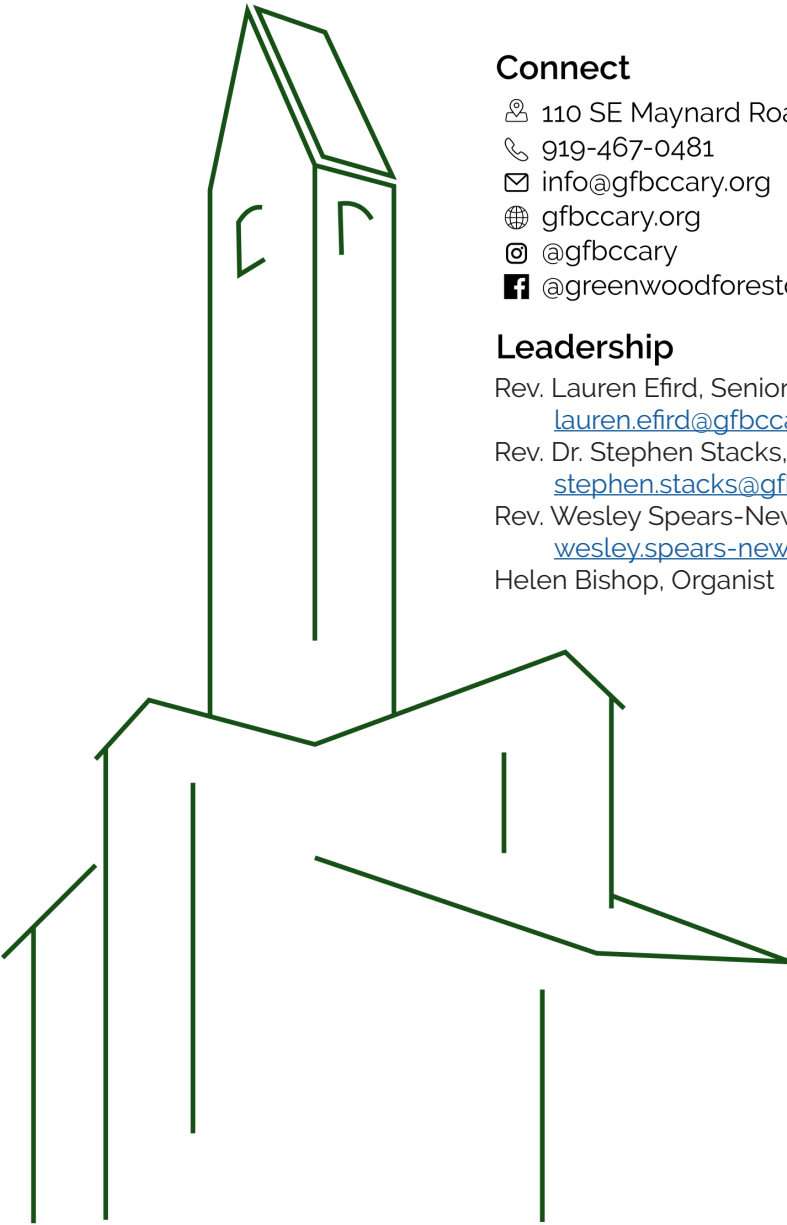
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
the time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't get weary 'til your work is done.
Christian, journey soon be over,
the time is drawing nigh.

Benediction Hear My Prayer

arr. Moses Hogan

O Lord, please hear my prayer, in the mornin' 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.
Amen.



Connect

📍 110 SE Maynard Road Cary, NC 27511

☎ 919-467-0481

✉ info@gfbccary.org

🌐 gfbccary.org

📷 @gfbccary

📘 @greenwoodforestcary

Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efird, Senior Pastor

lauren.efird@gfbccary.org

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Associate Pastor

stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org

Helen Bishop, Organist

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.

Special resources for Lent and Easter by A Sanctified Art (sanctifiedart.org).