



Greenwood Forest

Baptist Church

March 24, 2024



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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



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



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Announcements Church Events and Updates

Easter Lilies Now Available

You can purchase Easter Lilies and bulletin dedications (\$15) today at gfbccary.org/lilies. The flowers will adorn the sanctuary on Easter Sunday and you can take them home after worship.

Egg Hunt after Worship

Kids are welcome to join us for an egg hunt following the worship service today. Meet us in the Narthex (entryway) to join in!

Good Friday Service of Tenebrae (7pm)

Please join us for our Good Friday Service of Tenebrae in the Sanctuary at 7pm on March 29. The Good Friday service commemorates the death of Jesus through the retelling of his final days and hours. We'll take communion and depart in silence as we wait for what God will do next.

Karen Burden's Anniversary

March 24 marks Karen Burden's 10th year as our Office Administrator. Karen is the first voice you hear when you call the church phone and often the first face you see when you visit the church during the week. She is critical in ensuring our church functions from day to day and we are forever grateful for her hard work. If you call or swing by the church this week be sure to give Karen an extra "thank you!" for all her efforts.

Bulletin Artist's Statement

John's version of [the Triumphal Entry] provides minimal details and the disciples are hardly mentioned at all. However, the text does a unique thing: it breaks the fourth wall to tell us something important:

"His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered" (John 12:16).

Is Peter at the parade? Does he lay down his cloak and follow the others? Does he sing songs of loudest praise? Or is he lost in the cacophony of the crowds, confused by and afraid of what is taking place? Maybe he is thinking about the blur of events in the days just before: Lazarus raised from the dead, Jesus anointed in Bethany, the crowds knocking down their doors, the plot to kill Jesus and Lazarus swelling like a darkened, fast-approaching sky.

They didn't understand at first, but then they remembered.

This image attempts to visualize these two locations in time and space. On the left, Peter looks out from the palm procession—his eyes glazed over as he watches Jesus riding into the city where he will surely meet his death. As the crowds sing "hosanna!" for a new, soon-to-be-killed-king, the dissonance of the scene causes Peter to tremble—like a guitar string snapped suddenly mid-tune.

In the top right is Peter's mirror image. In this mirage, we glimpse the future. Peter stands aghast at the empty tomb, waves of hope and relief rushing through him like a river of grace, the remembering happening all at once—like a childhood song plucked from memory, like the refrain of a chorus that won't let you go: it's true, it's true, thank God it's true.

- Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Inspired by John 12:12-16
Acrylic painting on canvas with digital drawing

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
Aaliyah Murray (family of Gail Jones)
Katheron E. Palmer (mother of Randy Palmer)
Jennie Pegram
Fred Seeger
Mathias Warne (family of Gail Jones)
Gladys Wells
Alison Zieglmeier
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:

Children's Ministry

Those laughs and giggles you hear on the way to worship are probably coming from our children's ministry! The Rainbow Room (preschool) and the Wonder Room (K-5) host our kids every week in a loving and supportive space to learn about God and feel that they have a place to belong in their church. These efforts wouldn't be possible without your generosity and gifts!

Order of Worship Palm Sunday (Holy Week)

✝ 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 | *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* (pg. 6)

Welcome to Worship | *Rev. Lauren Efrid*

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (Sanctified Art) 📖

Sing songs of loudest praise!

Hosanna!

Sing songs that are unashamed.

Hosanna!

Sing songs without being afraid.

Hosanna!

Sing for the God of tomorrow and today.

Hosanna!

Let us worship the One worthy to be praised.

Invocation | *Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome*

✝ **Hymn** | *Lift Up Your Heads* (pg. 7)

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, 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.



What is Palm Sunday?

Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week, the last week of the season of Lent, in which we remember the last days of Jesus. Palm Sunday specifically commemorates the day Jesus entered Jerusalem to much fanfare from the populace (and to much derision from those who held power in Jerusalem). Our celebration of Holy Week concludes on Good Friday with our service of Tenebrae at 7pm on March 29.

Offertory | *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* | arr. Lloyd Larson 📖

† **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 | *Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks* 📖
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** | *My Song is Love Unknown* (pg. 8)

Reading | *John 12:12-16* | *Rev. Efir*
The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Meditation | *Songs of Loudest Praise* | *Rev. Spears-Newsome*

Anthem | *Zion's Walls* (pg. 10)

Reading | *John 18:15-18, 25b-27* | *Rev. Spears-Newsome*
The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Meditation | *Prone to Leave the God I Love* | *Rev. Efir*

† **Hymn** | *Go to Dark Gethsemane* (pg. 9; vv. 1-3) 📖

Benediction | *Rev. Efir*

Postlude | *Wondrous Love* | arr. Eugene Butler

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

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!

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

1. All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to Thee, Re - deem - er, King,
2. The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing Thee on high;
3. To Thee, be - fore Thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.
and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.
to Thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.

Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, Thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore Thee went;
Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es, ac - cept the praise we bring,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One!
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore Thee we pre - sent.
who in all good de - light - est, Thou good and gra - cious King!

Lift Up Your Heads

1. Lift up your heads, you might - y gates; be - hold, the
2. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
3. Re - deem - er, come, we o - pen wide our hearts to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
You; here, Lord, a - bide: Your in - ner pres - ence

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here!
heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer, and love, and joy.
let us feel; Your grace and love in us re - veal.

My Song is Love Unknown

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from heav - en's throne sal - va - tion to be -
3 Some - times we strew his way, and his sweet prais - es
4 Un - heed - ing, we will have our dear Lord made a -
5 Here might I stay and sing, no sto - ry so di -

me, love to the love - less shown that they might love - ly
stow; the world that was his own would not its Sav - ior
sing, re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to our
way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of life to
vine: nev - er was love, dear King, nev - er was grief like

be. O who am I that for my sake my
know. But O my Friend, my Friend in - deed, who
King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all our breath, and
slay. Yet stead - fast he to suf - fering goes, that
thine. This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I

Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
at my need his life did spend!
for his death we thirst and cry.
he his foes from thence might free.
all my days could glad - ly spend.

Go to Dark Gethsemane



1. Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, you who feel the tempt-er's power;
2. Fol - low to the judg-ment hall; view the Lord of life ar-raigned;
3. Cal-vary's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor-ing at His feet,
4. Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid His breath-less clay;



your Re-deem - er's con - flict see; watch with Him one bit - ter hour;
O the worm-wood and the gall! O the pangs His soul sus-tained!
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.
all is sol - i - tude and gloom; who has tak - en Him a - way?



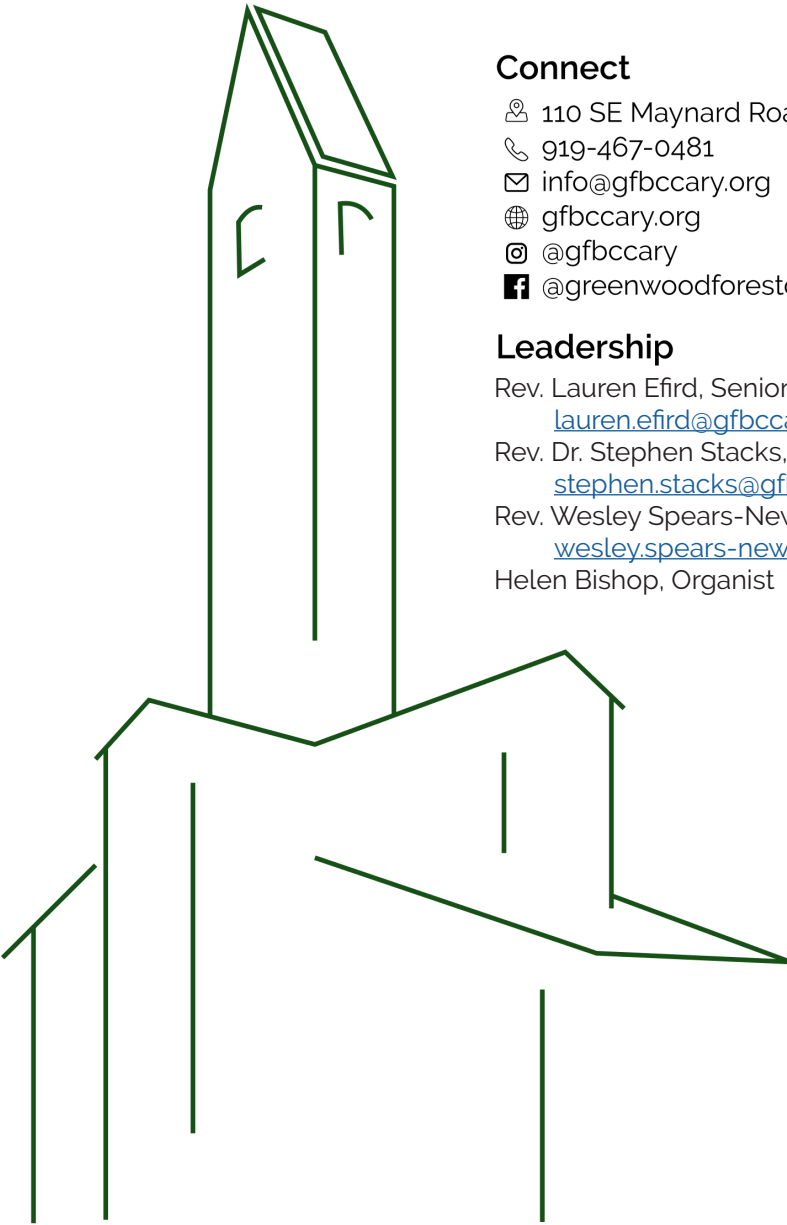
turn not from His griefs a - way; learn of Je - sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suf-fering, shame, or loss; learn of Him to bear the cross.
"It is fin - ished!" Hear the cry; learn of Je - sus Christ to die.
Christ is risen! He meets our eyes: Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.



Anthem Zion's Walls

Aaron Copeland

Come fathers and mothers,
Come sisters and brothers,
Come join us in singing the praises of Zion.
O fathers, don't you feel determined
To meet within the walls of Zion?
We'll shout and go round
The walls of Zion.



Connect

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Leadership

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Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

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Helen Bishop, Organist

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