



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

November 20, 2022



Greenwood Forest
Baptist Church

**an inclusive
community
of faith**

Welcome

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 exactly as you are.

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REMINDERS



Nursery care is available for infants and toddlers. There is also a glider in the back of the sanctuary if you need to rock your little ones.



Hearing assistance devices are available at the back of the sanctuary along with a transcript of the sermon.



Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera.



Gender-neutral, single-occupant bathrooms are located at the back of the sanctuary in the Narthex.



gfbccary.org



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Freedom Ride '23

In 2019, dozens of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church members went on our first Freedom Ride to central Alabama. The Freedom Ride is a spiritual pilgrimage to sites of freedom movements where participants will visit important locations, museums and memorials; serve alongside residents of the cities we visit; and learn from those continuing the fight for freedom.

We'll be taking our second Freedom Ride on July 2-8, 2023!

The Freedom Ride is organized by our youth ministry, but it's an intergenerational, all-ages, and whole family-friendly trip. If you'd like to come with us on the Freedom Ride, you can register today using your Realm account at onrealm.org/GreenwoodForest. If you have any issues registering or questions about the trip, contact Rev. Spears-Newsome at wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org.

Cost is \$500 and includes transportation, hotel, and meals.



2019 Freedom Riders in Birmingham, Alabama



The National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama



Announcements Church Events and Updates

Poinsettias for Sale

The Advent and Christmas seasons are right around the corner, which means we will be decorating the sanctuary soon! If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for the sanctuary adornment and a dedication listed in the bulletin, please visit gfbccary.org/poinsettias. Poinsettias and dedications are \$15. Any profits from poinsettia sales will go to the Organ Fund.

Souper Love Feast

Come one! Come all! To the 2022 Souper Love Feast! On November 20, following worship, we will gather for a potluck soup and salad lunch, after which we will make Advent wreaths and decorate the church for the Advent/Christmas season. RSVP at gfbccary.org/souper by signing up to bring one item to share.

Town Hall Meeting

Mark your calendar for a Town Hall meeting for updates on the church's property repurposing effort. We'll be meeting in the Fellowship Hall during the Faith Formation hour (9:45-10:45am) on December 11.

Advent and Christmas at Greenwood Forest

Mark your calendar for all of these community gatherings this holiday season:

Dec. 4: Youth Advent Party

Our youth gather for a fun time of fellowship and holiday games!

Dec. 14: Service of Lament (6pm)

A time reserved to acknowledge the grief and sadness that can come in around the holidays.

Dec. 18: Christmas Breakfast (9:45am)

Potluck breakfast in the Fellowship Hall for the whole church!

Dec. 18: Lessons & Carols (11am)

Traditional service of readings and Christmas Carols on Sunday morning.

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve

Children's Christmas Eve (11am)

A kids-oriented service where we assemble a nativity together!

Candlelight Christmas Eve (8pm)

Our traditional Christmas Eve service.

Dec. 25: Christmas Day Livestream

A special online event for us to enjoy with our families on Christmas morning!

Community Notes Prayer Requests and Giving



Please keep in prayer these members of our community and their friends and family. To add a name to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Names rotate off and can be re-added upon request.

Richard Adair (Janice Medford's brother)
Nell Allen
Peter Barboriak (Valerie Brooks' friend)
Gilles Bikindou
Louann Clarke (Felice Parent's sister)
Scott Davenport (friend of the Biser family)
Elaine Dodson
Vanna Fox
Leta Huntsinger at the death of her father
James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes' brother)
Karen Peter (Virgil and Gail Jones' friend)
Harold Ritter
Fred Seeger
Joyce Spencer (Leta Huntsinger's mother)
Our partners at Ebenezer Baptist in Cuba

Thank You from Adam Efird

Dear GFBC Family: Thank you so much for the cards, notes, gift cards, and prayers for my back surgery and during my recovery. Your generosity and compassion have helped to carry my family during this difficult time, and we are so grateful. I'm doing well, and I hope to see you all soon!

With gratitude -- Adam Efird



All of the ministries of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church are supported by members of our community like you. Thank you! Supporting us is easy. You can:

- Give online at gfbccary.org/give
- Place your gift in the offering plate before or after worship.
- Set up an automated bank draft through the church office.
- Set up a recurring gift through your bank's "bill pay" function.

A monthly finance update is available in the weekly church email. If you're not receiving our weekly email and would like to, please contact the church office.

Monthly Ministry Highlight:

Congregational Care

In the early church, one of the first ministries the community established was one of caring for one another. Church members visit and care for each other through the Congregational Care Ministry, seeing each other in hospitals, homes, and elsewhere. If you would like to participate in this ministry, please contact Carol Carter on the Deacon Board. This ministry and many others would not be possible without your support. Sign up to give at gfbccary.org/give today!

Order of Worship Reign of Christ Sunday

✝ This icon indicates an invitation to stand or express reverence however you see fit.

📖 This icon indicates a worship aid is available in the righthand column.

🎵 Hymns and song lyrics are available in the songbook following the Order of Worship.

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Efird

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (Psalm 46) | Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

God is our refuge and strength,

A very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,

Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

Though its waters roar and foam,

Though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

The holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;

God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;

God speaks, the earth melts.

The LORD of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our refuge.

God makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

God breaks the bow, shatters the spear, and

burns the shields with fire.

"Be still, and know that I am God!

I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."

(-->)

Today's color is **white**, symbolizing the light and glory of the resurrection.

November is Native American Heritage Month. This month, we'll be reading from the First Nations Version of the New Testament, a translation of Scripture done by indigenous scholars and leaders.

The Passing of the Peace

The passing of the peace is a symbolic enactment of the reconciling love and mercy of God in our midst. We express it through a peace sign, a handshake, a wave, or many other expressions of peace. Be mindful and considerate of others' desire for physical space or distance.

Prayer in Worship

We use many kinds of prayers in worship. The Call to Worship is a communal prayer using call and response. The Invocation is a single individual inviting (or invoking) God into our worship this morning. The Prayers of the People uses intercessory prayer to ask God to come to the world's aid. The benediction is a blessing offered over those gathered in worship.

The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Invocation | *Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks*

† **Gathering Hymn** | *To God Be the Glory (pg. 7)*

Offertory Prayer | *Chris Cook*

† **Doxology** | *Tune: Old Hundredth* 📖

Transcendent God, we bless your name,
Incarnate Christ, the risen one,
The Spirit with us, Immanent,
The Source, the Word, the Breath of Life!
Amen.

The Prayers of the People | *Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks* 📖

Lord, in your mercy:
Hear our prayer.

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** | *Jesus, Remember Me (pg. 8)*

Scripture Reading | *Luke 23:33-43* | *Rev. Dr. Stacks*

The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem | *Ride On, King Jesus (pg. 10)*

Sermon | *The Good Road* | *Rev. Efird*

† **Hymn** | *Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone (pg. 9)*

Benediction | *Rev. Efird*

Postlude

The Doxology

A “doxology” is a short hymn that usually praises the Trinity. We sing the doxology as we symbolically present our offerings back to God.

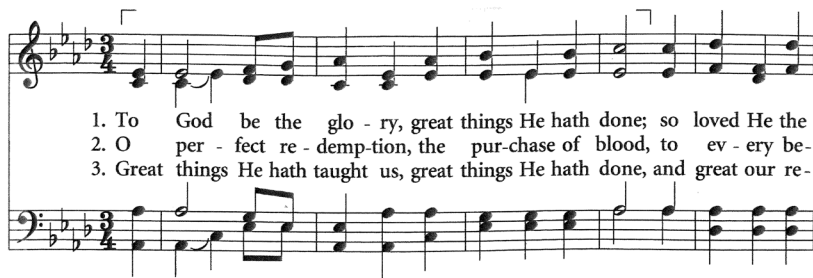
The Prayers of the People

This prayer typically has five parts: a confession, prayers for the earth, prayers for the world, prayers for the church, and prayers for those with needs in our own community.

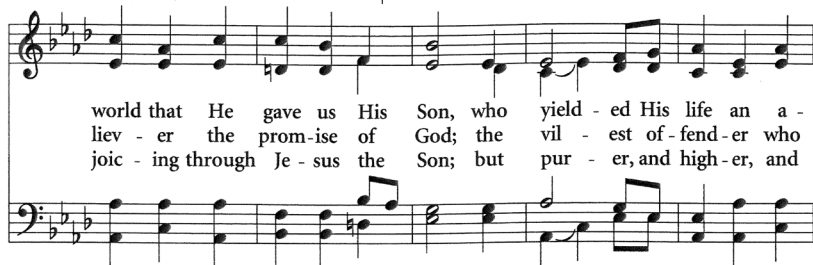
Final Hymn: An Invitation

During the final hymn, if you'd like to join our community at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, we invite you to come forward to the altar. When you come forward, you'll be greeted by a minister and a deacon who will then introduce you to the congregation after the hymn. Welcome!

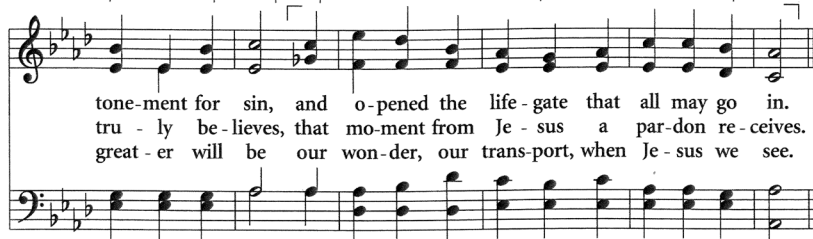
To God Be the Glory



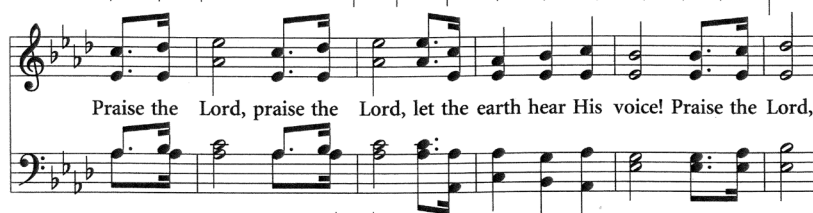
1. To God be the glo - ry, great things He hath done; so loved He the
 2. O per - fect re - demp-tion, the pur-chase of blood, to ev - ery be-
 3. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, and great our re-



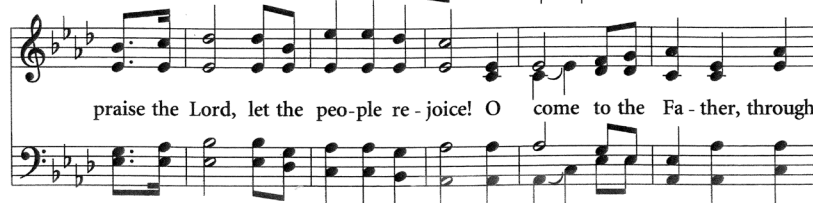
world that He gave us His Son, who yield - ed His life an a -
 liev - er the prom-ise of God; the vil - est of - fend - er who
 joic - ing through Je - sus the Son; but pur - er, and high - er, and



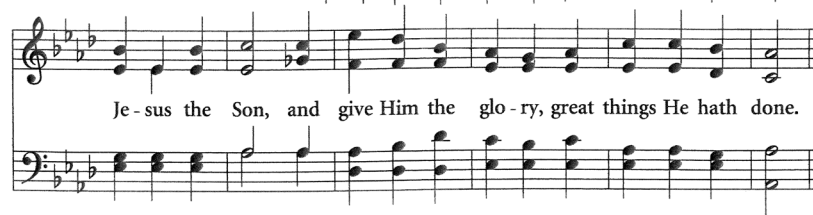
tone-ment for sin, and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
 tru - ly be - lies, that mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceives.
 great - er will be our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord,



praise the Lord, let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther, through



Je - sus the Son, and give Him the glo - ry, great things He hath done.

Jesus, Remember Me

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when You come in - to Your King - dom.

The first system of music is written for a piano accompaniment. It features a treble and bass staff in 3/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody in the treble staff begins with a half note G3, followed by a quarter note A3, a quarter note B-flat3, and a quarter rest. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when You come in - to Your King - dom.

The second system of music continues the piano accompaniment. It follows the same musical notation as the first system, including the treble and bass staves in 3/4 time with a two-flat key signature. The melody and accompaniment continue through the second system.

Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone

1. Must Je - sus bear the cross a - lone, and
2. How hap - py are the saints a - bove, who
3. The con - se - crat - ed cross I'll bear till
4. Up - on the crys - tal pave - ment down, at
5. O pre - cious cross! O glo - rious crown! O

all the world go free? No, there's a cross for
once went sor - rowing here! But now they taste un -
death shall set me free; and then go home my
Je - sus' pierc - ed feet, joy - ful I'll cast my
res - ur - rec - tion day! When Christ the Lord from

ev - ery - one, and there's a cross for me.
min - gled love and joy with - out a tear.
crown to wear, for there's a crown for me.
gold - en crown and His dear name re - peat.
heaven comes down and bears my soul a - way.

Anthem Ride On, King Jesus

arr. Hogan

Blair Biser, Soloist

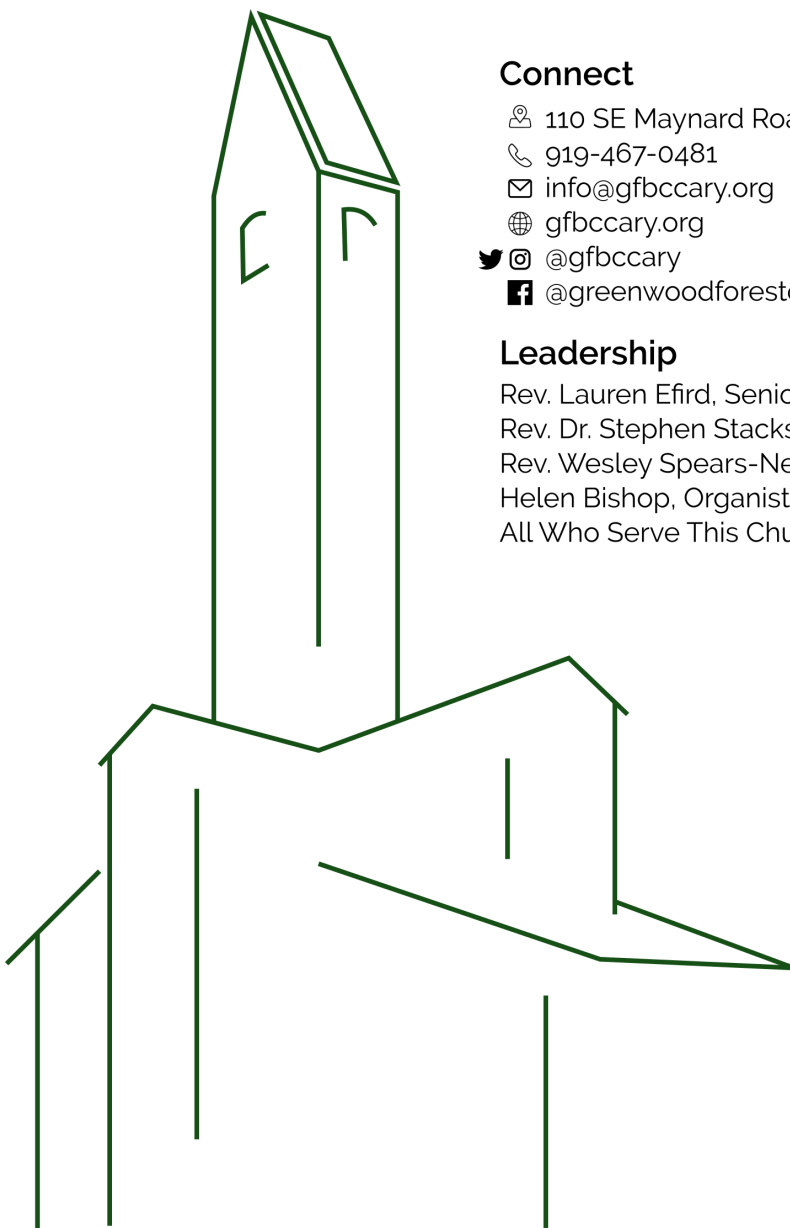
Ride on, king Jesus
Ride on, the conquering king
Oh, ride on, king Jesus
Ride on, no man can a-hinder me

I was but young when I begun
No man can a-hinder me
But now my race is almost done
No man can a-hinder me

King Jesus rides a milk white horse
No man can a-hinder me
The river of Jordan he did cross
No man can a-hinder me

He's the king, and the Lord,
He's the first, and the last,
He's the Lord of lords,
Jesus is the Prince of Peace.

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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