



Greenwood Forest
Baptist Church





GREENWOOD FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH

Hanging of the Green | Reign of Christ Sunday

November 22, 2020

Welcome to Greenwood Forest!

We are so glad you've chosen to join us this week. Greenwood Forest 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**

Today is Reign of Christ Sunday, when we remember that Christ is the true king who reigns and that Jesus is Lord above all. As we end this church year, we also prepare our hearts for a new one and for the season of Advent. It feels hard to prepare this year. We are missing being in the sanctuary together; we are wondering what the holidays are going to bring; we are unsettled as we are physically isolated from one another and unable to carry on with our normal traditions. We cannot prepare our sanctuary together this year, so we are inviting you to prepare your hearts for the coming of the Christ child as you prepare your homes for this season. Even if we don't feel ready for it or we wish it could be something it's not this year, we are entering into a holy season, and maybe the disruption in our normal routines invites us to experience the season anew. Maybe the uneasiness with which we approach this season gives us the opportunity to remember that it is Christ alone who gives us hope and life.

Prelude

We Gather Together

arr. Jimmy Baas

Welcome to Worship

Rev. Lauren Efird

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

◆ **Passing of the Peace**

Call to Worship

Luke Perrin

Leader: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Leader: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Leader: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Leader: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the prophets, who foretold the saving work of God.

Leader: For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn it,

People: But that through him the world might be saved.

Invocation

Luke Perrin



1. Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set Thy
 2. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and

peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us;
 yet a King, born to reign in us for - ev - er,

let us find our rest in Thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -
 now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By Thine own e - ter - nal

la - tion, hope of all the earth Thou art; dear de - sire of
 Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone; by Thine all - suf -

ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 fi - cient mer - it, raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

◆ 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.

Meditation on Greenery

Rev. Efird

Meditation on Light

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Meditation on the Chrismon Tree

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

Meditation on the Advent Wreath

Rev. Lauren Efird

◆ Hymn

Savior of the Nations, Come

1. Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son make here your home.
 2. From the God-head forth — you came, And re - turn un - to the same,
 3. You, the cho - sen Ho - ly One, Have o'er sin the vic - t'ry won.
 4. Bright-ly does your man - ger shine, Glo - rious is its light di - vine.

Mar - vel now, O heav'n and — earth, That the Lord chose such — a birth.
 Cap - tive lead - ing death and — hell. High the song of tri - umph swell!
 Bound-less shall your king - dom — be; When shall we its glo - ries see?
 Let not sin o'er - cloud this — light; Ev - er be our faith — thus bright.

◆ Benediction

Rev. Efird

◆ Postlude

The Holly and the Ivy

arr. Jim Brickman

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*)

Joe Malone
(*Virgil & Gail Jones' friend*)

James Marlowe
Janet Merriman
(*Roz Slawson's friend*)

Sylvia Morgan

Frances Parker

(*Felice Parent's mother*)

Dorothy McDermott

(*MaryBeth McDermott's
mother*)

Sara McMillan Perkinson
(*Leon & Sue Perkinson's
daughter-in-law*)

Kathy Rhoades
Miriam Rodriguez
(*Roz Slawson's sister*)

Fred Seeger

Marie Seeger

Kathi Smith

Dick Suddarth

Gladys Wells

Alison Zieglmeier

Our partner church,
Ebenezer Baptist, Cuba

Announcements and Updates

Staff Love Offering

We have an Advent tradition of collecting a love offering for our staff. The offering is distributed to the staff as an expression of our gratitude for their hard work, dedication, leadership, and faithful service to our church throughout the year. **If you would like to contribute to this offering, please mail your gifts to the church and make out checks payable to Rick Chappell. Alternatively, you can Venmo gifts to Leta Huntsinger at @leta-huntsinger, as well.** Donations will be collected now through December 15. If you have questions please contact either Rick Chappell or Leta Huntsinger.

Ministerial Intern Luke Perrin Teaching on Birth Narratives

Please join us via Zoom on Sunday, November 29, December 6, and December 13 at 9:30am for our first installment of the 2020-21 Teaching Series! Our ministerial intern Luke Perrin will be teaching on the birth narratives from the gospels of Matthew and Luke, a topic he has studied this semester. Mark your calendars – Zoom details will come via email ahead of the first session next Sunday.

Faith Formation via Zoom

As we continue to practice social distancing, many our Faith Formation classes are meeting via Zoom. Special Studies meets Mondays at 2pm, Crossroads on Sundays at 9:45am, Generations every other Thursday at 6:30pm, and Agape at various times on Sundays. The Kindergarten through Fifth Grade Faith Formation Class meets twice a month. Youth meet for Alpha & Omega every Sunday afternoon. Contact your Faith Formation leadership for more details.

Amazon Smile

Remember that you can designate Greenwood Forest as your charity of choice on Amazon Smile so that a portion of your holiday shopping proceeds come to the church! Visit smile.amazon.com to learn more.

Giving Tuesday

In recent years, the Tuesday after Black Friday and Cyber Monday has been called Giving Tuesday. Please consider making an extra gift to Greenwood Forest on this Giving Tuesday to help us close the gap between our actual giving and our target last month!

Christmas Gifts for our Neighbors

Every year, we join with our friends at the Kirk of Kildaire in sharing Christmas gifts with our neighbors, especially the children we work with during the Neighborhood Summer Program. This year, we have several opportunities for you to give this year depending on your comfort-level and ability to shop for and provide gifts. Additionally, instead of providing a physical sign-up at church, there is a virtual sign-up available at gfbccary.org/gifts (this link will take you to the Kirk of Kildaire's online portal for neighborhood gifts).

Here's how it works:

1. Select your recipients at the online sign-up portal (gfbccary.org/gifts).
2. Purchase your gifts by whatever means you are most safe and comfortable.
3. Wrap your gift. Label it with the numerical code, name, and brief description of the gift you selected at the sign-up portal (e.g., KNM304 Bryan, Play Kitchen).
4. Drop off your gift at the Kirk of Kildaire during a drop off time or to the Kirk of Kildaire church office by Dec. 6. Drive-thru drop off times include Nov. 22 (1-2pm), Dec. 1 (1-3pm), and Dec. 5 (1-3pm).

If you would like to help without leaving your home, you can order online and have it shipped to the Kirk of Kildaire (200 High Meadow Drive Cary, NC 27511) with the label information from Step 3 as the recipient name. If you have any questions, please email Rev. Spears-Newsome at wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org.

Finance Update

Below are finance updates from the end of the 2019-2020 budget year as well as October 2020. Our ongoing practice will be to include the previous month's financial information in the bulletin as soon as it becomes available.

	October 2020	Year-to-Date
Congregational Giving	\$49,387	\$97,420
Congregational Giving Target	\$53,624	\$107,248
Congregational Giving Under/Over	(\$4,237)	(\$9,828)
Other Receipts	\$1,218	\$1,332
Total Giving and Receipts	\$50,605	\$98,752
Total Disbursements	\$68,968	\$129,102
Under/Over Receipts vs. Disbursements	(\$18,363)	(\$30,350)
Together We Build Giving	\$2,566	\$15,366

"Souper" Love Feast

**November 22 @ 6pm
Virtual Event**

Join us as we
construct Advent
Wreaths together in
anticipation of the
coming holidays!



Here's what you need to know to participate:

- 1. Plan on making your favorite soup to enjoy with your church family on the call.**
- 2. Families with Children and/or Youth:** We are preparing bundles for families with kids or youth that contain your wreath making materials, some curriculum to use with your family during Advent, and a treat. These can be picked up at the church between 2 and 3pm on the 22nd ahead of the Zoom event. They will be at the Fellowship Hall entrance on Sunday.
- 3. All Greenwood Forest Members:** Although the Children's Ministry is hosting this event, it is open to anyone! If you do not have children or youth but want to join us, we will have extra greenery, candles, and oases available for you at the church between 2 and 3pm on Sunday.



Celebrate the holidays
with Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

December 6 Youth Advent Party

December 13 Children's Birthday Party for Jesus (10am)

*December 13 Christmas Celebration (4pm)**

December 16 Service of Lament (7pm)

December 20 Christmas Breakfast (10am)

December 20 Service of Lessons and Carols (11am)

December 24 Children's Christmas Eve Service (11am)

December 24 Candlelight Christmas Eve (8pm)

**socially-distant, in-person event*





The discernment process is underway to imagine how the church property might be used for greater social impact.* The Discernment Committee will host two Zoom conversations in December for those who have not participated in the process yet: December 1 from 5-6pm and December 8 from 5-6pm. Please RSVP with Chris Beal at cdbear@gmail.com, and a Zoom link will be sent to you.

** In October, we began a series of conversations about repurposing the church property to greater effect. You can view the opening conversation and important resources at gfbccary.org/repurposing.*

Ways to Give



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 on the next page of this 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!



see bank draft form on next page





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

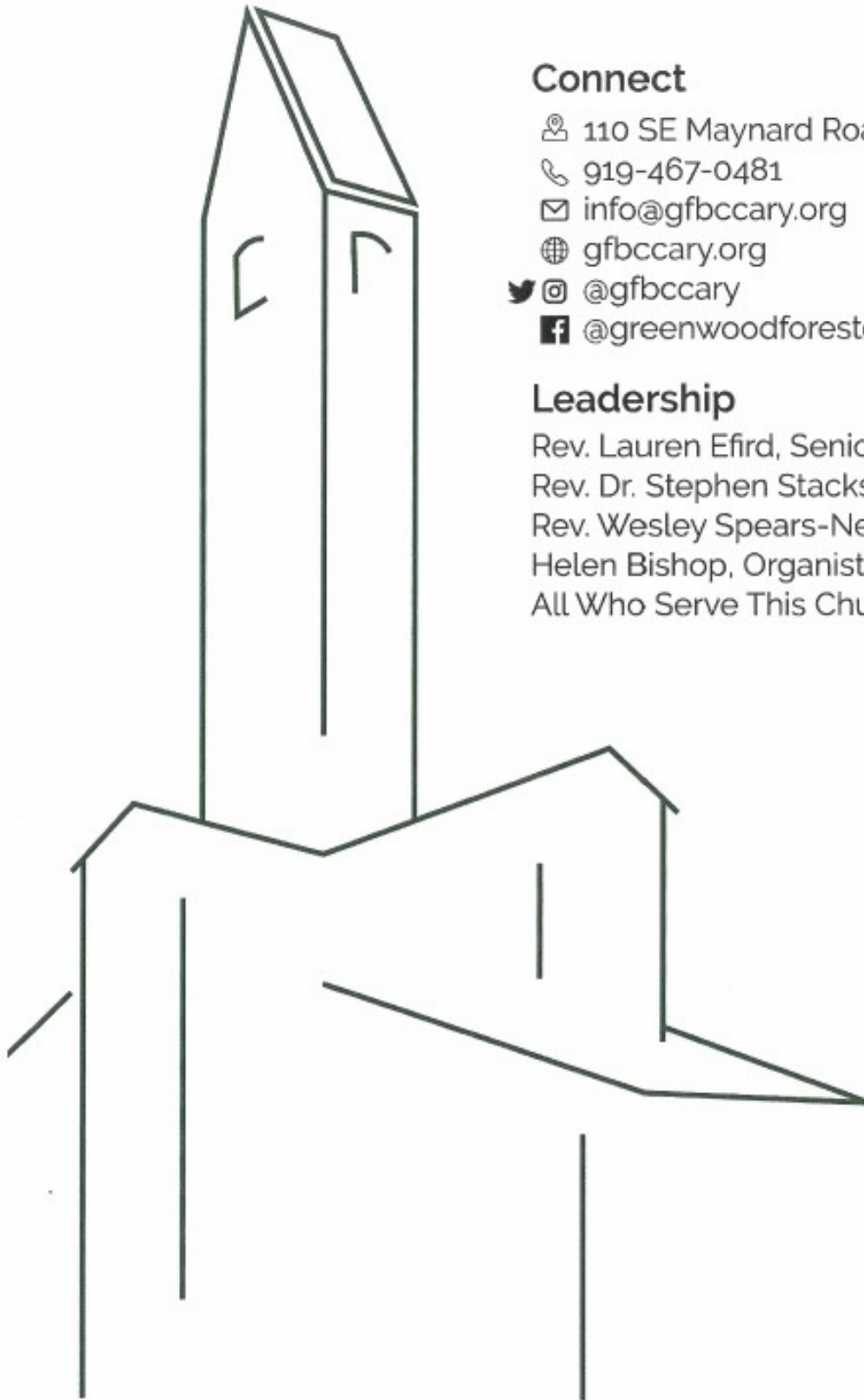
- If weekly, what day of the week: _____ (If on a holiday, debit occurs day before)
- If non-weekly, what date(s) of the month: _____

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
