



Greenwood Forest
Baptist Church





GREENWOOD FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost | Livestreamed Service

July 26, 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 (v. 1 & 3)

God of the Fertile Fields

1 God of the fer - tile fields, shap - er of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - ery land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - ery - where, that all may live.
 no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Welcome to Worship

Rev. Lauren Efird

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

◆ Passing of the Peace

Rev. Efird

Call to Worship (Psalm 119:129-136)

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

Leader: Your decrees, O God, are wonderful;

People: Therefore, my soul keeps them.

Leader: The unfolding of your words gives light;

People: It imparts understanding to the simple.

Leader: With open mouth I pant,

People: Because I long for your commandments.

Leader: Turn to me and be gracious to me,

People: As is your custom toward those who love your name.

Leader: Keep my steps steady according to your promise,

People: And never let iniquity have dominion over me.

Leader: Redeem me from human oppression,

People: That I may keep your precepts.

Leader: Make your face shine upon your servant,

People: And teach me your statutes.

Leader: My eyes shed streams of tears

People: Because your law is not kept.

Invocation

Rev. Dr. Stacks

1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God
2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,

and His righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
seek and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be

add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Offertory Prayer

Rev. Dr. Stacks

◆ 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.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Stacks

We affirm each prayer with the following response:

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

We conclude the Prayers of the People with 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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

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.

Anthem

Offertory

John Ness Beck

With what shall I come before the Lord
And bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
Shall I come before him with yearling calves?
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
With ten thousand rivers of oil?
Shall I give him my firstborn for my transgressions,
The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

God has shown you, O mortal;
God has shown you what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you
But to do justice, and to love kindness,
And to walk humbly,
Walk humbly with your God.

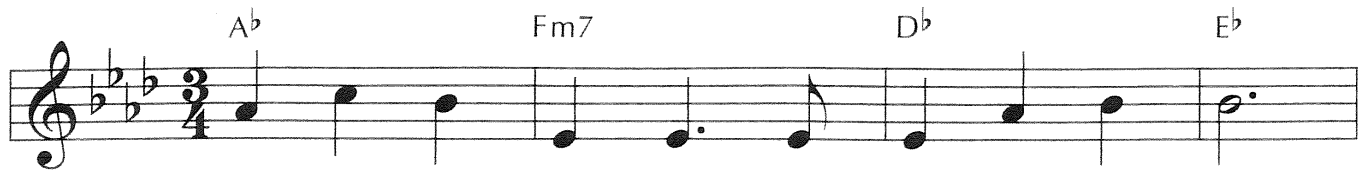
Sermon

Hidden and Unexpected Things

Rev. Efir

◆ Hymn

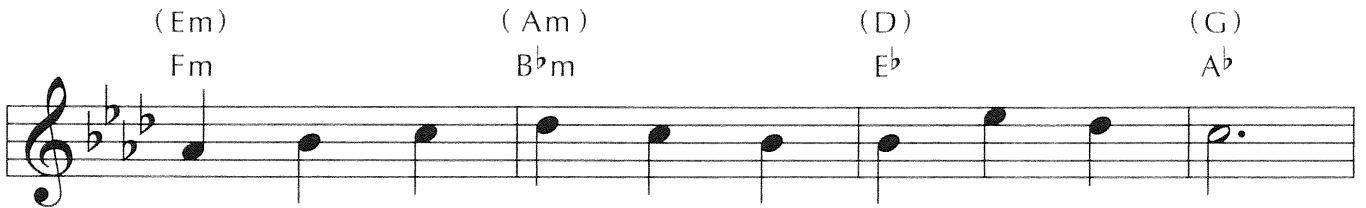
What Is the World Like?



1 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 2 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 3 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 4 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 5 These are the sto - ries that Je - sus im - parts,



Mus - tard seeds grow more than we can con - ceive:
 Wit - ness the wan - der - ing child com - ing home;
 No more is neigh - bor just al - ly or friend;
 Read - y for feast - ing, we watch through the night,
 filled with the Spir - it who joins us as one.



roots thread the soil; branch - es reach for the sun.
 watch as the par - ent breaks in - to a run.
 peace thrives in plac - es where once there was none.
 tend - ing our lamps till the new day's be - gun.
 Born through our voic - es, our hands, and our hearts,



This is how God moves us each to be - lieve.
 This is how God longs for us when we roam.
 This is how God works when ri - val - ries end.
 This is how God read - ies us for the light.
 this is a new world where God's will is done.

◆ **Benediction**

Rev. Efirid

◆ **Postlude**

Variations on "Dundee"

Stephen Gabrielsen

*Today's hymns come from Celebrating Grace (Celebrating Grace Inc.)
and Glory to God (Westminster John Knox Press).*

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Focus on Community

Prayer Concerns

Jim Allen

Nell Allen

Peter Barboriak

(Valerie Brooks' friend)

Gilles Bikindou

Kitty Blanton

Marjorie Floyd

James Mark Frazier

(Sue Hughes' brother)

Sharon Guenther

Janet Merriman

(Roz Slawson's friend)

Warren Miller, Jr.

(Randy Palmer's cousin)

John and Sylvia Morgan

Sara McMillan Perkinson

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

Jennifer Prilliman

(Linda Chappell's friend)

Gerald Radford

(Susan Beck's friend)

Miriam Rodriguez

(Roz Slawson's sister)

Fred Seeger

Allison Smith

Dave Thomas

Alison Zieglmeier

Our partner church,

Ebenezer Baptist, Cuba

Announcements and Updates

Antiracist Reading Groups

Our antiracist reading groups are completing their reading of *Me and White Supremacy* by Layla Saad, and are preparing to begin *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi. If you are interested in joining us, now would be an excellent time. We will begin reading *How to Be an Antiracist* on August 12, so please email Rev. Stacks at stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org by Sunday, August 9 if you would like to participate.

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 Ministry

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

	<i>This Week</i>	<i>YTD</i>
Total Giving	\$ 7,661	\$ 954,868
Less Together We Build Giving	\$ 350	\$ 291,269
Less Other Designated Giving	<u>\$ 225</u>	<u>\$ 43,755</u>
Actual Stewardship Giving	\$ 7,086	\$ 619,844
Stewardship Giving needed to fully subscribe budget	<u>\$ 14,533</u>	<u>\$ 716,801</u>
Over (Under)	\$ (7,447)	\$ (96,957)

Way to Give at GFBC

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.

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

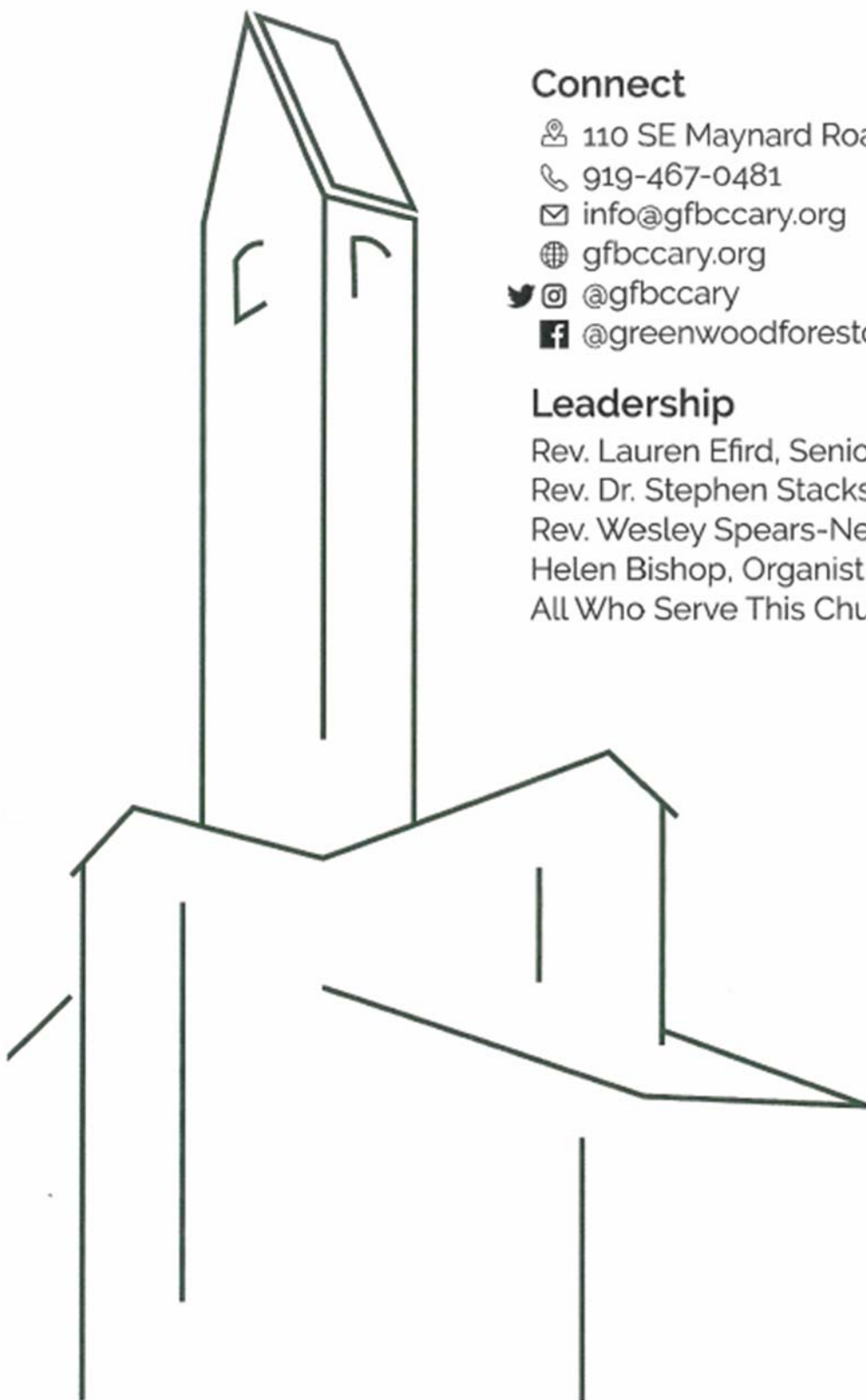
- If weekly, what day of the week: _____ (If on a holiday, debit occurs day before)
- If non-weekly, what date(s) of the month: _____

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
