

# Celebrate **BLACK** 2025 HISTORY MONTH

February 8, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Rainbow Park Baptist Church | 2941 Columbia Drive, Decatur, Georgia 30034  
Senior Pastor Micah Dial

**PRELUDE (and countdown)**

**Video: Ifill and Racism**

**Welcome**

**Albert Fields**

**PRAYER**

**Pastor Micah Dial**

**“LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING”  
(Lyrics on back of program)**

**Audience**

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

**WHAT WAS RECONSTRUCTION?**

**Dee Smith**

**WHAT HAPPENED IN GEORGIA?**

**Tom Woodward**

**INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER**

**Albert Fields**

**GUEST SPEAKER**

**Michael Hill**

**WHAT CAN WE EXPECT IN 2025?**

**SONG**

**Choir**

**INTRO OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**Martha Jackson**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**Kevin Myles**

**“THE SWINGING PENDULUM”**

**PRAYER FOR A POSITIVE FUTURE**

**Call and Response**

**PRESIDENT’S RESPONSE**

**Edwina Clanton**

**SONG**

**Choir**

**MEMBERSHIP APPEAL**

**Pat Jackson**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Albert Fields**

**BENEDICTION**

**Pastor Micah Dial**



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# Prayer for a Positive Future

Leader: Let us pray. God of our mothers and fathers, you have been with us through slavery, reconstruction, Jim Crow, and racism. Help us to be as faithful and courageous as our ancestors were when the pendulum swung against them. When things seem hopeless, give us your hope. When we are weak, give us your strength. When we falter, inspire us with the words of our people, like these we pray now.

**All: O Lord, inspire us.**

Leader: "Ours is the struggle of a lifetime, or ... many lifetimes, and each one of us in every generation must do our part."

*Congressman John Lewis*

**All: We will do our part.**

Leader: "Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world."

*Harriet Tubman*

**All: We will reach for the stars and change the world.**

Leader: "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."

*President Barack Obama*

**All: We are the change that we seek.**

Leader: We may encounter many defeats, but we must not be defeated."

*Poet Maya Angelou*

**All: We will not be defeated.**

Leader: "The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear."

*South African President Nelson Mandela*

**All: We will triumph over our fear.**

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# (call and response)

Leader: "The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any."

*Writer Alice Walker*

**All: We have power.**

Leader: "If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair."

*Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm*

**All: We have chairs.**

Leader: "There is always a light, if only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it."

*Poet Amanda Gorman*

**All: We will be light.**

Leader: "Love is creative and redemptive. Love builds up and unites. [Love brings about] reconciliation and the creation of the beloved community."

*Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King*

**All: With love, we will create the beloved community.**

Leader: "God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,

**All: Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way,**

Leader: Thou who hast by Thy might, led us into the light,

**All: Keep us forever in the path, we pray."** *James Weldon Johnson*

Leader: In the name of Jesus, we all say:

**All: AMEN**

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# Lift Every Voice & Sing

Lift every voice and sing,  
Till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty,  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the list'ning skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod  
Bitter the chast'ning rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat  
Have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered  
We have come, treading our path thro' the blood of the slaughtered,  
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who hast by Thy might,  
Led us into the light, Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we meet Thee,  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world we forget Thee;  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,  
True to our God, true to our native land.



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