

Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

November 8, 2026

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The Tree of Life (1982)
Painting by Jacques-Richard Chery

This painting depicts a mixture of biblical stories with the history of Haiti. You can see the crucified Christ in the center above the colonial violence that shaped Haiti's modern history. At the top of the tree, you see Adam and Eve with the animals in Eden across from Haitians harvesting their own island trees. In the top right corner, Haitians enjoy the harvest and in the left corner they highlight the French Declaration of the Rights of Man from the French Revolution, freedoms denied to the Haitians by the colonial French. In the bottom left, you can see an image of Moses as well as modern day people struggling against floods. In the bottom right, Jesus overturns the tables of the moneychangers and merchants in the temple while more modern people escape floodwaters and economic hardship.

Learn more at resistance500.com or in the provided curriculum in the narthex for this sermon series.

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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Visitor Form

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.

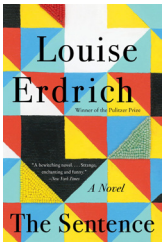
Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera.

Gender-neutral, single-occupant bathrooms are located at the back of the sanctuary in the Narthex.

gfbccary.org greenwoodforestcary @gfbccary

Announcements | Church Events and Updates

Book Club: The Sentence



The date for this event has changed. The new date is November 9th from 5:30-7:30pm. Join us for a book club facilitated by Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks. *The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich is a spectulative fiction novel that tells the story of a small independent bookstore in Minneapolis. From November 2019 to November 2020, the store is haunted by an annoying customer. The journey between All Souls' Day that encapsulates the beginning of covid, the murder of George Floyd, and the 2020 election asks what we owe to the living and the dead, but also to the reader and the book. *RSVP at gfbccary.org/sentence*

If you haven't registered, please email Rev. Dr. Stacks directly to receive the address for this event.

Community Hour Schedule

These are special, optional offerings for upcoming Community Hours. Small groups and classes will meet as usual.

Nov 8: Sermon Series Talkback with Rev. Hayes

Nov 15: GFBC Jam Session with Rev. Evan Owoc- Edwards. *All instrumentalists and singers welcome. Bring your instrument or your voice.*

Nov 22: Souper Love Feast Potluck and Advent Decorating

Souper Love Feast

Mark your calendars for **November 22nd** after worship! We'll gather to make crafts with our kids and everyone is invited to decorate the Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. We'll enjoy a potluck lunch together before decorating. Sign up to bring food at gfbccary.org/souper.

Advent Poinsettia Dedications

Advent season will soon be here. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for dedication, please register and fill out the form at gfbccary.org/poinsettias. Contact Vivian Denning if you have any questions.

Advent & Christmas Schedule

Advent I:
November 29th at 10am

Advent II:
December 6th at 10am

Advent III:
December 13th at 10am

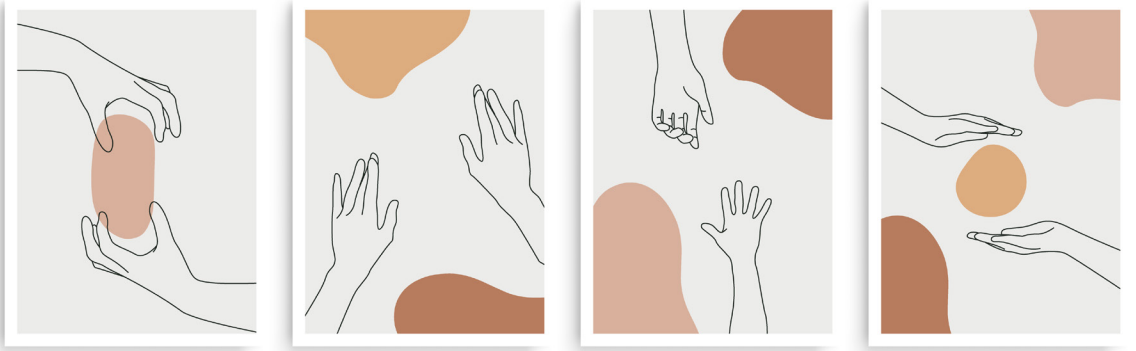
Service of Lament:
December 16th at 6pm
The holidays can be difficult when you're experiencing grief. Whatever loss you are experiencing, whether it was recent or long ago, join us to comfort each other.

Lessons and Carols (Advent IV):
December 20th at 10am
We cover the entire biblical story and sing classic Christmas songs and hymns during this special, traditional service. Not only is it a high point of our music ministry calendar each year, it's also followed by Christmas Brunch!

Christmas Brunch:
December 20th at 11am
We'll have Christmas Brunch together for a time of fun and fellowship. Bring your favorite brunch-y foods and we'll enjoy our community's biggest annual potluck!

Christmas Eve Service:
December 24th at 11am and 8pm
We offer a Children's Christmas Eve service at 11am that involves constructing a Nativity together. The traditional Candlelight Service is at 8pm.

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
Blair Biser (at the death of his grandmother)
Jo Brooks
The Graham Family (at the death of Mac Graham)
Lee Taylor
Nancy Watson
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 | Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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.

Gathering and Passing of the Peace

Chiming

Welcome and Call to Worship | Rev. Lauren Hayes

Leader: The Lord be with you!
People: And also with you!

Hymn | Guide My Feet (pg. 8)

Offertory Prayer | Andy Jarrell

Offertory | We All Are One in Mission | arr. Mark Sedio

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 | Steal Away (pg. 9)

Reading | Luke 9:57-62 | Nathan Bullock

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

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 invites us and God into our worship. 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.

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

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.

Anthem | Saints Bound for Heaven | arr. Mack Wilberg

Our bondage it shall end by and by, by and by,
Our bondage it shall end by and by.
From Egypt's yoke set free
Hail the glorious jubliee,
And to Canaan we'll return by and by, by and by,

Our deliv'rer he shall come by and by, by and by,
Our deliv'rer he shall come by and by.
And our sorrows have an end
With our three-score years and ten,
And vast glory crown the day by and by, by and by,

And when to Jordan's floods we are come, we are come,
And when to Jordan's floods we are come,
Jehovah rules the tide
And the waters he'll divide,
And the ransom'd host shall shout "We are come, we are come,"

Then with all the happy throng we'll rejoice, we'll rejoice,
Then with all the happy throng we'll rejoice.
Shouting glory to our king,
Till the vaults of heaven ring,
And through all eternity we'll rejoice, we'll rejoice,
And through all eternity we'll rejoice!

Sermon | Fugitive Theology | Rev. Hayes

✝ **Hymn** | Lift Every Voice and Sing (pg. 10-11, *vv.* 1&2)

✝ **Benediction** | Rev. Hayes

Postlude | Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen | Timothy J. Strand

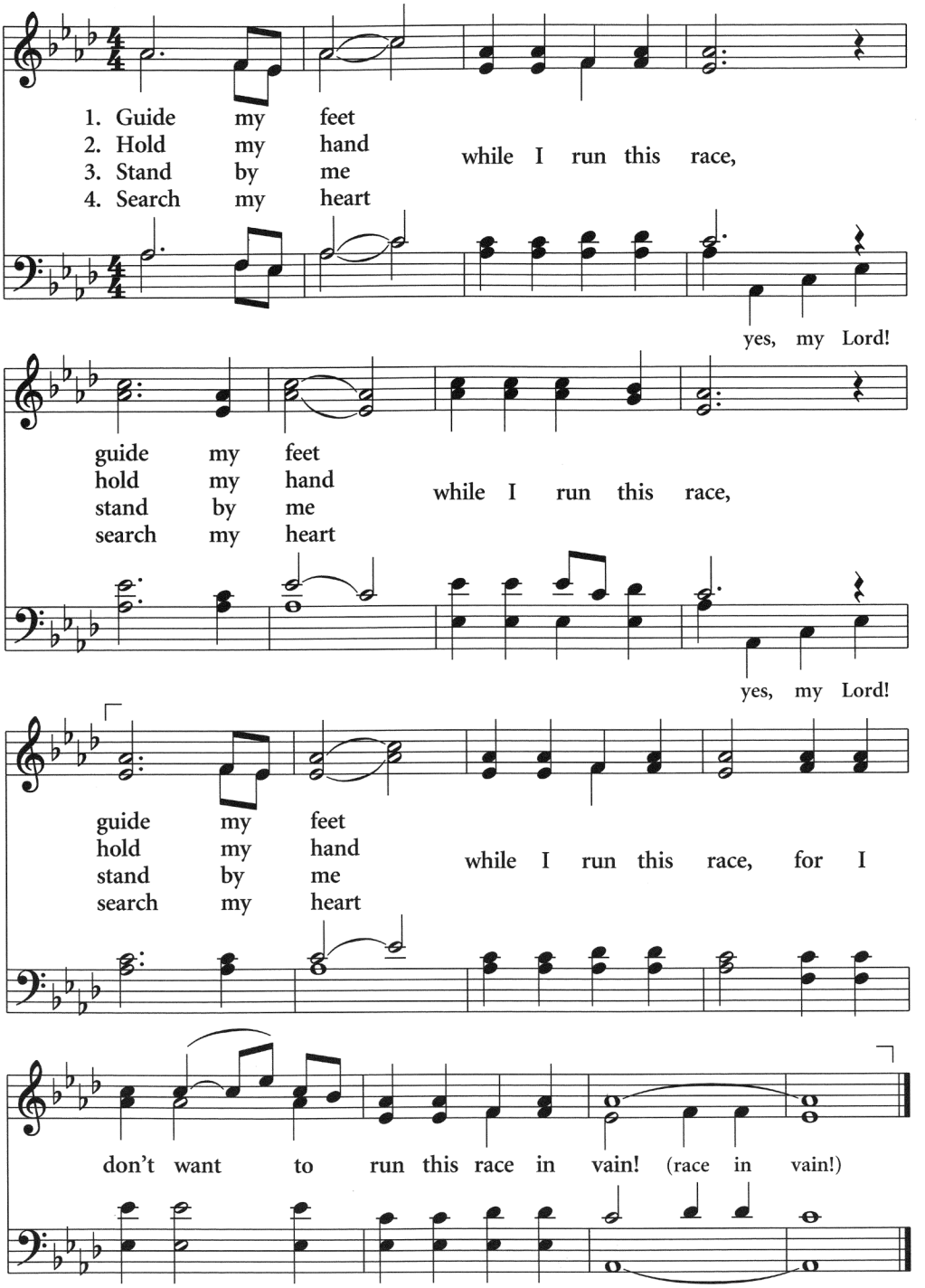
Final Hymn: An Invitation

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.

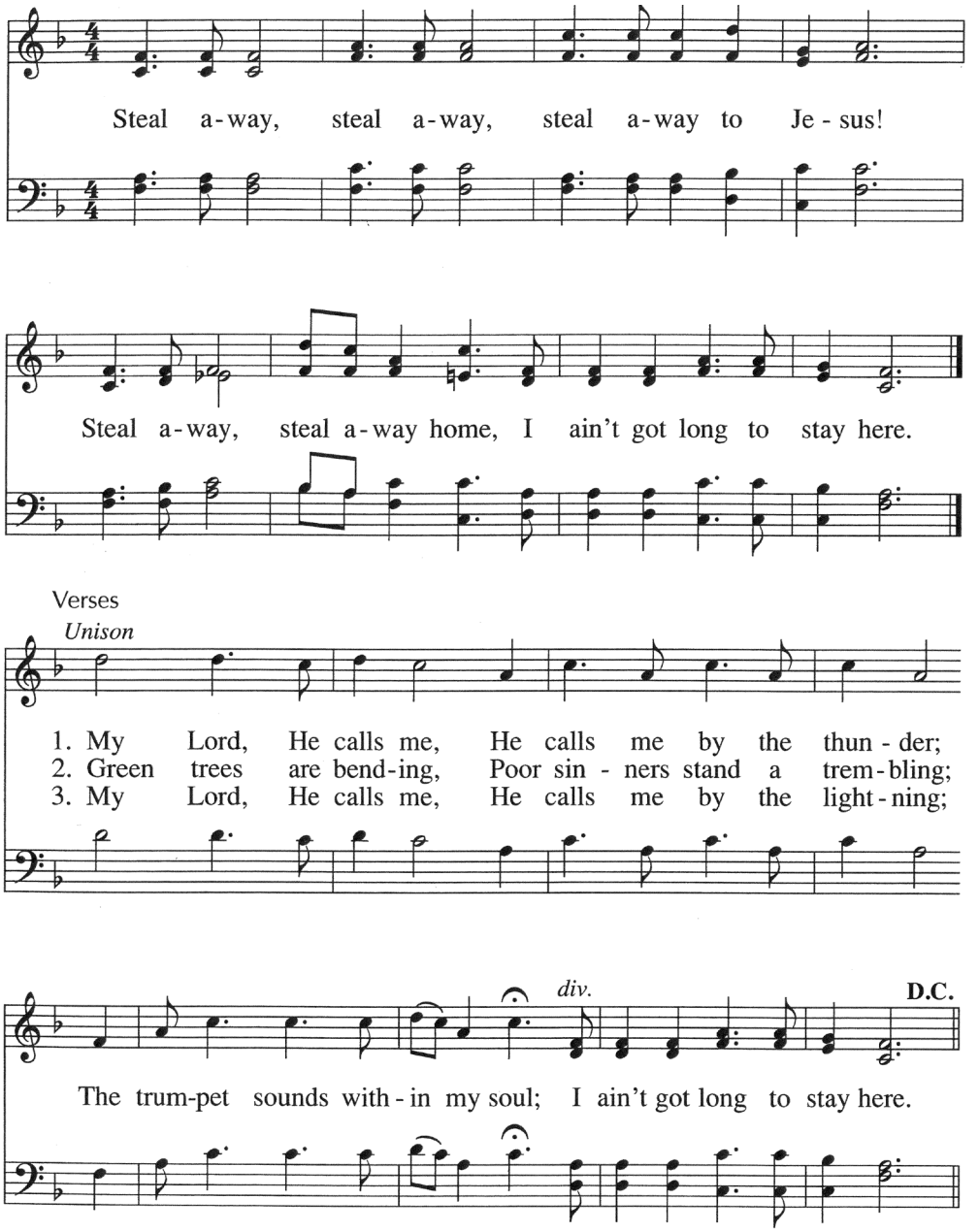
Thank You!

Our hymn leader today is Leanne Glasgow and our guest pianist is Natalie Patten.

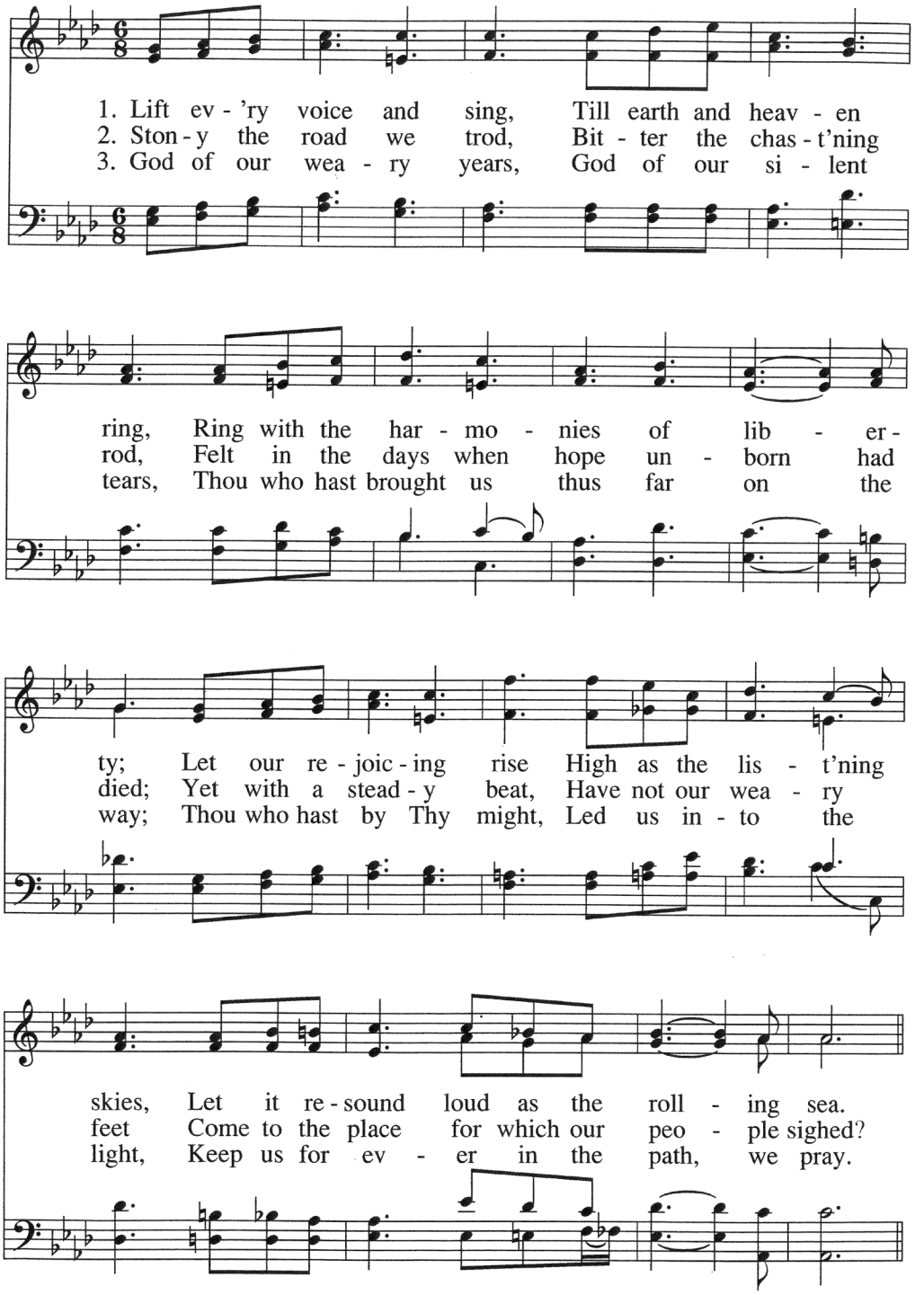
Guide My Feet

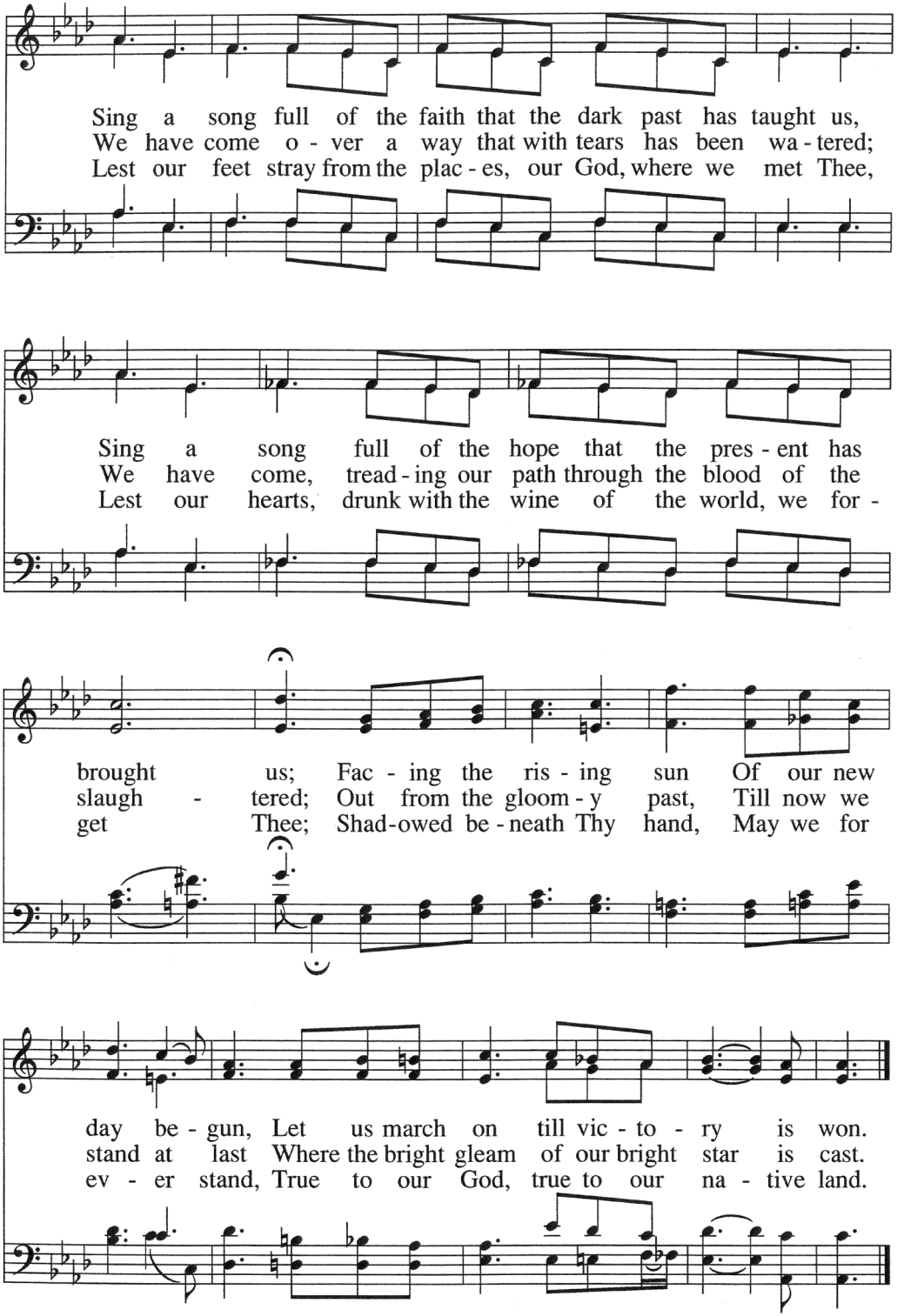


Steal Away


Steal a-way, steal a-way, steal a-way to Je-sus!
Steal a-way, steal a-way home, I ain't got long to stay here.
Verses
Unison
1. My Lord, He calls me, He calls me by the thun-der;
2. Green trees are bend-ing, Poor sin-ners stand a trem-bling;
3. My Lord, He calls me, He calls me by the light-ning;
div.
D.C.
The trum-pet sounds with-in my soul; I ain't got long to stay here.

Lift Every Voice and Sing




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.



Connect

110 SE Maynard Road Cary, NC 27511
919-467-0481
info@gfbccary.org
gfbccary.org
@gfbccary
@greenwoodforestcary

Leadership

Rev. Lauren Hayes, Senior Pastor
lauren.hayes@gfbccary.org
Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor
wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org
Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Director of Liturgy & Formation
stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org
Helen Bishop, Organist & Interim Choir Director
Alex Filby, Director of Administration and Facilities
alex.filby@gfbccary.org

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