



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

March 29, 2026



Bulletin Art

Palm Sunday Was a Protest

by Nicolette Faison

Inspired by Mark 11:1-11

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

Palm Sunday Was a Protest is a sister piece to LL Cool J in that the inspiration was also stained glass. Unlike LL Cool J, Palm Sunday Was a Protest contains a bit more detail emphasizing the hectic energy that is found in movements. Each segment is meant to capture the eye but the central subjects are in black and white, contrasting the brilliant color palette. The order of colors is intentionally a rainbow as a nod to the Queer community. The piece contains a sunrise behind the iconic Palm Sunday donkey, which is an ode to the Sunrise Movement. Accompanying the donkey are crowds of people with fists raised in the air, a common sight at any protest. The phrase, "No Justice, No Peace" sits around a "power to the people fist" symbolizing resistance. This symbol was first utilized by labor and liberation movements in the early 1900s. I personally associate the fist with the Black Power movement of the 1960s. Along the bottom of the piece, the grassroots of the image, are palms, a nod to the biblical story. Palm Sunday Was a Protest is an ode to modern movements. This piece visually aligns how Palm Sunday is talked about with the active work happening today. Resist fascism. Resist occupation. Do justice.

—Rev. Nicolette Faison

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



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Announcements | Church Events and Updates

HVAC Update

Thanks to your generosity, our HVAC project has been fully funded.! We couldn't have done it without you!

Tell Me Something Good!

Lent was originally a season for new converts to learn and prepare for their baptism on Easter. During that time, they would study what was central to Christianity.

As we crafted this series, we asked: what are the core, foundational concepts of Jesus' life and ministry? What makes each of these good news? Can we trust that the good news is truly good, even when it challenges us? 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.

Today - Palm Sunday

April 3 (7pm) - Good Friday

April 5 (11am) - Easter Sunday

Faith Giving Sundays

We ask you to consider making a special investment of \$20 on the last Sunday of every month. This collective effort is essential in ensuring our budget remains on track, allowing us to continue making a difference in our community and beyond. Contact Susan Beck if you have any questions or want to give a Gratitude Testimony about what GFBC means to you and why you give.

Palm Sunday Egg Hunt

Today, March 29 we will have an Egg Hunt for children following worship! Please bring a basket if you are able. All are welcome to participate.

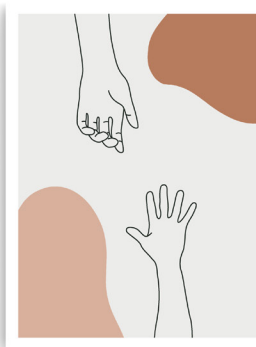
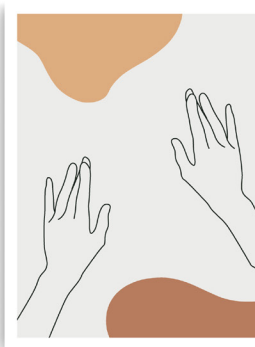
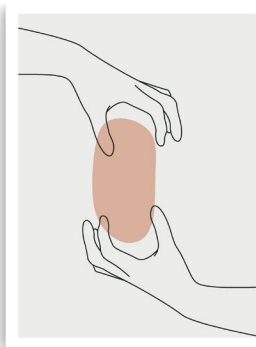
Good Friday Service of Tenebrae

Each year, we gather as a community to journey with Jesus to the cross. This special service features communion, followed by a series of readings that recount the story of Jesus's arrest and execution. Make plans to join us on April 3 at 7pm to experience the darkness of the cross and prepare for the joy of Easter morning.

ONE Wake Accountability Action 4/11

Last summer, more than 1,000 members of ONE Wake institutions (including Greenwood Forest) pressed for Raleigh City Council members to issue a \$200 million bond to support affordable housing. Right now, the council is only committing to half that amount. Council members will come before us on April 11 at 11am at Baptist Grove Church to hear our demands for the full bond amount. Be sure to join us as we push the council to invest in affordable housing. Register to attend at onewake.org/events. Your voice makes a difference!

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
Betty Stallings
Jo Brooks
Carrie
Mac Graham
Andy Jarrell
Marie Seeger
Randy Palmer
Carlton Prince (Megan Jarrell's father)
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 | Palm 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 Hymn | Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (pg. 8)

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Hayes

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Preparation for Worship | All Glory, Laud and Honor | arr. V. Labenske

Call to Worship 📖

Will you follow?

Will you lay down your coat?

Will you lay down something important?

Will you shout "Hosanna"?

Will you join the parade?

Will you sing, even if your throat is hoarse?

Will you cut down a palm branch?

Will you wave it in the air?

Will you follow the one riding on a donkey?

Will you let this good news inspire you to act?

We will. We will sing. We will pay close attention.

We will worship. We will follow.

Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in the highest.

Invocation | Rev. Amanda Warren

✝ **Hymn** | Lift Up Your Heads (pg. 9)

Stewardship Testimony | Rev. Randy Palmer

Offertory Prayer | Diana McGahan

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.

Offertory Hosanna, Loud Hosanna | arr. Labenske

† **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. 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.**

Reading | Mark 11:1-11 | Rev. Spears-Newsome

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

Thanks be to God.

Anthem | Great Day | arr. Brazeal Dennard (pg. 11)

Sermon | Palm Sunday Was a Protest | Rev. Hayes

† **Hymn** | Go to Dark Gethsemane (pg. 10, vv. 1-3) 

Benediction | Rev. Hayes

Postlude | Lead Me to Calvary | arr. Kirkpatrick

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!

Our hymn leader today is
Leanne Glasgow.

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1. Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2. From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed a - mong the joy - ful crowd;
3. "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" that an - cient song we sing;

through pil - lared court and tem - ple, the love - ly an - them rang.
the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, with sing - ing clear and loud.
for Christ is our Re - deem - er, the Lord of heaven, our King.

To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to His breast,
The Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,
O may we ev - er praise Him with heart and life and voice,

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on His bid - ding wait.
and in His bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

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.

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 | Great Day

arr. Brazeal Dennard, soloist Susan Meador

Great day!

Great day, the righteous marchin'

Great day!

God's gonna build up Zion's walls

Chariot rode the mountaintop

My God spoke and the chariot stopped

This is the day of jubilee

My God set his people free



Connect

110 SE Maynard Road Cary, NC 27511

919-467-0481

info@gbccary.org

 gbccary.org

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

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

Leadership

Rev. Lauren Hayes, Senior Pastor

lauren.hayes@gbccary.org

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

wesley.spears-newsome@gbccary.org

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

stephen.stacks@gbccary.org

Helen Bishop, Organist & Interim Choir Director

Alex Filby, Director of Administration and Facilities

alex.filby@gbccary.org

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