

Greenwood Forest Baptist Church





an inclusive community of faith

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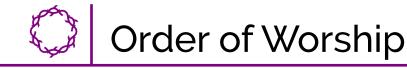
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Welcome to Greenwood Forest!

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.



The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Prelude Give Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries arr. David N. Johnson

Chiming of the Hour

Gathering Hymn (v. 2)

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Rev. Lauren Efird

(see page 3)

Welcome to Worship

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship (Psalm 22:23-31)

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Leader: O give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;

People: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,

People: Those redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands

Leader: from the east and from the west,

People: from the north and from the south.

Leader: Some were sick through their sinful ways,

People: and because of their iniquities endured affliction;

Leader: They loathed any kind of food,

People: And they drew near to the gates of death.

Leader: Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,

People: And God saved them from their distress;

Leader: God sent out the word and healed them,

People: And delivered them from destruction.

Leader: Let them thank the LORD for steadfast love,

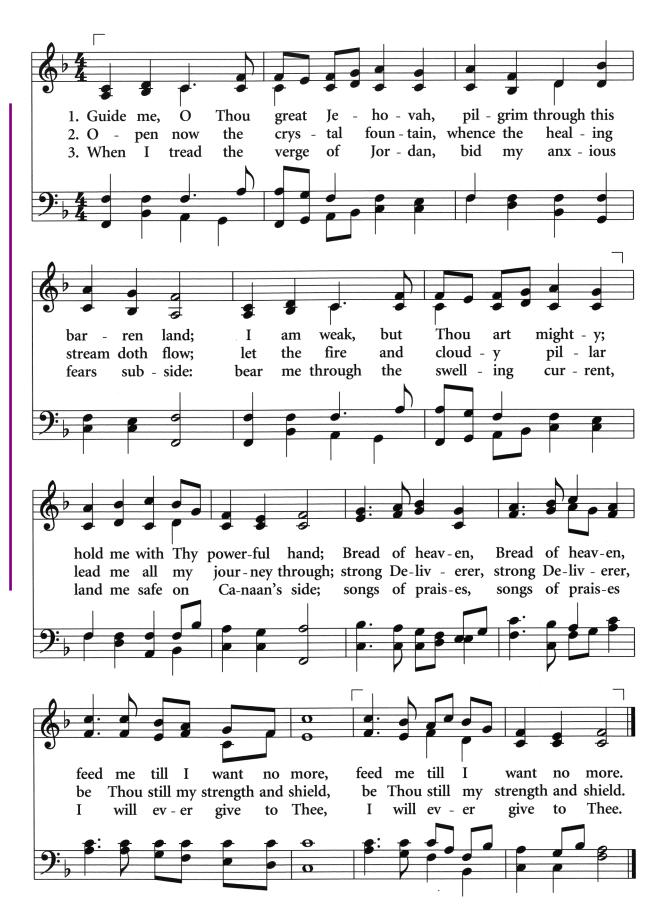
People: For God's wonderful works to humankind.

Leader: And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,

People: And tell of God's deeds with songs of joy.

Invocation

Rev. Spears-Newsome



Hymn (vv. 1 & 3)

I Love to Tell the Story

(see page 5)

Offertory Prayer

Presentation of the Offering

Leta Huntsinger

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

Praise God, who forms us from the dust. Praise Christ, who frees us through the cross. Praise Holy Ghost who drives us on To meet God in the wilderness. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Stephen 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.

Scripture Reading

John 3:14-21

Luke Perrin

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.

-ove to Tell the Story

1. I love to tell the sto of un - seen things a - bove, of _ ry 2. I love to tell the what sto ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat 3. I love to tell the sto ry; for those who know it best seem Je - sus and His Ie sus and His glo - ry, of love: Ι Ι seems, each time I tell it, more won - der-ful - ly sweet: hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing it, like the rest: and to hear to tell the sto-ry be-cause I know'tis true; it sat - is-fies my love to tell the sto-ry, for some have nev - er heard the mes-sage of sallove when, in scenes of glo-ry, I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old long-ings noth-ing else can do. as va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word. I love to tell the sto-ry, 'twill have loved so long. that Ι sto - ry be my theme in glo-ry to tell the old, old sto-ry of Je-sus and His love.

Anthem	God So Loved the World	Bob Chilcott
	God so loved the World God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Sor that whoso believeth in him should not p but have everlasting life.	
	For God sent not his Son into the wo to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be	
Sermon	Here Be Dragons	Rev. Lauren Efird
Hymn	(see page 7)	at Wondrous Love is This
Benediction		Rev. Efird
Postlude	God Is Here!	arr. Charles Callahan

* * *

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



Pray

Prayer List*

Emma Aeppli Beverly Allen Jim Allen Nell Allen Peter Barboriak (Valerie Brooks' friend) Gilles Bikindou Carol Crews (Katie Lockhart's aunt) James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes' brother) Annette King Marian McGill (Leta Huntsinger's aunt) Janet Merriman (Roz Slawson's friend) Sylvia Morgan Sara McMillan Perkinson (Leon and Sue Perkinson's daughter-in-law) Harold Ritter Carol Wells Gladys Wells Jennifer Whaley Alison Zieglmeier Our partner church, Ebenezer Baptist, Cuba

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

Prayer for this Week 🐇



Lent is a time of re-examination of our lives and a time to reflect on the voices to whom we listen. Consider this prayer this week and also access other Lenten resources at <u>gfbccary.org/lent</u>.

O Lord, who brings to naught the designs of the nations, O Ruler who raises the lowly and humbles the lofty, have mercy on those who are disheartened! Raise us who have fallen, show thyself to those who entreat thee, and heal those who are sick. Feed the hungry, free our captives, strengthen the weak, encourage those who lose heart!

Clement of Rome, "Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals"

Note of Thanks

Thank you all for your continued support through my cancer journey. It's been challenging, but knowing how many people we have on our team, rooting for us has really been uplifting. Whether it has been money, gift cards, meals, cards with kind words, or prayers, we appreciate it all and can never thank everyone enough. We are so grateful.

Alison, Elliot, Jackson, and Adalie Zieglmeier



a new fellowship experience from the creators of



Scripture Madness and Greenwood Forest Bracket Games for 2021

March Madness is here! Last year, we brought you the hotly-contested Hymn Madness tournament with stalwart "It is Well" taking the trophy. This year we are doubling the madness!

First, Scripture Madness will take the place of Hymn Madness. How will your favorite Bible verses compete with other favorites? Submit your favorites to Susan Beck by March 14 at carygator1@gmail.com. Things that sound like they're in the Bible but actually aren't like "cleanliness is next to godliness" and "God helps those who help themselves" will not be accepted! Voting begins on March 21.

Second, we will host a traditional Men's NCAA Basketball Bracket Challenge. Come show off your basketball knowledge—or your luck! The winner gets the coveted GFBC Fanatic Trophy. Will your name be etched beside the names of past champions Mark Soyars, Griffin Beal, and Chuck Beck? Email Susan (<u>carygator1@gmail.com</u>) to participate; if you played last year you will get an automatic invitation. Deadline to sign up is March 14.



Work Anniversary: Karen Burden, Office Administrator

Karen Burden joined Greenwood Forest Baptist Church's staff as our office administrator on March 24, 2014. This year marks her seventh year with us! Please congratulate Karen on her anniversary and thank her for her hard work and dedication to our church.



Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday | March 28 at 11am | Livestream

Palms will be placed under the Greenwood Forest Children's Center awning on Friday morning, March 26. We invite you to come by and pick up fronds for your household, take a picture waving your palms, and upload them at gfbccary.org/lent before Saturday evening to be a part of our virtual Palm Sunday processional.

Good Friday | April 2 at 7pm | Zoom

We will have our annual service of Good Friday together via Zoom. You will receive an invite via email on the day of the worship service.

Easter | April 4 at 11am | In-Person & Livestream

We will be celebrating Easter Sunday in-person at Greenwood Forest! We will have worship on the lawn that morning including all of the coronavirus precautions we used in the fall: social distancing of at least 6ft, masks are required, and please do not attend in-person if you are experiencing covid-19 symptoms. The service will also be livestreamed for those who cannot attend in-person.





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.

February 2021 Finance Update

Updated when the previous month's books have closed.

	Feb. 2021	Year-to-Date
Congregational Giving	\$52,002	\$333,256
Congregational Giving Target	\$53,624	\$366,444
Congregational Giving Under/Over	(\$1,622)	(\$33,188)
Other Receipts	\$390	\$12,640
Total Giving and Receipts	\$52,392	\$345,896
Total Disbursements	\$63.957	\$362,834
Under/Over Receipts vs. Disbursements	(\$11,565)	(\$16,938)
Together We Build Giving	\$3,393	\$80,328

Ways to Tithe

1. Set up an automatic payment through your bank using the "Bill Pay" function. This results in your bank mailing a check to the church weekly or monthly.

2. Give online through the church website. Simply go to <u>gfbccary.org/give</u> 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

Replace Existing Draft

Cancel Draft

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: OMonth O	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 mon	nth:
Amount of Each Debit: \$	
Stewardship Giving Portion: \$	
Designated Giving to:	Portion: \$
	Portion: \$
 Designated Giving to: 	Portion: \$

