

## Greenwood Forest Baptist Church March 31, 2024





### 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  $(\mathfrak{D})$ )) 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.







### **Lily Dedications**

The lilies that adorn the sanctuary today were given by members of the Greenwood Forest community in memory or honor of their loved ones.

Faye Beal in memory of Don Beal

Chuck and Susan Beck in honor of Nancy Walters

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

The Camp Family in memory of Ray Camp

Greg and Carol Carter in honor of their grandchildren: Grace, Carter, and Clark

Jennifer, Tom, and Sarah Coltrane in honor of Jean Harris and in memory of Jerry Harris

Steve and Vivian Denning in memory of Jennifer Denning and in honor of Marc, Morgan, and Ellery Denning

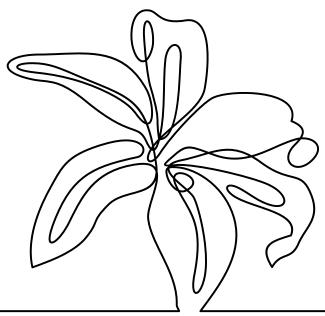
Jean Harris in memory of Jerry Harris and in honor of her family

PJ Harris in honor of Margaret Curnier

Sue and Greg Hughes in memory of Joe Hughes

Virgil and Gail Jones in memory of their parents, Dorothy and Ford Mastin and Sarah and Gerald Jones

Gerry Ritter in memory of Harold D. Ritter and Dean Ritter



### **Community Notes and Announcements**



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
Jo Brooks
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)
Patti Webb
Gladys Wells
Kathleen Wicker
Alison Zieglmeier
Our partners at Ebenezer Baptist in Cuba

### **New Teaching Series!**

Dr. Lydia Hoyle and Rev. Bucky Sydnor will present three different interpretive approaches to the story of Lazarus in John 11 on April 14–28. Lydia will teach on April 14 and 21, focusing on eastern orthodox and imaginative/contemplative approaches to the text, and Bucky will teach on April 28, focusing on the historical critical approach. It will be a fascinating three weeks of diving into one of the most interesting passages in John's gospel.



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.

### 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** | Christ the Lord is Risen Today (pg. 6)

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

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship (Sanctified Art)

Yesterday we thought death had won.

Yesterday we thought all was lost.

Yesterday we thought Christ was gone.

But not today.

Today we know that love has won.

Today we know that hope is real.

Today we know that Christ is here.

We have a reason to hope.

We have a reason to sing!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ is risen today.

**Invocation** | Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

**Hymn** | *The Day of Resurrection (pg. 7)* 

+ Offertory Prayer | Carol Carter

**Offertory** | Up From the Grave | arr. Redeemer Presbyterian

+ 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!

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

### **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** | *Alleluia No. 1 (pg. 8)* 

**Reading** | John 20:1-10, 21:1-19 | Rev. Dr. Stacks
The word of God for us, the people of God. **Thanks be to God.** 

**Anthem** | "The Ground" from Sunrise Mass (pg. 10)

**Sermon** | *Here's My Heart* | *Rev. Efird* 

**† Hymn** | Come Thou Fount (pg. 9)

**Benediction** | Rev. Efird

Postlude | "Hallelujah" from Messiah | arr. Handel

### **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**

If you'd like to join the choir in singing the Hallelujah Chorus, come join them in the loft during "Come Thou Fount"!



# The Day of Resurrection



### Alleluia No. 1





### **Anthem** The Ground

from Sunrise Mass by Ola Gjeilo

Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Osana in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domina Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi Dona nobis pacem.

The heavens and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world Grant us peace.

### Bulletin Artwork Feed My Sheep

by Nicolette Peñaranda Inspired by John 21:1-19 Yarn and paper collage on canvas

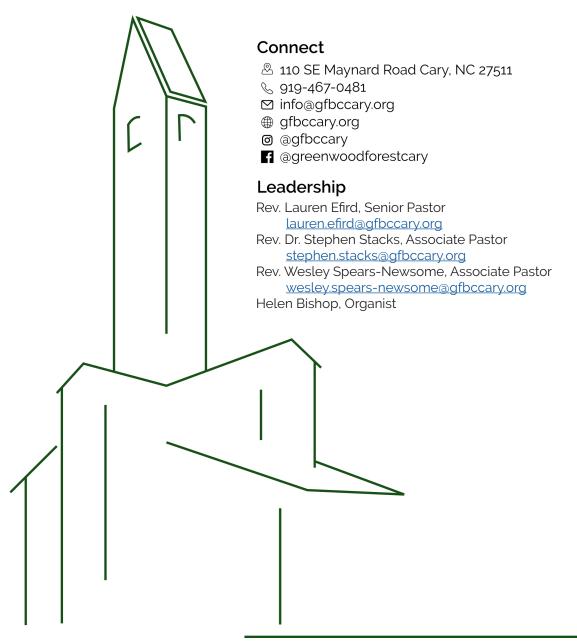
This post-resurrection story concludes the wandering for Peter so the subject of this piece sits in front of the Adinkra symbol, Nkyinkyim, for life's twisted journey. We have seen the ins and outs of his ministry as he accompanies Jesus, which brings us to this dialogue between the two. Peter is asked three times if he loves Jesus, which to all he replies in the affirmative. In this piece, the two of them are portrayed as sheep, Peter being at the right hand of Jesus. The sheep are branded with Agyinduwura at the center of their chests. They carry with them a symbol of loyalty and faithfulness. They are loyal to Jesus, faithful to the promise of salvation, and accepting of their duty to carry the Good News with them to the people of Christ. The face of each sheep is the symbol Kokuromotie to represent cooperation and harmony. Jesus asking Peter to feed his sheep demonstrates the faith that Iesus has in Peter to do this work. This value of cooperation is also present in the Mpatapo-shaped flowers in the field. They are symbols of peace, forgiveness, and reconciliation. Remember, Peter denied his

relationship with Jesus several times before Jesus was executed. Above the sheep sits Kojo Baiden. God has traditionally been represented as the sun in various cultures, which brings us to this omnipresent symbol operating as such in this piece. And to the left we see Akoma, or hearts. While we interpret the heart as love, it is also a symbol for endurance and patience. Peter gets to this point by maintaining goodwill and faith in the message of Jesus. He stumbled through the journey and at times caused more harm than good, but Christ was also patient with him.

Here's my heart. Here are the things I care about so deeply. And you—someone who makes mistakes, doesn't follow directions, and sometimes even betrays me—you are so loved and trusted enough to keep this good work going even after I'm gone.

This is a message to all of us. It doesn't matter how poorly you may think of yourself or how others may view you. To Christ, you are beautifully and fearfully made. And Christ believes in you in spite of it all.

(You can learn more about the Adinkra symbols used here at adinkrasymbols.org/symbols.)



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