



Greenwood Forest

Baptist Church





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May 29, 2022

EASTER

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Contents

Order of Worship	3
Announcements	8
Pray Give	9

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.*



Scan to give!

Order of Worship

Ascension Sunday

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

How Long?

The Porter's Gate

How long will you turn your face away?
How long do you hear us when we pray?
On and on, still we walk this pilgrim way
How long?

How long
till your children find their rest?

How long
till you draw them to your breast?
We go on, holding to your promises
How long?

Till you wipe away the tears
from every eye
Till we see our home descending
from the sky
Do we wait in vain?
Jesus, give us hope again

How long,
till your word will still the storm?
How long,
till you bare your mighty arm?
How we grow,
till you snatch us from the thorns
How long?

Amen, Jesus, Come

Welcome to Worship

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship (from Enfleshed Liturgies)

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Leader: God, how many times must we cry out, "how long?!" How many times will the cycles repeat themselves? Headline after headline, the news of lives lost to gun violence repeats itself. Heartbreak, reaction, effort, no change, heartbreak, reaction, effort, no change.

People: Hear our cries, God!

Leader: Open your ears to our lament. Weep with us when we weep.

People: Listen! We are calling to you.

Leader: In the person of Jesus Christ, you walked a world where the powerful were not held accountable, the poor were made vulnerable, and violence was used as a tool of fear and control. You know, in your own bones, the grief we bear. For the communities of Buffalo, Laguna Woods, and Uvalde—

People: Our hearts are broken.

Leader: For the 19 children who have been killed,

People: we confess we have not done enough to protect them.

Leader: For the 13 adults killed,

People: bring your justice, O God!

Leader: For the spirit of fear that hovers over our coming and going – inviting us to wonder, “what about here, are we safe here? In our church? In our school? In our streets?”

People: Be our place of refuge, O God.

Leader: God, we wonder what it will take for meaningful change to occur.

People: Wherever there is inaction, put your people into motion.

Leader: Do not let the lives that have been taken be dishonored.

People: Bring forth justice from their graves, O God.

Leader: Let no heart be settled, no mind be at peace that has the ability to make a positive change but chooses inaction instead. For all the harm that has been done, and for that which is still to come, may your Spirit provoke repentance. We grieve, we ache, we long for change because we believe it should not be this way – we have a sense of something better.

People: Thy kin-dom come.

Leader: A world without toxic masculinity.

People: Thy kin-dom come.

Leader: A world without white supremacy.

People: Thy kin-dom come.

Leader: A world that does not take refuge in violence.

People: Thy kin-dom come.

Leader: A world where our sacred spaces are our shelter.

People: Thy kin-dom come.

Leader: A world where access to guns is regulated.

People: Thy kin-dom come.

Leader: A world where corporations do not profit while blood is spilt.

People: Thy kin-dom come.

Invocation

Rev. Spears-Newsome

Gathering Hymn If We Just Talk of Thoughts and Prayers

C. W. Gillette

1.If we just talk of thoughts and prayers and don't live
 2.If we just dream of what could be and do not
 3.If we just sing of do - ing good and don't walk
 4.God may our prayers and dreams and songs lead to a

3

out a faith that dares, and don't take on the ways of
 build com - mu - ni - ty, and do not seek to change our
 through our neigh - bor - hood to learn its hope, to ease its
 faith that takes on wrongs, that works for peace and jus - tice

6

death, our thoughts and prayers are fleet - ing breath.
 ways, our dreams of change are false dis - plays.
 pain, our talk of good are is sim - ply - vain.
 too, then will our prayers bring joy to you.

Offertory Prayer

Chris Cook

Presentation of the Offering

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

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

Break Every Chain

There is power in the name of Jesus,

Our redemption, heavens gates

There is power in the name of Jesus,

Swing wide.

There is power in the name of Jesus.

To break every chain.

There's a people rising up,

There's a people rising up,

All sufficient sacrifice,

There's a people rising up,

So freely given, such a price for

To break every chain.

Scripture Reading

Acts 1:1-11

Kevin Schaeffer

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.

Anthem

Laudams Te

Antonio Vivaldi

(Duet: Catherine and Leanne Glasgow)

Sermon

Rev. LeAnne Ryan

Hymn

Crown Him with Many Crowns

(see page 7)

Benediction

Rev. Ryan

Postlude

Hymns come from Celebrating Grace and Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Copyrighted music use covered by CCLI License #1243530, OneLicense #A-721397.


Guest Preacher: Rev. LeAnne Ryan



Rev. LeAnne Ryan is a North Carolina native. She earned a BA from Gardner-Webb University, and graduated with Rev. Lauren Efrid 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.

Crown Him with Many Crowns



1. Crown Him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on His throne;
 2. Crown Him the Lord of life, who tri-umphed o'er the grave,
 3. Crown Him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 4. Crown Him the Lord of love! Be - hold His hands and side,

hark! how the heaven-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own:
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those He came to save;
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise:
 those wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:

a - wake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
 His glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high,
 His reign shall know no end, and round His pierc - ed feet
 all hail, Re - deem - er, hail! for Thou hast died for me!

and hail Him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 who died e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra-grance ev - er sweet.
 Thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

— ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS



► Blood Drive

Start off the summer by being a hero and donating blood at Greenwood Forest! We'll be hosting a blood drive on June 3rd from 2:30-7pm. Blood donations are still needed as the country continues to recover from the devastation of the worst days of the pandemic. You can make your appointment today by scanning the QR code above or visiting gfbccary.org/blood (redirects to the Red Cross website).

► Neighborhood Summer Program

Every summer, we join with other area churches in hosting a summer program with nutrition assistance and educational enrichment for neighborhood children. The program runs from 9:00-12:30 on Thursdays during the summer. If you can volunteer for any Thursday morning between **June 23 and August 18**, email Rev. Spears-Newsome (wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org) to sign up. **We need folks who can work in the kitchen and who can play with elementary-school-aged kids.** GFBC kids are also welcome to attend the program.



► Help us Close the Gap!

Unfortunately, this year saw continued disruption for many of us because of the pandemic. That's been true for our financial life as a church, too. As of the end of April, we have spent \$27,073 more than we've received and we are also \$74,598 behind in projected congregational receipts. **We can still fully subscribe this year's budget and close the gap between our spending and receipts. Can you help us achieve that goal?** Don't forget your church over the next few

travel-heavy months and we can end this fiscal year strong!

PRAYPRAYPRAYPRAY

▶ Prayer List*

Richard Adair (Janice Medford's brother)
 Peter Barboriak (Valerie Brooks' friend)
 Gilles Bikindou
 The Family of Ruben Cala (friends of
 Valerie Brooks)
 Scott Davenport (friend of the Biser
 family)
 Vanna Fox
 James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes'
 brother)
 The Family of Janet Merriman (Roz
 Slawson's friend)
 Sylvia Morgan
 Angela Nevils-Harris (Martha Soyars'
 cousin)
 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.

▶ April 2022 Finance Update

Updated when the previous months' books close.

	Apr. 2022	YTD
Congregational Giving	\$45,626	\$371,582
Congregational Giving Target	\$51,000	\$446,180
Congregational Giving Under/Over	(\$5,374)	(\$74,598)
Other Receipts	\$3,463	\$81,116
Total Giving and Receipts	\$49,089	\$452,698
Total Disbursements	\$62,029	\$492,751
Under/Over Receipts vs. Disbursements	(\$12,940)	(\$40,053)
Together We Build Giving	\$7,650	\$155,597



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

