

Handmade Artistry



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

April 5, 2026



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Bulletin Art

Meet Me in Galilee

by Hannah Garrity

Inspired by Matthew 28:1-10

18x18" Hand-dyed and collaged newspaper with paper lace overlay

The good news is alive in the world. Do not be afraid. Go back to Galilee. Go back to Galilee where it all started. Go back to Galilee and celebrate like we did at the beginning when we were not afraid, when these words of liberation had not yet drawn the trappings of imperial execution. Here in this artwork, the crowd is celebrating. Figures are dancing and dancing and dancing. Doves fly among the dancers, breaking borders, Holy Spirit. This throng is in the vacant space of the empty cross. The cross here is mirroring the traditional, four-petaled, stained-glass window design element, which has long represented the cross in European architecture. The crowd dancing within the cross celebrates the resurrection of Jesus, fearlessly awaiting his arrival in Galilee. The Roman weapon of oppression, the cross, inflicts but a pause in the steadfast and abiding ministry of revolutionary love offered by Jesus in his public ministry. It is fitting then that we should go back to the place it began, when fear was not such a lethal factor. God has overcome death. Hallelujah! Around the dancing figures in Galilee, patterns of doves disperse outward. The good news, the *euaggelion*, is alive in the world. Do you remember? The cross is empty, yet full. Overcome. Go and you will find Jesus, free in the world in the faces of strangers and neighbors.

—Hannah Garrity

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

HVAC Update

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

Faith Formation at GFBC

Interested in joining a Faith Formation class? The "class that meets in the Parlor" (maybe you're the one to invent its formal name!) invites you to join them in reading and discussing *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans. They will start with the book's Introduction on Sunday April 12 at 9:45am. You can get a copy of the book wherever books are sold for about \$10. Contact Diana McGahan (ddmcgahan@gmail.com) or Steve Denning (steve.denning@itresourceinc.com) for more information. All Faith Formation classes are open for newcomers year round, as well. Contact the church office if interested.

Upcoming Fellowship Events

The Fellowship Committee is excited for you to join us for any of the upcoming family-friendly events in the Spring and Summer:

May 2 - Fishing Trip to Topsail Beach (contact Susan Beck at carygator1@gmail.com to sign up!)

May 30 (10am)- Local Nature Walk (location TBD)

June 14 (4-6pm) - Picnic in GFBC Courtyard (BBQ provided, bring your favorite side dish or dessert!)

July 15 (6-8pm) - Game Night at GFBC (bring your favorite game and your dinner; desserts provided!)

ONE Wake Annual Assembly and Action 4/11

ONE Wake is gathering its membership (including you!) to decide on priorities for the rest of the year and hold Raleigh politicians accountable for prioritizing (or not) affordable housing. ONE Wake previously pressed for a \$200 million bond for affordable housing and right now the proposal is only half that. During the internal meeting before pressuring Raleigh to fully fund housing, we will present an action plan for the county and for Cary specifically regarding housing funds. This is an opportunity for you to take direct action and move ideas into reality. Register to attend at onewake.org/ events. Your voice makes a difference!

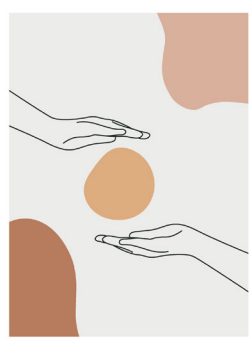
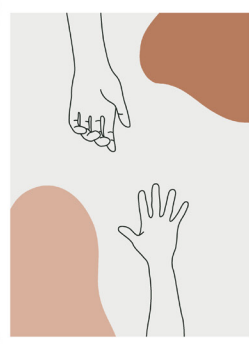
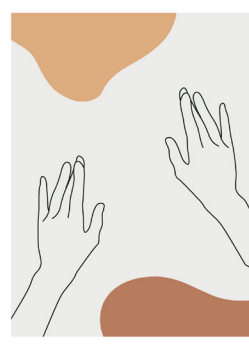
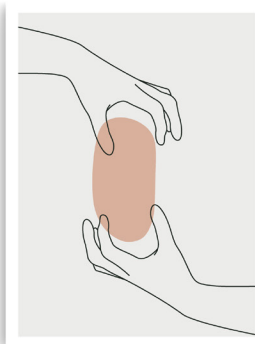
Newcomers Reception

All those new to GFBC are invited to a reception after worship next week, April 12. 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.

Upcoming Sermon Series

If we are to become people of the resurrection, we must learn from the witness of wounds — the wounds of Jesus and the wounds of the marginalized. It is only then that we can learn to become the people we are called to be. For Christians in the United States, this means reckoning with the wounds left by indigenous genocide and slavery. It means understanding that the wounds that are continually inflicted on people of color in our country must be tended in order for all our wounds to be healed. In this Eastertide sermon series, we will take the time to draw close to Jesus, our wounded healer, and learn to carefully tend both our own wounds and the wounds of those who've been marginalized, recognizing that the liberation of all God's people is bound together in the healing of all our wounds. This series will draw additional inspiration from Yolanda Pierce's *The Wounds are the Witness* (2025).

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
Rick Hollings (Mary Whitehouse's father)
Andy Jarrell
Marie Seeger
Randy Palmer
Carlton Prince (Megan Jarrell's father)
Lee Taylor
Nancy Watson
Steven (friend of GFBC)
Kathleen Wicker
The family of Anne Whelan at her death
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 | 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 Hymn | Christ the Lord is Risen Today (pg. 8)

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Hayes

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship 📖

On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.

On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

But today, we know the good news is alive and well.

The good news is dancing!

The good news is on the loose!

The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting.

Let us worship our good-news Christ.

Invocation | Steve Denning

Baptism | Holden Warren

✝ **Hymn** | Now the Green Blade Rises (pg. 9)

Offertory Prayer | Nathan Bullock

Offertory | Ancient Love | John Mark McMillan

Today's color is **white**, representing the 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.

† **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!

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 | Matthew 28:1-10 | Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem | The Strife is O'er | arr. Henry Ley (pg. 11)

Sermon | What Story Will You Tell? | Rev. Hayes

† **Hymn** | The Day of Resurrection (pg. 10) 

Benediction | Rev. Hayes

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.

* = 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 Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks.

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2. Love's re-deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
3. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - le - lu - ia!
4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!

Earth and heav - en join to say, Al - le - lu - ia!
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!
Where, O Death, is now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
Death in vain for - bids Him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
Dy - ing once He all doth save, Al - le - lu - ia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth, re - ply, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ hath o - pened Par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!
Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!

Now the Green Blade Rises

1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,

wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain;

love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

The Day of Resurrection

1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
3. Now let the heavens be joy - ful! Let earth her song be - gin!

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness; the Pass - o - ver of God.
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light;
The world re - sound in tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
and, lis - tening to His ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend;

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

Ancient Love

John Mark McMillan

*I can feel the aching of,
The aching of an ancient Love
Oh I, I can feel the aching of your heart
I can feel the aching of
The aching of an ancient Love
Oh I, I can feel the aching of your heart again*

I want to know your heat and light
I want to taste the breath of life
I want to lose myself inside of all you are
Where could I run? Where could I hide?
That you could not love me alive?
Again, I find myself inside your eternal arms

I want to dream the dream of you
I want to taste your living fruit
From the tree of life
From the heart of your garden
Are you the One who dreamed me up
Who drew me up out of the dust?
Again, I hear you calling me out of the dark-
ness

Here I am...

Anthem | The Strife is O'er

arr. Henry Ley

The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung.
Alleluya! Alleluya! Alleluya!

Death's mightiest powers have done their
worst,
And Jesus hath his foes dispersed;
Let shouts of praise and joy outburst.
Alleluya! Alleluya! Alleluya!

On the third morn he rose again
Glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain.
Alleluya! Alleluya! Alleluya!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee
From death's dread sting thy servants free,
That we may live, and sing to thee.
Alleluya! Alleluya! Alleluya!



Connect

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