

**Greenwood Forest Baptist Church
Children's Christmas Eve Service**



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

December 24, 2021

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE

► Welcome to Greenwood Forest Baptist Church!

We are so glad you've chosen to join us . 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.

an inclusive
community
of faith

- *If you need a hearing assistance device, they are available at the back of the sanctuary.*
- *Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera if in attendance.*



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Lyrics for all of the hymns sung in this service are printed. If you would like to see the music for each hymn, we've included the number of the hymn in the hymnals in the back of the pew in front of you.

Chiming of the Hour

Opening Hymn 127 (vv. 1 and 3)

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Hail the heaven-born prince of peace!
Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth,
Born to give us second birth.

Welcome to Worship

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Rev. Lauren Efird

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Efird

Anthem

Friendly Beasts

Sufjan Stevens

Jesus our brother, strong and good
Was humbly born in a stable rude
And the friendly beasts around him stood
Jesus our brother, strong and good

"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown
"I carried his mother up hill and down
I carried his mother to Bethlehem town"
"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown

"I," said the cow, all white and red
"I gave him my manger for his bed
I gave him my hay to pillow his head"
"I," said the cow, all white and red

"I," said the sheep with curly horn
"I gave him my wool for his blanket warm
He wore my coat on Christmas morn"
"I," said the sheep with curly horn

"I," said the dove from the rafters high
"I cooed him to sleep so he would not cry
We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I"
"I," said the dove from rafters high

Thus every beast by some good spell
In the stable dark was glad to tell
Of the gifts they gave Emmanuel
Of the gifts they gave Emmanuel



Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Leader: The world was once in darkness;

People: Now we have God's light—Jesus—to shine on us!

Leader: The words and promises of God are all true!

People: God has given us the best gift of all!

Leader: Rejoice! God is with us!

People: Praise be to God!

Invocation

Rev. Spears-Newsome

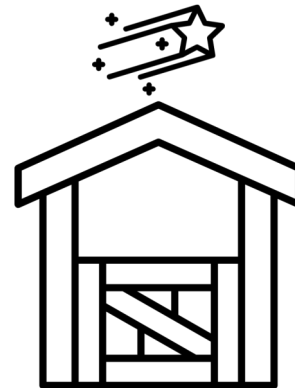
Reflection on the Stable and the Animals

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

Hymn 110 (v. 1)

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger,
No crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus
Laid down his sweet head
The stars in the sky
Looked down where he lay
The little Lord Jesus
Asleep on the hay.



Reflection on the Angel and Joseph

Rev. Efird

Hymn 137 (vv. 1 and 3)

Sing We Now of Christmas

Sing we now of Christmas,
Noel, sing we here!
Hear our grateful praises
To the babe so dear.

In the stall they found him;
Joseph and Mary mild,
Seated 'round the manger,
Watching the holy Child.

*Sing we Noel, the king is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas,
Sing we now Noel!*

*Sing we Noel, the king is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas,
Sing we now Noel!*

Reflection on Mary

Rev. Spears-Newsome



Hymn 107 (v. 2)

For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep the angels
Keep their watch of wondering love.

O Little Town of Bethlehem
O morning stars,
Together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king,
And peace to all the earth!

Reflections on the Christ Child

Rev. Dr. Stacks

Hymn 148 (v. 1)

What Child Is This?

What child is this, who,
Laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Reflection on the Shepherds

Rev. Efrid

Hymn 143 (v. 1)

Go Tell it on the Mountain

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!*

While shepherds keep their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

Reflection on the Magi

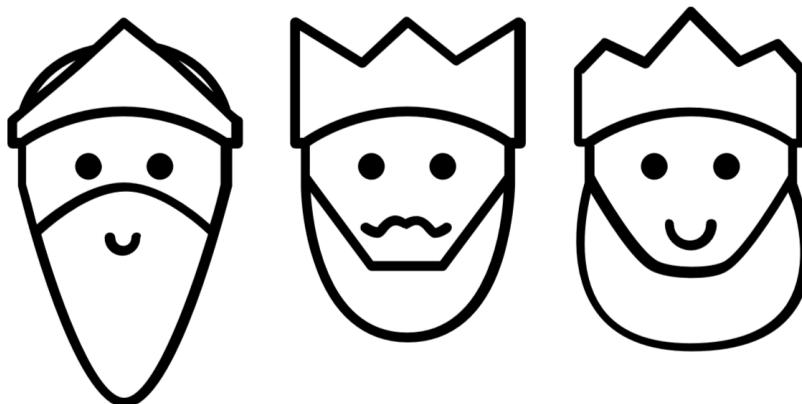
Rev. Spears-Newsome

Hymn 151 (v. 1)

We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

*O star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*



Closing Prayer

Rev. Efird

Hymn (vv. 1 and 4)

Silent Night, Holy Night

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our king;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

Benediction

Rev. Efird

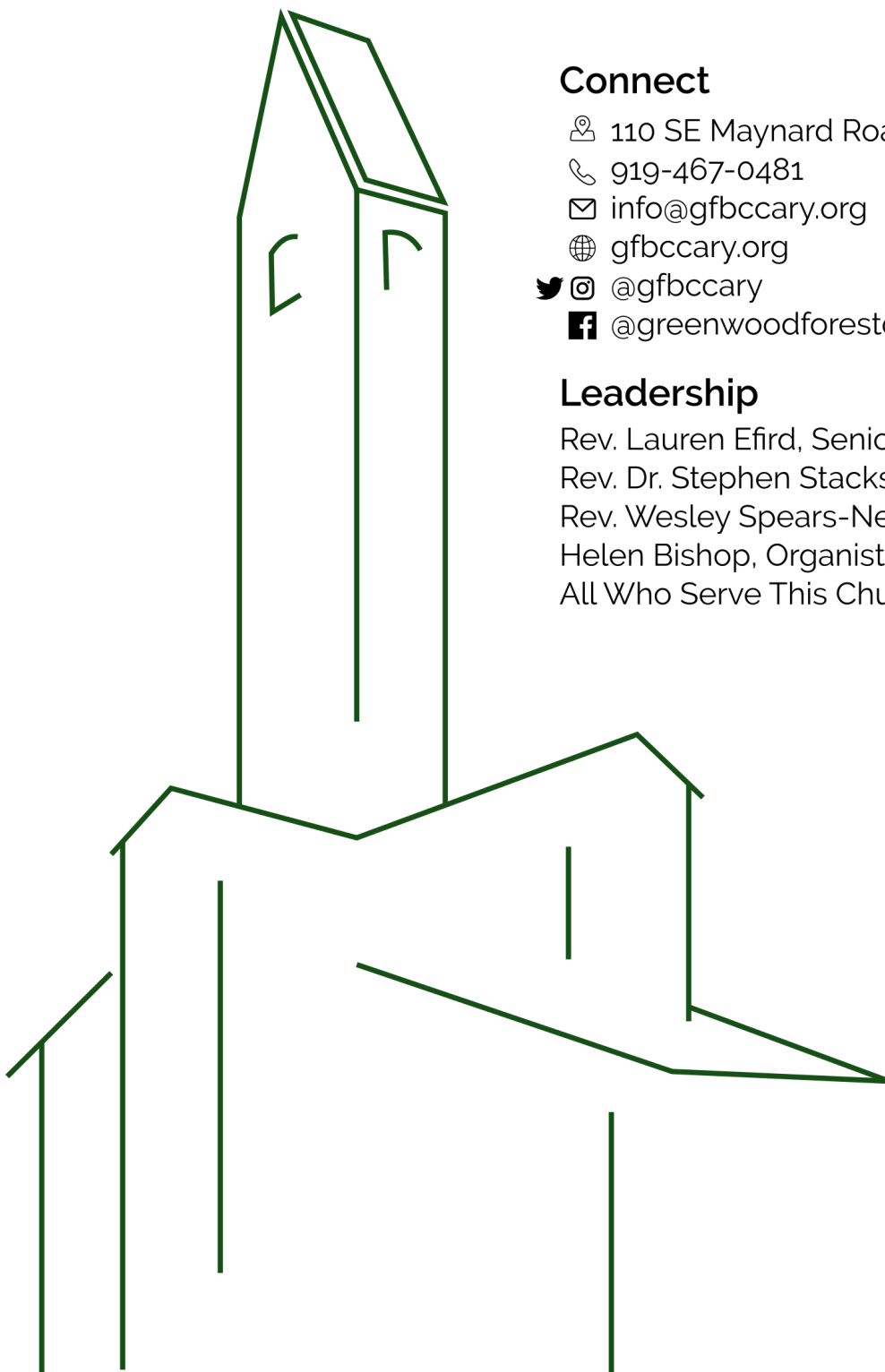
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Leadership

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