



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

March 1, 2026



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Bulletin Art

LL CoolJ

by Nicolette Faison

Inspired by Luke 7:36-50

12"x24" Acrylic, marker, paper collage on canvas

Ladies love Cool Jesus. For real. Women absolutely loved Jesus, and the woman with the alabaster jar is a great example of that. Who else shows up to an event unannounced with expensive oils to not only anoint someone's feet but to then offer their tears and use their hair to wipe the feet clean? I don't think people comprehend the drama within that part of the story. This was an act of love, admiration, and prophecy. To me, this interpretation of the story gives the woman the attention she deserves. When I thought about the theme, Tell Me Something Good, I realized I had spent much of my year guest preaching at classic church buildings with stained glass windows which told the parishioners the good news of Jesus. It felt most appropriate to bring the concept of stained glass into my art. Instead of the maximalist collage approach that I often use, I chose to let the paint tell the story. The color choice is both bright and vibrant yet softer than other pieces. I selected the yellow purposely to contrast the purple hair. In an attempt to clearly separate the blue sky glass from the rest of the piece, I layered patterns with a red/pink color scale to make the art pop, emphasizing the distinct glass shapes one could find on a church window. Several aspects of the piece are deconstructed, such as the woman's head and the foot of Jesus, both detached from bodies. I intentionally emphasize these elements to not distract us from the core of the story. The woman was intimately entwined with the feet of Jesus, her hair entangled with his leg. She released tears that would nourish his toes as the rich oil replenished his skin. To be cared for, to be seen, to be loved, that is something good. —Rev. Nicolette Faison

Lent Series *from A Sanctified Art*



The good news is extravagant, untamed, illogical, and persistent. It is joyful—like fine wine saved for celebration. It grows like a mustard seed that flourishes rapidly into a tree to shelter the birds. It smells like expensive perfume poured from an alabaster jar and like crumbling bread passed endlessly through a hungry crowd. It sounds like children laughing and like stones dropped to the ground instead of violently thrown. It feels like feet washed with tender care. The good news is alive in the world.

We hope this series will provide fertile ground for conversation and worship, rooting our hearts and lives in the expansive goodness of God. This Lent, may the teachings of Jesus lead us forward. Let the good news ground us. And let that good news inspire us to take action in a world desperate to hear, see, and taste what is good.

Key Dates:

February 18 (6:15pm) - Ash Wednesday

February 20-22 - Discipleship Retreat

March 29 (11am) - Palm Sunday

April 3 (7pm) - Good Friday

April 5 (11am) - Easter Sunday

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.



gfbccary.org



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



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Announcements | Church Events and Updates

Chili Cookoff and Maker's Festival Today at 4pm!

Join us this evening, March 1st from 4pm-6pm for a special time of congregational sharing in food, fellowship, and craft! We want to share our gifts with one another, so if you're good at painting, pottery, quilting, music, writing, drawing, woodworking, or any other craft and want to share something you've made, we want to see it!

HVAC Update

Thanks to your generosity, our HVAC project is almost fully funded! Only \$4,080 remains. If you feel led to give, now is a wonderful time to help us cross the finish line. Thank you for your faithful support.

Ministry Highlight

Greeters and Ushers serve our weekly worship service in two ways. Greeters stand (or sit) in the Narthex to welcome all who enter our church on Sundays. They provide a warm smile and get to know new members and visitors. You can help by taking this role on a rotating weekly or monthly basis to ensure all who enter our doors feel welcomed. Ushers serve to help make sure our service runs smoothly. They hand out bulletins, answer questions, and occasionally assist with other logistics. Most importantly, the ushers oversee the passing of the collection plates during the offering. If you are interested in joining this team, please speak with Nathan Bullock or reach him by email at nathan.f.bullock@gmail.com

Newcomers Reception

All those new to GFBC are invited to a reception after worship on March 8th! Join us in the narthex (the entrance/foyer area to the sanctuary) to get more information about this community, make connections, and find your place here at GFBC.

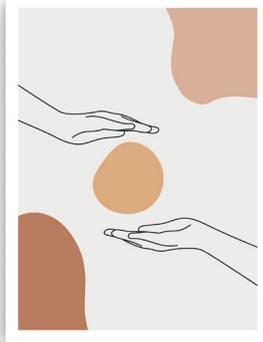
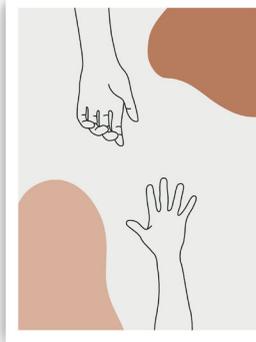
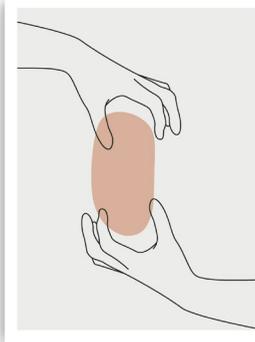
Palm Sunday Egg Hunt

On Palm Sunday (March 29), we will have an Egg Hunt for children following worship! Kids will need to bring baskets with them that Sunday and all are welcome to participate. Keep an eye out for how to help prepare eggs for this fun event.

NCCU Collaboration 3/22

Don't miss our annual collaboration with the NCCU University Choir on Sunday, March 22 during worship. This year, the Sanctuary Choir and University Choir will perform a musical tribute to gospel luminary Richard Smallwood, who died in December 2025. Smallwood's oeuvre includes favorites such as Total Praise, I Love the Lord, and Center of My Praise so make plans to join us for this joyous occasion!

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.

Bess Averre
Jo Brooks
Carrie
Mac Graham
Lee Taylor
Nancy Watson
Anne Whelan
Steven (friend of GFBC)
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.



Scan to Give
Online Today!

Order of Worship | The 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

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Hayes

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (A Sanctified Art) 📖

Tell me something good!

God loves you more than you could imagine.

Tell me something good!

God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.

Tell me something good!

God's love meets us in this service of worship. We are not alone.

This is good news indeed!

Let us worship our compassionate God.

Invocation | Nathan Bullock

✝ Hymn | I Will Arise (pg. 7-8, v. 2)

Offertory Prayer | Leta Huntsinger

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 contemplation and repentance.

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. Al Whitehouse

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's a Wideness in God's Mercy (pg. 9)

Reading | Luke 7:36-40 | Rev. Hayes

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

Thanks be to God.

Anthem | For Everyone Born | arr. Tom Trenney (pg. 8)

Sermon | Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Communion

Prayer of Confession: **Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be obedient disciples. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we've not loved our neighbors, and we've not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us for what we have done and for what we've left undone, and free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Mystery of Faith: **Christ has died, Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

† Hymn | I Come With My Devotion (pg. 10)

Benediction | Rev. Hayes

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.

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

Communion

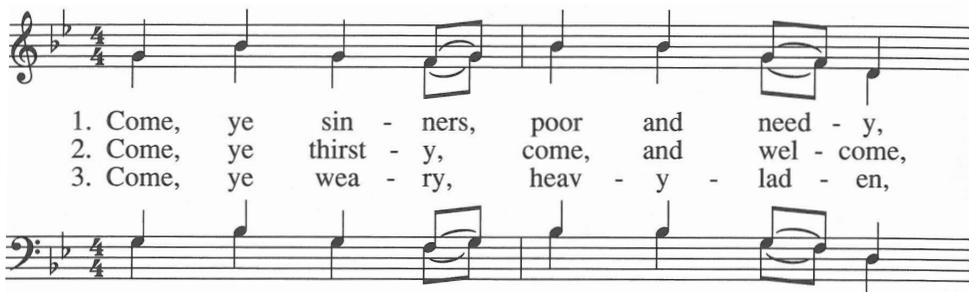
During Communion, we gather around the table as Christ showed us, to remember and give thanks. We have an open table—all who wish to take Communion are invited. We practice intinction, which means you receive a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. A gluten-free option is available on the altar

Thank You!

Our songleader today is
Jazzmoné Sutton.

Our guest musician is cellist
Lauren Dunseath.

I Will Arise



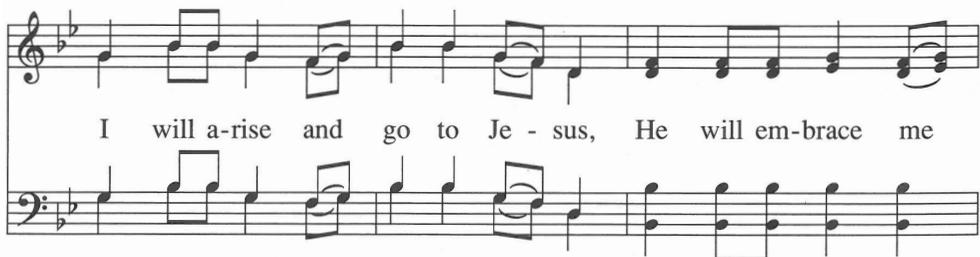
1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y,
2. Come, ye thirst - y, come, and wel - come,
3. Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y - lad - en,



Weak and wound - ed, sick and sore; Je - sus read - y
God's free boun - ty glo - ri - fy; True be - lief and
Lost and ru - ined by the fall; If you tar - ry



stands to save you, Full of pit - y, love, and pow'r.
true re - pen - tance, Ev - 'ry grace that brings you nigh.
till you're bet - ter, You will nev - er come at all.



I will a-rise and go to Je - sus, He will em-brace me

in His arms; In the arms of my dear

Sav - ior, O there are ten thous - sand charms.

Anthem For Everyone Born

arr. Tom Trenney

For everyone born, a place at the table,
 for everyone born, clean water and bread,
 a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
 for everyone born, a star overhead,

And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
 Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!

For young and for old, a place at the table,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
 for young and for old, the right to belong

For everyone born, a place at the table,
 to live without fear, and simply to be,
 to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
 for everyone born, the right to be free.

9 There is a Wideness in God's Mercy

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'There is a Wideness in God's Mercy'. It is written in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The score consists of two systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The first system contains five numbered verses, and the second system contains the concluding lines of the hymn.

1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
2. There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and more grac - es for the good;
3. But we make His love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
4. For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure of the mind;
5. If our love were but more sim - ple, we could take Him at His word;

there's a kind - ness in His jus - tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in His blood.
and we mag - ni - fy His strict - ness with a zeal He will not own.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
and our lives would be more lov - ing in the like - ness of our Lord.

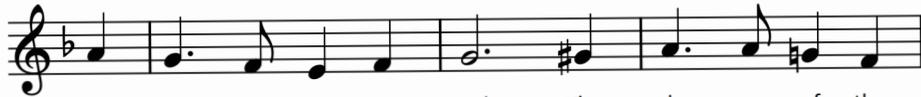
I Come With My Devotion



I come with my de - vo - tion to love and serve
I hear my Sa - vior's call - ing to serve the lost
God made us in God's im - age each per - son whom



my God Whose lov - ing cos - mos formed me
and least The hun - gry and im - pris - oned,
we meet Ex - tra - va - gant - ly lov - ing



be - fore I e - ver sought The glo - ry of the
the bro - ken ones like me For in each act of
all of hu - man - i - ty So I'll re - turn the



hea - vens or praise on earth be - low So ev - ery
kind - ness it's Christ for whom we care All wor - thy
love which has formed me from the start — Lov - ing



gift I have now I lay be - fore the throne
of our love — since it's God's face we bear
my cre - a - tor, my - self, and ev - ery heart



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