



# Greenwood Forest

## Baptist Church







EASTER

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Scan to give!

# an inclusive community of faith

## ► Welcome to worship!

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.

► *Today's colors are white and gold. White and gold for the Easter season symbolize divine light, the joy of resurrection, and the glory of God.*

► *Hearing assistance devices are available at the back of the sanctuary.*

► *Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera.*



# Order of Worship

Third Sunday of Easter

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

He Hideth My Soul

arr. Stan Pethel

Welcome to Worship

Rev. Lauren Efird

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship (Psalm 30)

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

Leader: I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up,

People: And did not let my foes rejoice over me.

Leader: O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,

People: And you have healed me.

Leader: O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,

People: Restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

Leader: Sing praises to the LORD, O you faithful ones,

People: And give thanks to God's holy name.

Leader: For God's anger is but for a moment;

People: God's favor is for a lifetime.

Leader: Weeping may linger for the night,

People: But joy comes with the morning.

Leader: Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me!

People: O LORD, be my helper!"

Leader: You have turned my mourning into dancing;

People: You have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,

Leader: So that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

People: O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Invocation

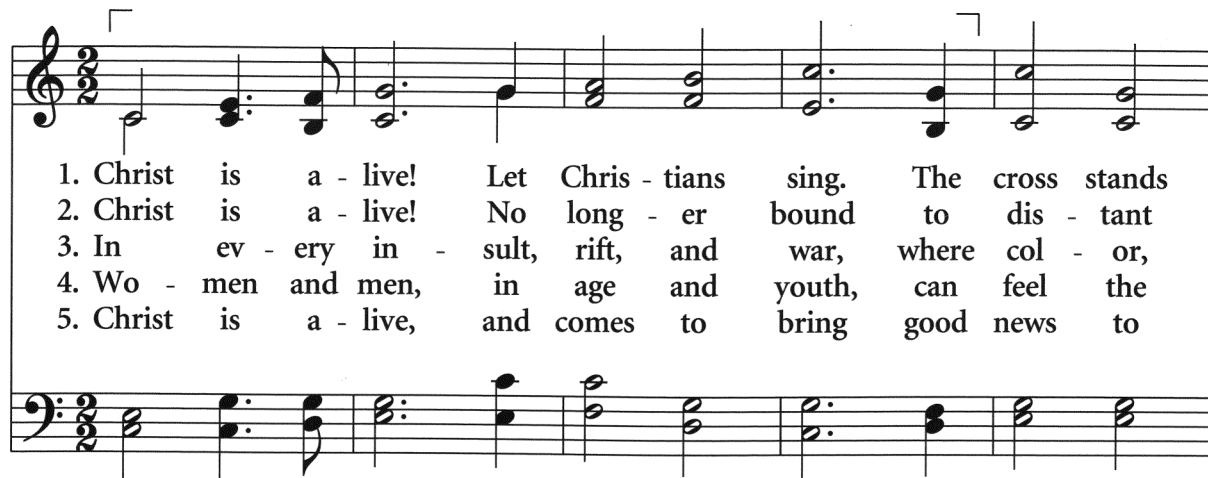
Rev. Dr. Stacks

Gathering Hymn (vv. 1 and 3)

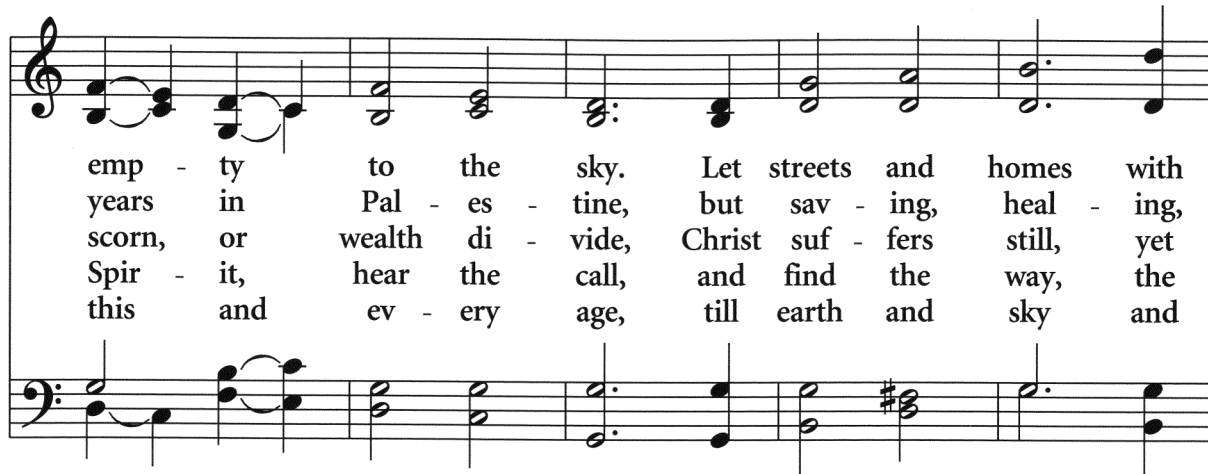
Christ is Alive

*(see page 4)*

# Christ is Alive



1. Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
 2. Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
 3. In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
 4. Wo - men and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
 5. Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
 here and now and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.  
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Offertory Prayer

Chris Beal

Presentation of the Offering

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!  
Praise God all creatures here below! Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts!  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
O praise God, O praise God!  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Prayers of the People

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

*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.

Hymn

Somebody's Knocking at Your Door

*(see page 6)*

Scripture Reading

Revelation 3:14-22

Rev. Dr. Stacks

*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.

# Somebody's Knocking at Your Door

Some-bod - y's knock-in' at your door; Some-bod - y's

knock-in' at your door; O sin - ner, why don't you

an - swer? Some-bod - y's knock-in' at your door.

*Solo:* 1. Knocks like Je - sus,  
2. Can't you hear Him?  
3. Je - sus calls you, Some-bod - y's knock-in' at your  
4. Can't you trust Him?

*All:*

Knocks like Je - sus,  
door; Can't you hear Him?  
Je - sus calls you, Some-bod - y's knock-in' at your  
Can't you trust Him?

door. O sin - ner, why don't you

an - swer? Some-bod - y's knock-in' at your door.

## Anthem

## Walkin' in Jerusalem

Bill Monroe

*I want to be ready  
I want to be ready  
I want to be ready, Lord  
To walk into Jerusalem, just like John*

Oh, John, oh John, oh what did you say  
Walking in Jerusalem, just like John  
I'll meet you there on the crowning day  
Walking in Jerusalem, just like John

Oh, some comes cripple and some  
comes lame  
Walking in Jerusalem, just like John  
Some comes walking in Jesus' name  
Walking in Jerusalem, just like John  
Old Judas rested upon his shoulder  
Walking in Jerusalem, just like John  
I'll meet you there at the first crossover  
Walking in Jerusalem, just like John

## Sermon

## Can't You Hear Me Knocking?

Rev. Lauren Efird

## Celebration of Communion

Rev. Efird

**Prayer of Confession:** Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be obedient disciples. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we've not loved our neighbors, and we've not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us for what we have done and for what we've left undone, and free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Mystery of Faith:** Christ has died, Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

## Hymn

O Holy City, Seen of John

*(see page 8)*

## Benediction

Rev. Efird

## Postlude

I Must Tell Jesus

arr. Larry Dalton

\*\*\*

*Today's hymns come from Celebrating Grace, The African American Heritage Hymnal, and Glory to God. Copyrighted music use is covered by CCLI License #1243530 and OneLicense #A-721397.*

*The pianist for today is Addie Smith.*



# O Holy City, Seen of John

1 O ho - ly cit - y, seen of John, where Christ, the  
2 O shame to us who rest con - tent while lust and  
3 Give us, O God, the strength to build the cit - y  
4 Al - read - y in the mind of God that cit - y

Lamb, does reign, with - in whose four-square walls shall come no  
greed for gain in street and shop and ten - e - ment wring  
that has stood too long a dream; whose laws are love, whose  
ris - es fair. Lo, how its splen - dor chal - len - ges the

night, nor need, nor pain, and where the tears are  
gold from hu - man pain, and bit - ter lips in  
ways are ser - vant - hood, and where the sun that  
souls that great - ly dare, and bids us seize the

wiped from eyes that shall not weep a - gain!  
deep de - spair cry, "Christ has died in vain!"  
shines be - comes your grace for hu - man good.  
whole of life and build its glo - ry there.

# SABBATICAL PREACHING SCHEDULE

After 11 years on our church's staff, six of those as Senior Pastor, Rev. Lauren Efird is taking a well earned Sabbatical this summer (May 22-August 21). Let us all remember to pray for Rev. Efird that this time will be full of rest and spiritual growth. During her absence we are glad to welcome a number of talented guest preachers. We must also thank our other ministers for the extra work they are doing to make Rev. Efird's sabbatical possible. We look forward to hearing sermons from Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks on May 22 and July 3, and Rev. Wes Spears-Newsome on June 12 and August 7.

## ► May 29 | Rev. LeAnne Ryan



Rev. LeAnne Ryan is a North Carolina native. She earned a BA from Gardner-Webb University, and graduated with Rev. Lauren Efird from the Duke Divinity School in 2009. She has served as minister to students and as a hospice chaplain, and is active in her current congregation at Kathwood Baptist. For the last eight years, she has worked with college students in university housing at Baylor University and now, the University of South Carolina. She currently

lives in Columbia, South Carolina with her husband, Dr. Scott Ryan, two kids, Asher (7) and Ada (4), and their dog, Jubilee.

## ► June 5 | Rev. Randy Palmer



Rev. Randy Palmer is a native of Arkansas, and was bravely the first child in his area to integrate. He has been on staff at GFBC, as Custodian, since 2004. He and his wife, Zelma, are active members of our church. We have been especially blessed by both of their beautiful singing voices. They have 2 children, Tony and Ondrea, and 7 grandchildren. Rev. Palmer was ordained in June of 1995 by the Second Missionary Baptist Church of Fayetteville, NC. Randy is an Army veteran

and has spent his life serving God and others.

## ► June 19 | Rev. Kadeisha M. Bonsu



Rev. Kadeisha M. Bonsu is a licensed clinical social worker who enjoys providing individual and group therapy. Kadeisha was ordained at GFBC in January 2019 and has found a loving welcome at GFBC. She is grateful for her church community and her pastors (Lauren, Stephen, and Wes) for continuing to offer spiritual direction, spiritual refuge, and friendship and companionship on her journey. Kadeisha enjoys speaking, writing, dancing, and spending time with her family. Kadeisha hosts her own podcast, Hagar's Daughters, exploring the intersection of Black, Christian Motherhood and what it means to find God on the

margins. She is looking forward to sharing Hagar's story.

## Be sure to thank all our talented members for being willing to serve this summer!

### ▶ June 26 and July 24 | Rev. Amanda Warren



Rev. Amanda Warren was born and raised in NC. She earned a BA in Religion from Gardner-Webb University and a Masters of Divinity from the McAfee School of Theology. Rev. Warren taught Old Testament at Gardner-Webb as an adjunct processor, and worked as a chaplain, both in the hospital and hospice settings. Amanda and her husband, Anthony have been members of GFBC since 2016. She has served as a deacon and is currently chair of the Worship Committee. Amanda is a stay at home mom to their two sons, Miles, who is 6, and Holden,

who turns 4 in July, which is her craziest ministry yet.

### ▶ July 10 | Rev. Bucky Syndor



Rev. Bucky Syndor was reared in an Episcopal minister's family and made his personal commitment to Jesus Christ while serving with the U.S. military in Vietnam in 1968. He holds a B.A. from UNC Chapel Hill—Go Tarheels!—and a Masters of Divinity in Theology and Cross Cultural Missions from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA. He has undertaken graduate study in anthropology at California State University in Los Angeles. Bucky and his wife, Carole, are retired International Ministries (ABC/USA) missionaries and he is an ordained American Baptist minister. The Sydnors have three adult children and

two grandchildren.

### ▶ July 17 and August 21 | Rev. Al Whitehouse



A long time ago, in a Florida far, far away...no wait, that's too far back. Hi, everybody! I'm Al and I'll be one of your preachers this summer! As you can read, I'm unconventional and goofy. It seems to work for me as a husband, father, son and all around human being. I hope that comes through when I have the honor to speak to you later this year. I find that sharing my authentic self is the best way to show the person God created me to be and encourages others to do the same. I look

forward to seeing what God reveals in the coming months for us. Peace and Love!

## ► July 31 | Susan Meador



Susan Meador has spent most of her life in NC. She is a graduate of Wake Forest University, and Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond. She also spent two years in an intentional faith community outside Atlanta and earned a certificate in Non-Profit Management from Duke. Susan's career has spanned working on behalf of older adults and people facing changing abilities, homelessness, or hunger. She is currently the Director of Volunteer Services for Inter-Faith Food Shuttle. Susan and her husband, Henry, and daughter, Hannah, have been part of Greenwood Forest since 2006. Her family at GFBC also includes: Lee and Patti Webb, and Leanne, Scot, Sean, and Catherine Glasgow. She helps facilitate the Crossroads Faith Formation class, sings in the Sanctuary Choir and has served as a deacon.

## ► Aug 14 | Rev. Marie Collins-Maingi



Rev. Collins-Maingi grew up in the small town of Robbins, NC, born and was raised in the Baptist church. Rev. Collins-Maingi graduated from Duke Divinity in 2018 where she/they had the opportunity to serve as a pastoral intern at GFBC. Marie currently lives in Durham with her/their wife Emily, dog Brandy, and cat Ravioli. You can find Marie any given day at the thrift store growing my collection of vinyl and VHS tapes.





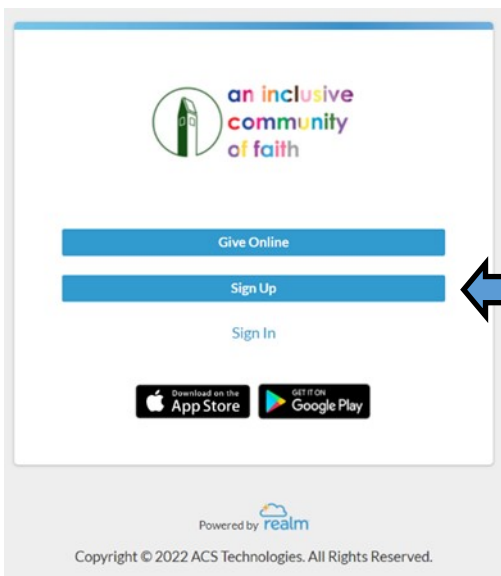
**Greenwood Forest**  
Baptist Church

## We have an exciting new resource just for you!

We're excited to share a great new tool and resource with you to interact with your church! Realm is an online platform (either on your computer or your smartphone) that will give you easy access to everything you need at church. Realm will give you access to your Faith Formation and Small Groups, contact information that church members wish to share with you, signups for events and volunteering, and even discipleship resources for retreats and more! Realm will be a one-stop-shop for Greenwood Forest members to access everything they need at church straight from their computer or smartphone.

## How can you get a Realm account?

Signing up is really easy. Just go to [onrealm.org/GreenwoodForest](https://onrealm.org/GreenwoodForest):



- If you've ever given online and set up an account for that, you already have a Realm account!
- If you don't have an account for giving, just click "Sign Up"! If you're not sure, just click "Sign Up" and it will walk you through the steps to access your account.
- If you have trouble accessing your account or creating one, please email Rev. Spears-Newsome ([wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org](mailto:wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org)).

More information, including a tutorial and FAQ document, is in your email inbox. If you need a copy because you didn't receive one, email Rev. Spears-Newsome.

## PRAYPRAYPRAYPRAY

### ▶ Prayer List\*

Richard Adair (Janice Medford's brother)  
 Peter Barboriak (Valerie Brooks' friend)  
 Gilles Bikindou  
 Ruben Cala (Valerie Brooks' friend)  
 Scott Davenport (friend of the Biser family)  
 Vanna Fox  
 James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes' brother)  
 Janet Merriman (Roz Slawson's friend)  
 Sylvia Morgan  
 Jennie Pegram  
 Fred Seeger  
 Greg Upchurch  
 Marta Whitehouse (Al Whitehouse's mother)

Our partners at Ebenezer Baptist, Cuba

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

## GIVEGIVEGIVEGIVE

### ▶ Ways to Tithe

- Set up an automated bank draft by filling out a form requested from the church office, attaching a voided check, and mailing it back to the church office.
- Set up auto pay through your bank using the "Bill Pay" function. Then, your bank will mail a check to the church weekly or monthly.
- Give online through the church website at [gfbccary.org/give](http://gfbccary.org/give).

### ▶ March 2022 Finance Update

*Updated when the previous months' books close.*

	Mar. 2022	YTD
Congregational Giving	\$42,459	\$325,955
Congregational Giving Target	\$51,000	\$395,180
Congregational Giving Under/Over	(\$8,541)	(\$69,225)
Other Receipts	\$8,131	\$77,653
Total Giving and Receipts	\$50,590	\$403,609
Total Disbursements	\$57,549	\$430,682
Under/Over Receipts vs. Disbursements	(\$6,959)	(\$27,073)
Together We Build Giving	\$14,305	\$147,947





## Connect

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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