



Greenwood Forest

Baptist Church





ADVENT

an inclusive community of faith

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Welcome to Greenwood Forest!

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, 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.



Order of Worship

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Service of Lessons and Carols

Prelude

O Come, O Come Emmanuel arr. Philips
Piano: Teri Edwards; Organ: Helen Bishop

Welcome and Bidding Prayer

Rev. Lauren Efirid

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

**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.**

Opening Hymn

Once in Royal David's City

(see page 3)

Lesson 1

Genesis 3:8-19 Ivy Nuss
God promises Adam that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

Carol

The Fall Gungor
Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

The fall, the fall, oh God, the fall of man
The fruit is found in every eye and every hand
Nothing there is nothing yet in truest form
We walk like ghosts upon the earth, the ground it groans

How long, how long will you wait
How long, how long till you save us all, save us all

continued —>

Once in Royal David's City

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a
2. He came down to earth from heav - en who is
3. For He is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by
4. Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the

low - ly cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her
God and Lord of all, and His shel - ter was a
day on earth He grew; He was tempt - ed, scorned, re -
ox - en stand - ing by, we shall see Him, but in

ba - by in a man - ger for His bed. Ma - ry
sta - ble, and His cra - dle was a stall. With the
ject - ed, tears and smiles like us He knew. Thus He
heav - en set at God's right hand on high; when like

was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle Child.
poor and meek and low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
feels for all our sad - ness, and He shares in all our glad - ness.
stars His chil - dren crowned, robed in white shall gath - er round.

Turn your face to me

The light, the light, the morning light is gone
And all that's left is fragile breath in failing lungs
The night, the night, the guiding night has come
Uniting lover with his bride, more precious than the dawn

How long, how long must we wait

Turn your face to me

Lesson 2

Genesis 22

Gail Jones

God promises Abraham that his seed shall bless all the nations.

Carol

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

(see page 5)

Lesson 3

Isaiah 9

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

Isaiah foretells the coming of the Savior.

Carol

Baby Son

John Mark McMillan

Praise Team

We thought you'd come
with a crown of gold
A string of pearls and a cashmere robe
We thought you'd clinch an iron fist
And rain like fire on the politics
But without a sword, no armored guard
But common born in mother's arms
The government now rests upon
The shoulders of this baby Son

Have you no room inside your heart
The inn is full, the out is dark
But upon profane shines sacred sun
Not ashamed to be one of us

Gloria, Allelu

Christ the Lord

We've longed for you

Lesson 4

Isaiah 11

Ella Biser

Isaiah foretells the peace that Christ will bring.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2. O come, Thou Day - spring, come and cheer our spir - its by Thine
3. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, and or - der all things,
4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind all peo - ples in one

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un -
ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and
far and nigh; to us the path of knowl - edge show, and
heart and mind; bid en - vy, strife, and quar - rels cease; fill

til the Son of God ap - pear.
death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
cause us in her ways to go.
all the world with heav - en's peace.

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Carol

Lo, How a Rose/
The Rose

Craig Hella Johnson

Sanctuary Choir; Katie Lockhart, soloist

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung.

Some say love, it is a river that drowns the tender reed;

Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung.

Some say love it is a razor that leaves your soul to bleed;

It came a flow'ret bright,

Some say love, it is a hunger, an endless aching need;

Amid the cold of winter

I say love, it is a flower, and you, its only seed.

When half-spent was the night.

It's the heart afraid of breaking that never learns to dance;

It's the dream afraid of waking that never takes the chance;

It's the one who won't be taken who cannot seem to give;

And the soul afraid of dying that never learns to live.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,

When the night has been too lonely and the road has been too long;

Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.

And you think that love is only for the lucky and the strong;

True man, yet very God.

Just remember in the winter far beneath the bitter snow;

From sin and death he saves us

Lies the seed that with the sun's love, in the spring becomes the rose.

And lightens every load.

Lesson 5

Luke 1:26-38

Rev. Efrid

The angel Gabriel blesses the virgin Mary.

Carol

Up Good Christian Folk, and Listen

arr. Woodward

Sanctuary Choir

Up! good christen folk, and listen

How the merry church bells ring,

And from steeple bid good people

Come adore the new-born King:

Tell the story how from glory
God came down at Christmas-tide,
Bringing gladness, chasing sadness,
Showering blessings far and wide,

Born of mother, blest o'er other,
Ex Maria Virgine,
In a stable ('tis no fable),
Christus natus hodie.

Lesson 6

Luke 2:1, 3-7

Josh Mills

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

Carol

Away in a Manger

(see page 8)

Lesson 7

Luke 2:8-16

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

The shepherds go to the manger.

Carol

Worship Christ the
Newborn King
Sanctuary Choir

Lloyd Larson

Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship,
Come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn king.

Shepherds in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship,
Come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn king.

(continued on page 9)

Away in a Manger

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the Ba - by a - wakes,
3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head;
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.
close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray.

the stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
I love Thee, Lord Je - sus, look down from the sky
Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
and fit us for heav - en, to live with Thee there.

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say, what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Gloria in excelsis deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn king.

Gloria in excelsis deo!

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Shepherds, in the fields,
Earth and heaven,
Come and worship Christ,
Christ the newborn king!

Lesson 8

Matthew 2:1-12

Rev. Kadeisha Bonsu

The magi are led by the star to Jesus.

Carol

In the Bleak Midwinter

Harold Darke

Sanctuary Choir

Susan Meador and Blair Biser, soloists

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim, worship night and day,
A breastful of milk, and a mangerful of hay;
Enough for him, whom angels fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel which adore.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Lesson 9

John 1:1-12

Luke Perrin

John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.

Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

(see page 11)

Collect and Benediction

Rev. Efrd

Postlude

What Child is This

arr. Guaraldi

Today's hymns come from Celebrating Grace (Celebrating Grace, Inc.). Copyrighted music use is covered by CCLI License #1243530 and OneLicense #A-721397.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O
 2. True God of true God, Light from Light E - ter - nal, lo, He
 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, O sing, all ye
 4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, Je - sus, to

come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come and be - hold Him, born the King of
 shuns not the vir - gin's womb; Son of the Fa - ther, be - got - ten, not cre -
 cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the
 Thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap -

an - gels!
 at - ed.
 high - est!
 pear - ing!
 O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,

O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Poinsettia Dedications



Dave and Elise Atkins	<i>in memory of</i>	Delores C. Atkins Katherine D. Taylor
Bess Averde	<i>in honor of</i>	Barry Patchett
Chuck and Susan Beck	<i>in honor of</i>	Gilles Bikindou
The Family of Luther Brewer	<i>in memory of</i>	Luther Brewer
Tom and Pat Brooks	<i>in honor of</i>	our children and grandchildren
Carolyn Camp	<i>in memory of</i>	our parents
Bill, Monty, Tess, and Sophie Coleman	<i>in honor of</i>	our dedicated health workers
Mary Foster	<i>in memory of</i>	Jennifer Denning
Jane Griffin	<i>in memory of</i>	Kirk Foster
Don and Laura Hamrick	<i>in memory of</i>	Ann Griffin Clawson
Jean Harris	<i>in memory of</i>	David Lee Hamrick
Virgil and Gail Jones	<i>in memory of</i>	Jerry Harris
Tomisin, Bamise, and Folu Ogundipe	<i>in honor of</i>	Gerald and Anna Jones Ford and Dorothy Mastin
Gerry and Harold Ritter	<i>in honor of</i>	our children and grandchildren
Jeneal and Judy Teander	<i>in memory of</i>	Tayo and Bola Ogundipe
Judy and Vincent Vaccaro	<i>in memory of</i>	Dean Ritter, ET and Geneva Parham; Ruth and Walter Ritter
Carolyn Walker	<i>in memory of</i>	Cora and Joe Teander
Jenny Williams and Marvel Wahrman	<i>in memory of</i>	Mary and Harold Green
Wayne and Jenny Williams	<i>in honor of</i>	Jean Harris
	<i>in memory of</i>	Jerry Harris
	<i>in memory of</i>	Len Walker
	<i>in memory of</i>	Solomon Wahrman and Patricia Ellis
	<i>in memory of</i>	John and Marion Williams



Pray

Prayer List*

Prayer for this Week

We encourage you to take some time to pray over these words this week.

"Truly wondrous is the whole chronicle of the incarnation. From the time when Christ came, the ancient slavery is ended, the devil confounded, demons take to flight, the power of death is broken, paradise is unlocked, the curse is taken away, sin is removed from us, error driven out, truth has been brought back, and the speech of kindness diffused. A heavenly way of life has been implanted on the earth."

—Leo the Great (d. 461)

Quoted in *Common Prayer: Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals*

**To add a name to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Names rotate off and can be re-added upon request.*

Emma Aepli
Jim Allen
Nell Allen
The Allgood Family
at the death of Peggy
Peter Barboriak
(Valerie Brooks' friend)
Gilles Bikindou
Kitty Blanton
Louise Faulkner
James Mark Frazier
(Sue Hughes' brother)
Annette King
Doris Martin
at the death of her sister-in-law, Wilma Sprinkle
Janet Merriman
(Roz Slawson's friend)
Sylvia Morgan
Frances Parker
(Felice Parent's mother)
Barry Patchett
Sara McMillan Perkinson
(Leon and Sue Perkinson's daughter-in-law)
Roz Slawson
at the death of her sister, Miriam Rodriguez
Carol Wells
Gladys Wells
Alison Zieglmeier
Our partner church,
Ebenezer Baptist, Cuba



Virtual Christmas Breakfast & Cookbook

We'll be having a virtual Christmas Breakfast on December 20 at 10am before the Service of Lessons and Carols at 11am. You'll receive an invite to the Zoom call to join fellow church members over breakfast from our homes. If you'd like to prepare some of your fellow Greenwood Forest members' favorite dishes, you can access a special Greenwood Forest Christmas Breakfast Cookbook at gfbccary.org/cookbook!

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*



Update on ONE Wake's Efforts on the Downtown South Development

Despite a unanimous “no” vote from the Raleigh Planning Commission and significant action take by ONE Wake and other community groups, the Raleigh City Council voted “yes” (7-1, Councilman Cox voted “no”) on the Downtown South rezoning application on December 15. The Council declined to wait until December 17 even though there were a record number of public comments regarding the development, so much so that not everyone who signed up was permitted to speak.

ONE Wake did not win everything that the organization wanted before the rezoning was approved (winning commitments before a rezoning is far easier than winning them afterward), but consistent and persistent pressure from Greenwood Forest and the coalition of congregations and institutions that comprise ONE Wake did win binding commitments from John Kane, the primary developer of the project. These commitments include stormwater protections (a key demand from Southeast Raleigh institutions already vulnerable to flooding) and some affordable housing (though far short of what we believe is necessary).

The rezoning application was the first round of ONE Wake's campaign to hold Kane Realty and our elected officials accountable to the top concerns and interests of ONE Wake families and communities. A new round of action begins in 2021: Kane is requesting direct tax payer subsidy for Downtown South, which could be as much as \$200-\$300 million. Stay tuned for more information about how we can move forward on defending our neighbors and ONE Wake members in Southeast Raleigh.

While you wait, you can send your thoughts and reactions about this decision by the City Council to the Raleigh City Clerk's office:
cityclerkpetition@raleighnc.gov.



From the Finance Ministry: As we look toward the end of 2020, we are writing to ask you to consider a year-end gift to your church community. We know this year has been filled with a lot of uncertainty, and this has had an impact on our finances. With one month of giving left in this calendar year, we have received about \$100,000 less than we did in 2019. If you are able, we ask you to consider an additional year-end gift to the church.



Year-End Stock Donations



If you plan to make a stock donation to the church this year, please do so as soon as possible as it takes several weeks for transfers to be processed. The donated stock must be in the church's account by December 31 for you to receive credit for your 2020 taxes. Contact the church office at info@gfbccary.org if you need specifics on how to process a stock transaction.

November Finance Update

	Nov. 2020	Year-to-Date
Congregational Giving	\$50,417	\$147,837
Congregational Giving Target	\$67,030	\$174,278
Congregational Giving Under/Over	(\$16,613)	(\$26,441)
Other Receipts	\$2,710	\$4,043
Total Giving and Receipts	\$53,127	\$151,880
Total Disbursements	\$54,116	\$183,219
Under/Over Receipts vs. Disbursements	(\$989)	(\$31,339)
Together We Build Giving	\$14,208	\$29,599



How to Support Greenwood Forest during the Pandemic

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—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.





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

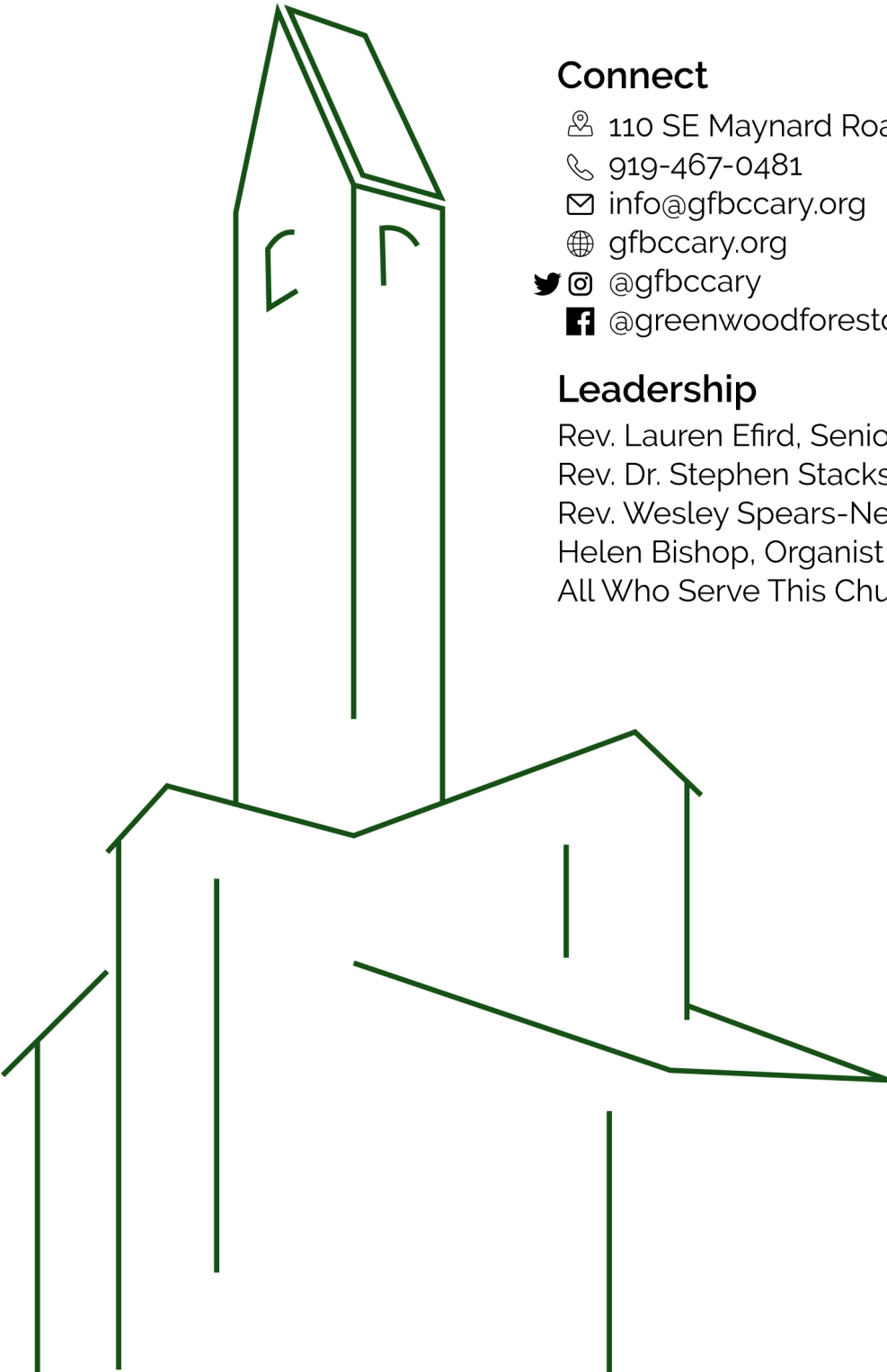
- If weekly, what day of the week: _____ (If on a holiday, debit occurs day before)
- If non-weekly, what date(s) of the month: _____

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

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 919-467-0481

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Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efrid, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Associate Pastor

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

Helen Bishop, Organist

All Who Serve This Church
