



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

February 9, 2025



Keynote Preacher for Black History Month

Rev. Dr. Mycal Brickhouse



Rev. Dr. Mycal Xavier Brickhouse is a distinguished community leader and a proactive change agent. His journey in faith and leadership has seen him ordained as an itinerant elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, pastoring in North Carolina, and serving as the Director of Alumni Relations at Duke Divinity School. Currently, he is the Managing Director of Programs and Grants at Leadership Education at Duke Divinity.

A lifelong Tar Heel, Rev. Brickhouse graduated from UNC Chapel Hill and went on to Duke Divinity School to earn a Master of Divinity Degree and his Doctorate of Ministry. He has completed the Black Theology and Leadership Institute at Princeton Theological Seminary and the Millennial Leaders Project Summer Conference at Union Theological Seminary. He is a trained frontline fundraiser, completing the

Discipline of Frontline Fundraising through Plus Delta Partners.

An active volunteer, Rev. Brickhouse served on the strategy team of ONE Wake, a broad-based community organizing group. He is also a member of the Board of Directors for The Colossian Forum, an organization committed to fostering Christian dialogue and reconciliation. Rev. Brickhouse has contributed to esteemed publications, including *Sojourners*, *Faith and Leadership*, and *The Christian Recorder*—the oldest existing periodical published by African Americans in the United States. He has been featured on BBC, NBC, and other local television networks.

Rev. Brickhouse is happily married to Kristin McCullough Brickhouse. They are proud parents of two beautiful daughters, Micah and Manaia, and a handsome son, Makoa. Their family life is a testament to the love and faith that Rev. Brickhouse preaches and practices.

Rev. Dr. Mycal Xavier Brickhouse continues to inspire and lead with a vision rooted in faith, education, and community service. His work and commitment make a profound impact on those he serves and the broader community.

Bulletin Art

Aaron Douglas, "The Toiler," (c. 1935) oil or tempera on board

Originally from Kansas, artist Aaron Douglas relocated to Harlem in New York City to take part in the growing movement of Black art, literature, music, and thought now known as the Harlem Renaissance. He first started painting in the European traditions but his fellow artists encouraged him to look into traditional African art, technique, symbolism, and motifs. He went on to study in Paris and Haiti to develop his artistic voice and aesthetic.

In this work, "The Toiler," a man stands in the field with a hoe looking toward a bright light coming from the edge of the canvas. No context is given for the time period, so numerous interpretations are possible. The man may be enslaved and looking toward the promise of freedom. He may be a sharecropper struggling in the post-Reconstruction South looking for hope and something greater. He may be a farmer with his own land looking upon the blessing of God pronounced over his labor. He may be experiencing a call from his own labors to something greater.

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, citizenship statuses, 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, transcripts of the sermon, and large print bulletins are available at the back of the sanctuary.



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.



Announcements | Church Events and Updates

Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month, our worship services during February will feature music from Black composers and artists, as well as liturgical elements from the African American Heritage Hymnal. 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.

Guest Preachers:

February 9 - Rev. Dr. Mycal Brickhouse

February 16 - Dr. Rose Cornelious

February 23 - Dr. Latonya Penny

Online Immigration Workshop

The United Methodist Church is hosting a virtual workshop on Wednesday February 12 at 7:00-8:30pm on the state of immigration laws and enforcement and how they're affecting religious congregations, church members, and our broader community — including recent mass deportation efforts.

Visit nccumc.org/hope to register. The speaker will be Doug Thie, a partner with Clawson & Staubes, LLC, who practices exclusively immigration law.

Cary Housing Survey

The Town of Cary is looking for input on the future of housing in our town. Please consider giving your input to a survey at housing.carync.gov to support affordable housing development.

Altar Flowers for 2025

If you would like to provide flowers (\$80) in honor or in memory of someone in 2025, please contact the church office.

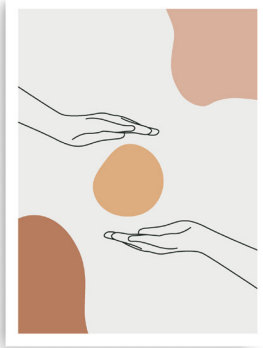
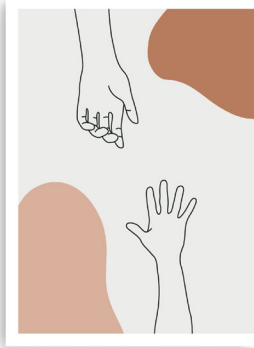
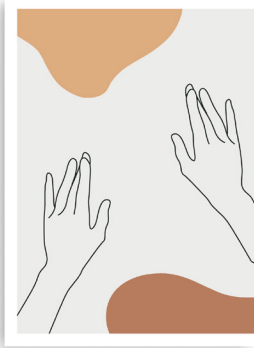
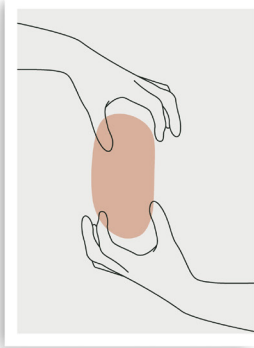
Discipleship Retreat

Make plans to join us for the 2025 Discipleship Retreat on March 7 through 9! This year will focus on the theme of Vocation in Daily Life as a pathway to deeper direction and spiritual growth in this time of uncertainty and anxiety. Register on Realm now! If you need help accessing Realm or registering, please contact Rev. Spears-Newsome.

Lord's Prayer Update

During our recent churchwide Faith Formation series on the Lord's Prayer, we've made some updates to our liturgy. First, you'll see an asterisk next to "Father" at the beginning indicating that you may say any title/name of God to begin the prayer. Second, there was broad consensus that "debts" rather than "transgressions" was a more faithful rendering of the prayer and better spoke to its intentions. Many English-speaking traditions already use this language. That is now reflected in the bulletin.

Community Notes | Prayer Requests and Giving



Prayer

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.

Helen Bishop
Jo Brooks
Karen Burden
Barney Graham
Doris Martin
Jennie Pegram
Fred Seeger
Mathias Warne (family of Gail and Virgil Jones)
Kathleen Wicker
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: Discipleship Ministry

Our Discipleship Ministry first and foremost consists of our Faith Formation teachers who lead classes and small groups. We also have churchwide Faith Formation sessions focused on specific topics, like the one recently concluded on the Lord's Prayer. In March, we are hosting our annual Discipleship Retreat at the church focused this year on Christian vocation in our daily lives. We hope you'll join us March 7-9 for these important reflections and conversations!

Order of Worship | 5th Sunday after Epiphany

✝ 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 | Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring | J.S. Bach, William Bradbury
with Jesus Loves Me | Calvin Taylor

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Efrid

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (based on *Black Liturgies* by Cole Arthur Riley) 📖

God, how long?

Justice is coming.

We will not feel guilty for hope.

We'll accept nothing less than freedom.

We will not make excuses for evil.

Consequence is holy.

God who sends the thunder and lightning,

Obliterate every system that threatens the dignity and shalom of the cosmos.

Work in spite of all our deficiencies—our greed, our deceit,
our apathy—

So that every injustice may at last be made right.

Invocation | Steve Denning

✝ **Hymn** | Lift Every Voice and Sing (v. 2, pg. 7)

Offertory Prayer | Leta Huntsinger

Offertory | It Is Well With My Soul | Philip Bliss, Calvin Taylor 📖

✝ **Doxology** | Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

Transcendent God, we bless your name

Incarnate Christ, the risen one

The Spirit with us, Immanent

The Source, the Word, the Breath of life. Amen.

Today's color is **green**, representing spiritual growth.

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

† Hymn | There is a Balm in Gilead (pg. 9)

Reading | Luke 5:1-11 | Rev. Efird

The word of God for us, the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem | And He Blessed My Soul | Anita Watkins-Stevens

Soloist: Randy Palmer

One look	Jesus, has always made a way
Just one look	Jesus, he's in my heart to stay
One look at Jesus	Do you know this man
And my cares will all pass away	of Galilee?
Only one look, was all I needed	Come to Earth
Now my life, will be forever changed	to set the captive free?
Then I saw him, yes, I saw him	Yes, I know the man!
And he blessed my soul	Yes, I know the man!
And he blessed my soul	Yes, I know the man,
And he blessed my soul	I know the man!
Without a word	

Sermon | Rev. Dr. Mycal Brickhouse

† Hymn | I Surrender All (pg. 10) 

Benediction | Rev. Efird

Postlude | Every Time I Feel the Spirit | arr. Calvin Taylor

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.

* = In the Lord's Prayer, you may say any name for God (e.g., Mother/Father/Parent).

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

Thank you to Paula Harrell for joining us in worship today while Helen Bishop is recovering!

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
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.

There Is a Balm in Gilead

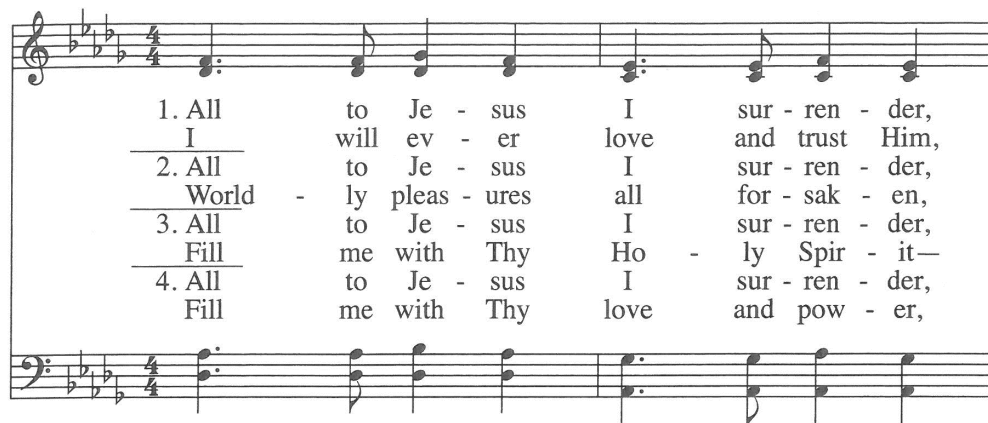
1. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,
 I will ev - er love and trust Him,
 2. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,
 World - ly pleas - ures all for - sak - en,
 3. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,
 Fill me with Thy Ho - ly Spir - it—
 4. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,
 Fill me with Thy love and pow - er,

All to Him I free - ly give;
 In His pres - ence dai - ly live.
 Hum - bly at His feet I bow;
 Take me, Je - sus, take me now.
 Make me, Sav - ior, whol - ly Thine;
 Tru - ly know that Thou art mine.
 Lord, I give my - self to Thee;
 Let Thy bless - ings fall on me.

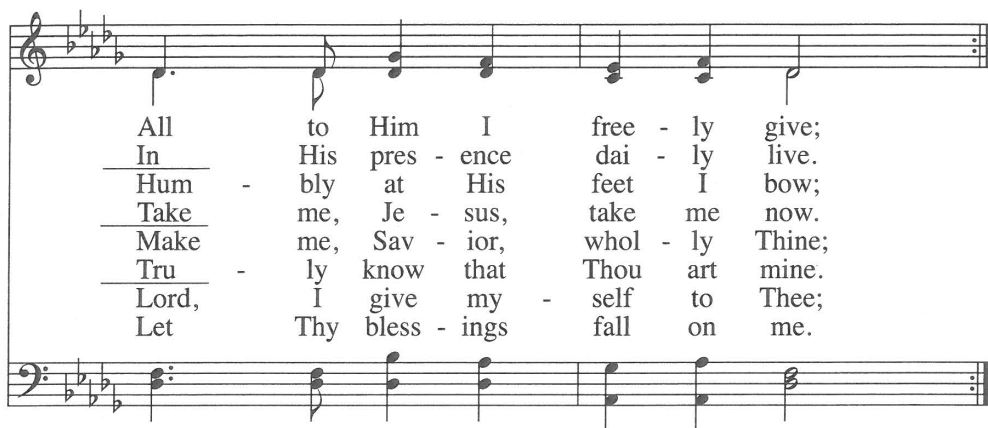
I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all.
 I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all.

All to Thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.


I Surrender All



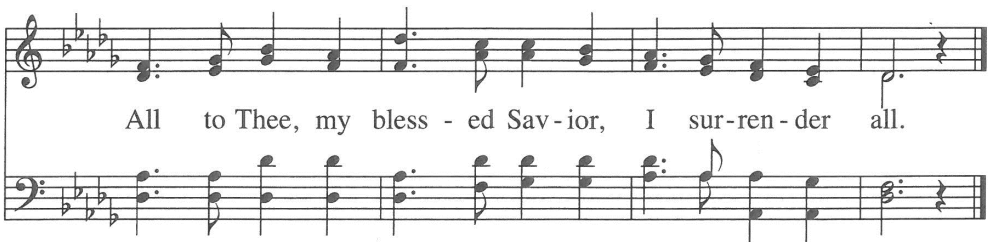
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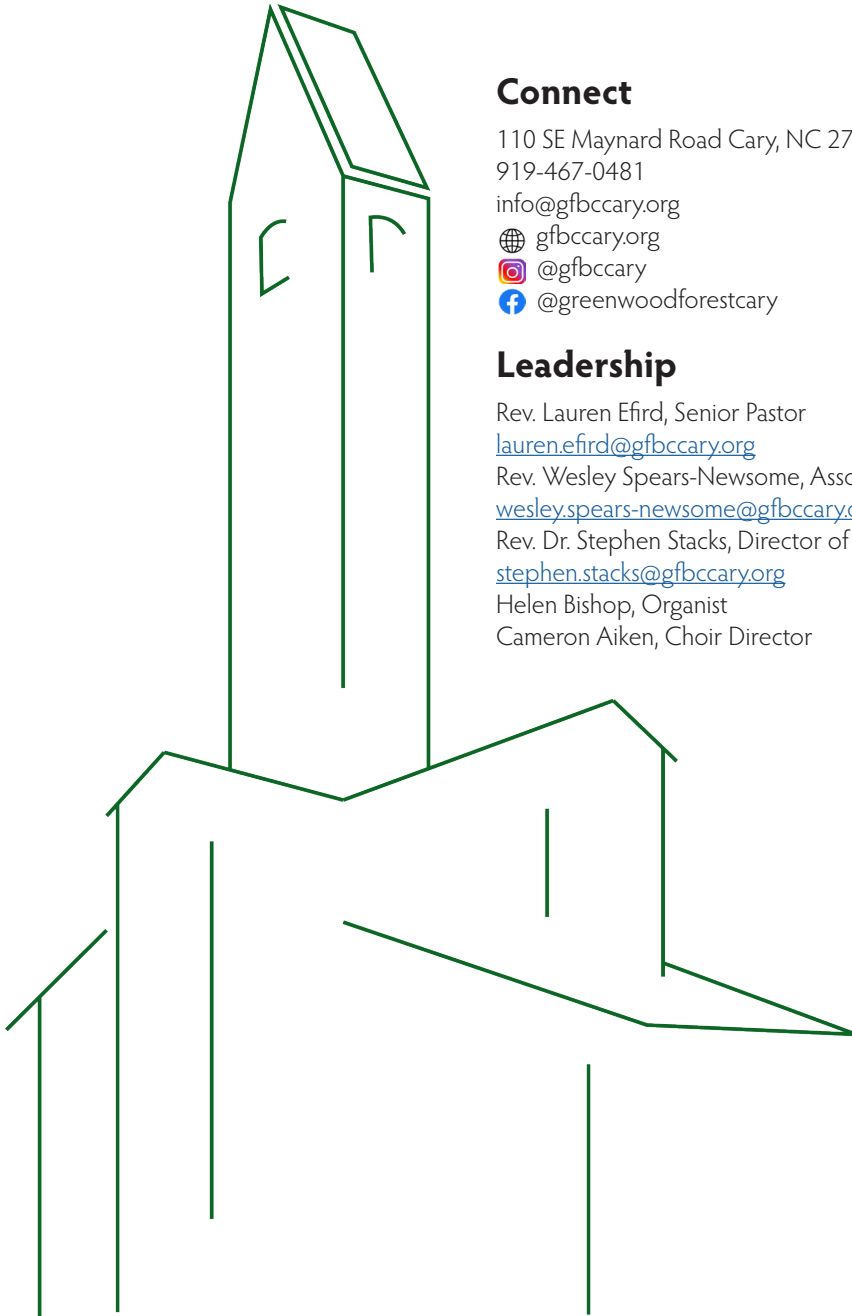
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Lord, I give my - self to Thee;
Let Thy bless - ings fall on me.



I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all.
I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all.



All to Thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.



Connect

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Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Director of Liturgy & Formation

stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org

Helen Bishop, Organist

Cameron Aiken, Choir Director

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