



Greenwood Forest
Baptist Church





GREENWOOD FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost | Livestreamed Service

July 12, 2020

Welcome to Greenwood Forest!

We are so glad you've chosen to join us this week. GFBC 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, ages, abilities, and backgrounds. We are each beloved by God and we are happy to welcome you to our church this morning exactly as you are.

We would love to get to know you and for you to get to know us better. Follow us on social media or visit gfbccary.org to learn more.

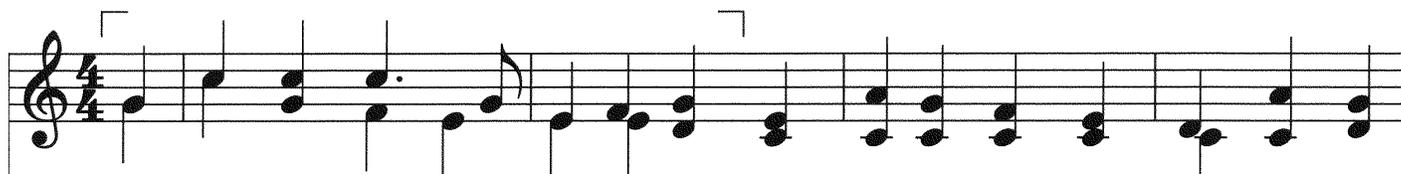
Welcome to worship!

an inclusive
community
of faith

Chiming of the Hour

◆ Gathering Hymn

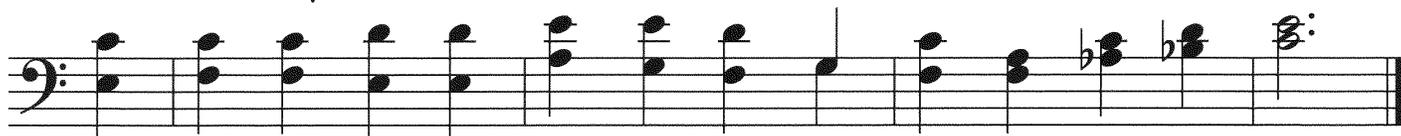
Send Forth Your Word, O God



1. Send forth Your Word, O God of light! Through-out the world break through sin's night;
2. Send forth Your Word, O God of peace! In all the lands may war - fare cease
3. Send forth Your Word, O God of grace! In lov-ing acts Your mer - cy trace
4. Send forth Your Word through us, O God! May we be bear - ers of that Word



let faith trans-form all wrong to right. Send forth Your Word, O God.
 and those now cap - tive gain re - lease. Send forth Your Word, O God.
 to touch all hearts of ev - ery race. Send forth Your Word, O God.
 that all may hear of Christ, our Lord. Send forth Your Word, O God.



Welcome to Worship

Rev. Lauren Efird

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

◆ Passing of the Peace

Rev. Efird

Leader: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;

People: And to you shall vows be performed, O you who answer prayer!

Leader: To you all flesh shall come.

People: When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

Leader: Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts.

People: We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.

Leader: By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation;

People: You are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

Leader: By your strength you established the mountains;

People: You are girded with might.

Leader: You silence the roaring of the seas,

People: The roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

Leader: Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;

People: You make gateways of the morning and the evening shouts for joy.

Leader: You visit the earth and water it,

People: You greatly enrich it;

Leader: The river of God is full of water;

People: You provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

Leader: You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,

People: Softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

Leader: You crown the year with your bounty;

People: Your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

Leader: The pastures of the wilderness overflow,

People: The hills gird themselves with joy,

Leader: The meadows clothe themselves with flocks,

People: The valleys deck themselves with grain; they shout and sing together for joy.

Unison

1. As grain on scat-tered hill - sides, when gath-ered, makes one bread,
 2. A grain of wheat is fruit - less un - til in earth it lies;
 3. Like yeast that brings new fer - ment so life - less dough may rise,
 4. O Christ, our ris - en Sav - ior; O Spir - it, ho - ly dove,

God, gath - er all your peo - ple as one in Christ our head.
 then, dy - ing to its old life, it bears and mul - ti - plies.
 Your Spir - it is the leav - en of life that sat - is - fies.
 come now and move a - mong us; make us a sign of love.

We come from man - y plac - es, and we are not the same,
 So may we die to ha - tred, to all our hurt - ful ways,
 As salt en - hanc - es fla - vor, en - rich - es, and pre - serves,
 Come, knead and blend each tex - ture with strong and gen - tle hands,

yet Your strong love has called us to meet in Je - sus' name.
 re - born to com - mon liv - ing, to love, to work, to praise.
 may earth re - joice to sa - vor a church that heals and serves.
 that we may be one bod - y, one loaf in man - y lands.

Offertory Prayer

Blair Biser

◆ **Presentation of the Offering**

OLD 100TH

As our offering is presented back to God, we will sing the following doxology:

Transcendent God, we bless your name,
Incarnate Christ, the risen one,
The Spirit with us, Immanent,
The Source, the Word, the Breath of Life! Amen.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Rev. Efird

We affirm the reading of Scripture with the following response:

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Come down from the stars, show your human scars,
Tell me what it's like to believe through my Christ haunted thoughts,
That the losses you bought are the nights that you peopled with your dreams.

Well, I've got no answers for heartbreaks or cancers,
But a Savior who suffers them with me singing goodbye, Olympus,
The heart of my Maker is spread out on the road, the rocks and the weeds.

Come down from your mountain, your high-rise apartment,
And tell me of the God you know who bleeds, and what to tell my daughter
When she asks so many questions, and I fail to fill her heaviness with peace.

When I've got no answers for hurt knees or cancers,
But a Savior who suffers them with me singing goodbye, Olympus,
The heart of my Maker is spread out on the road, the rocks, and the weeds.

And Aphrodite would not weep nor Zeus would suffer for the weak,
But have you come to stand inside my pain? And all the things I've begged you for
Eternity and evermore are hidden with me here beneath the rain, the rain.

So shall I plant sequoias and revel in the soil
Of a crop I know I'll never live to reap? Then sow my body to my Maker
And my heart unto my Savior and spread me on the road, the rocks, and the weeds,
Spread me on the road.

◆ Hymn

A Sower's Seed Fell on a Path

Capo 1

Em Fm D7 Eb7 G Ab C Db D Eb G Ab Em Fm

1 A sow - er's seed fell on a path packed
 2 And some fell down where rock - y ground no
 3 And some seed fell a - mong the weeds that
 4 But some seed fell on fer - tile soil and

C Db D Eb G Ab Am7 Bbm7 G Ab C Db D G Ab

hard by foot and cart, and hun - gry spar - rows
 sus - te - nance could give. Be - neath the scorch - ing
 wove a tan - gling snare to choke the green and
 flour - ished more and more un - til the joy - ous

D7 Eb7 G Ab C Db D Am7 Bbm7 D Eb Em Fm

ate their fill be - fore a root could start.
 noon - day sun no ten - der plant could live.
 bud - ding plants that nev - er fruit would bear.
 har - vest time, when hun - dred - fold it bore.

C Bm Am7 D Em D G Bm Em Bm Em D Em
 Db Cm Bbm7 Eb Fm Eb Ab Cm Fm Cm Fm Eb Fm

Lord, give us ears to hear your Word and hearts where seed can grow.

◆ **Benediction**

Rev. Efirid

◆ **Postlude**

Let All Things Now Living

arr. Don Wyrzten

*Today's hymns come from Celebrating Grace (Celebrating Grace Inc.)
and Singing the New Testament (Faith Alive).*

Copyrighted music use is covered by CCLI License #1243530 and OneLicense #A-721397.

Focus on Community

Prayer Concerns

Jim Allen

Janice Medford

Gerald Radford

Nell Allen

Janet Merriman

(Susan Beck's friend)

Peter Barboriak

(Roz Slawson's friend)

Miriam Rodriguez

(Valerie Brooks' friend)

Warren Miller, Jr.

(Roz Slawson's sister)

Gilles Bikindou

(Randy Palmer's cousin)

Fred Seeger

Kitty Blanton

John Morgan

Sally Shaver

Tom Coltrane

Sara McMillan Perkinson

*(at the death of her mother,
Mildred Shaver)*

*(at the death of his father,
Worth Coltrane)*

*(Leon and Sue Perkinson's
daughter-in-law)*

Dave Thomas

Marjorie Floyd

Jennifer Prilliman

Alison Zieglmeier

James Mark Frazier

(Linda Chappell's friend)

Our partner church,

(Sue Hughes' brother)

Ebenezer Baptist, Cuba

Announcements and Updates

Churchwide Business Meeting | Sunday, July 19

Please mark your calendars for a churchwide business meeting next Sunday, July 19 at 6pm. This meeting will be conducted virtually via Zoom. Details about the meeting will be forthcoming.

Antiracist Reading Groups

Our antiracist reading groups began reading their first book this week. If you did not join this session but are interested in joining for the next book we read, email Rev. Stacks at stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org.

Backpack Buddies Update

Due to the ongoing hunger crisis resulting from the pandemic, the Backpack Buddies program will not be going on hiatus this summer. Because the program is continuing beyond its normal end date, we will need new packers, food purchasers, deliverers, and new double-bagged plastic bags to deliver food. Groups for any of these roles are still limited to families that are already exposed to one another on a regular basis so that we can keep our volunteers safe. If you or your family would like to serve in any of these roles or you have plastic bags you'd like to donate, please contact Karen Upchurch at kaupchurch@gmail.com.

Faith Formation via Zoom

In addition to the upcoming antiracist reading groups, some of our Faith Formation classes are meeting via Zoom. Special Studies is meeting Mondays at 2pm, Crossroads is meeting Sundays at 9:30am, and Agape is meeting at various times on Sundays. Contact your Faith Formation leadership for more details.

Update from the Stewardship Ministry

Dear Congregation,

You can help ensure we finish our church giving year strong! As the summer is upon us and some of our regular routines are put aside for trips to the beach or relaxing days at home, I want to encourage you to keep up your regular giving!

Our church's work and outreach continue, even if we cannot be physically together. Thanks to all of you who have continued to send your tithes by mail or online—and a big thanks to all of you who have switched to regular online giving. If you have any questions about sending in your gifts—or setting up online giving—please contact the church office or see the details on the following page.

In Peace,

Elizabeth Biser, Stewardship Deacon

Update from the Finance Committee

2019-2020 Budget:	\$864,000
Amount supported through stewardship giving:	\$804,000

	<i>This Week</i>	<i>YTD</i>
Total Giving	\$ 13,358	\$ 930,286
Less Together We Build Giving	\$ 245	\$ 290,623
Less Other Designated Giving	<u>\$ 678</u>	<u>\$ 43,100</u>
Actual Stewardship Giving	\$ 12,435	\$ 596,563
Stewardship Giving needed to fully subscribe budget	<u>\$ 14,533</u>	<u>\$ 687,735</u>
Over (Under)	\$ (2,098)	\$ (91,172)

Giving Options at Greenwood Forest

In the midst of the pandemic, there is something simple that we can all do for the church that will make a huge difference—set up online giving. Every Sunday that we are not at church, we experience a decline in giving. Even though we are not physically together, the church still has to pay its bills, our wonderful staff, and make sure that our church is prepared to help the most vulnerable among us especially during this pandemic.

There are three ways to tithe:

1. Set up an automatic payment through your bank using the “Bill Pay” function. This will result in your bank mailing a check to the church on a weekly or monthly basis.
2. Give online through the church website. Simply go to gfbccary.org/give to access the online giving module.
3. Set up an automated bank draft by filling out the form attached to the bulletin, attaching a voided check, and mailing it to the church office at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, 110 SE Maynard Road, Cary, NC 27511.

Together, we can make sure that Greenwood Forest can continue to serve our community for years to come!



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church
 110 SE Maynard Road
 Cary, NC 27511
 (919)-467-0481
info@gfbcccary.org

- New Draft
 Replace Existing Draft
 Cancel Draft

Effective Date: _____

Authorization Agreement for Automated Bank Draft

Automated Payment Authorization

I (we) hereby authorize Greenwood Forest Baptist Church to initiate debit entries to my (our) account designated below at the depository financial institution named below and to debit same account. I authorize credit entries, if necessary, for any debit entries that are determined to be in error. I acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law.

This authorization is to remain in full force and effect until Greenwood Forest Baptist Church has received written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination that is to be received at least five (5) business days prior to the proposed effective date of the termination of the authorization.

Financial Institution Information

Financial Institution Name: _____

Routing Number: _____ (9 digits on bottom left corner of check)

Account Number: _____ Type: Checking Savings

Account Information

Account Holder Name(s): _____

Full Mailing Address _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Debit Account Every: Month Twice a Month Week

- If weekly, what day of the week: _____ (If on a holiday, debit occurs day before)
- If non-weekly, what date(s) of the month: _____

Amount of Each Debit: \$ _____

- Stewardship Giving Portion: \$ _____
- Designated Giving to : _____ Portion: \$ _____
- Designated Giving to : _____ Portion: \$ _____
- Designated Giving to : _____ Portion: \$ _____

Please attach a voided check to this document.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Connect

📍 110 SE Maynard Road Cary, NC 27511

☎ 919-467-0481

✉ info@gfbccary.org

🌐 gfbccary.org

🐦 @gfbccary

📘 @greenwoodforestcary

Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efird, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Associate Pastor

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

Helen Bishop, Organist

All Who Serve This Church

