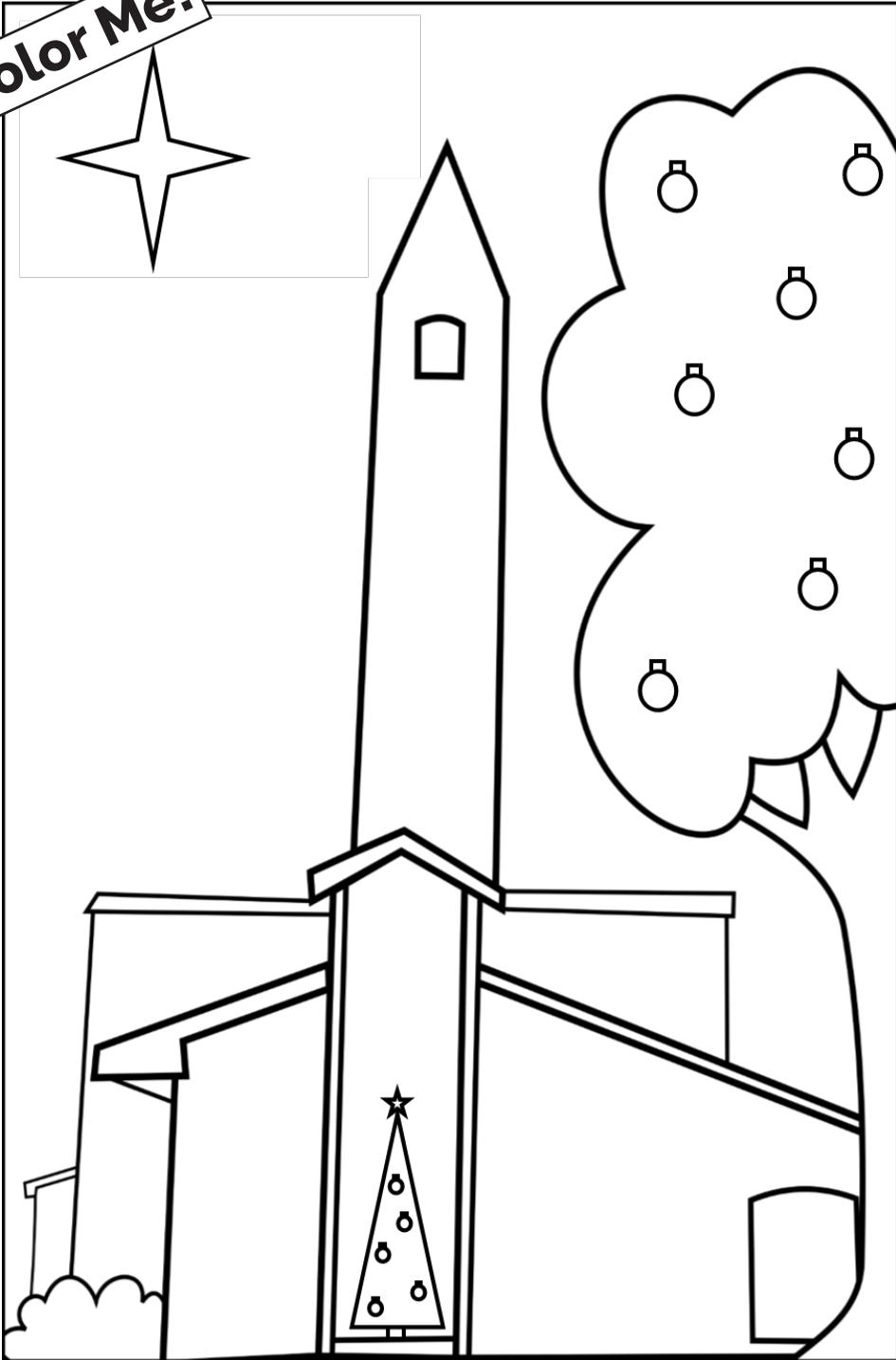


**Color Me!**



# Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

December 24, 2022



Scan for Digital





Greenwood Forest  
Baptist Church

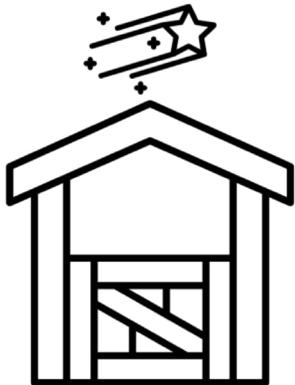
an inclusive  
community  
of faith

# Welcome

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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

-  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.



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# Order of Worship Children's Christmas Eve

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

🎵 Hymns and song lyrics are available in the Order; music is available in the hymnals if desired.

## Chiming of the Hour

† **Opening Hymn 127 (vv. 1 and 3)** | *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"

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.

Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

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** | *Rev. Lauren Efirid*

Leader: The Lord be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

## Passing of the Peace

**Anthem** | *I Saw Three Ships* | *Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks*

I saw three ships come sailing in  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day  
I saw three ships come sailing in  
On Christmas Day in the morning

And what was in those ships all three  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day?  
And what was in those ships all three  
On Christmas Day in the morning?

The virgin Mary and Christ were there  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day  
The virgin Mary and Christ were there  
On Christmas Day in the morning

**Call to Worship** | *Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome*

The world was once in darkness;

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

The words and promises of God are all true!

**God has given us the best gift of all!**

Rejoice! God is with us!

**Praise be to God!**

**Invocation** | *Rev. Spears-Newsome*

**Reflection on the Stable and the Animals** | *Rev. Dr. 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. Efrid*

† **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.

*Sing we Noel, the king is born, Noel!*

*Sing we now of Christmas,*

*Sing we now Noel!*

In the stall they found him;

Joseph and Mary mild,

Seated 'round the manger,

Watching the holy Child.

**Reflection on Mary** | *Rev. Spears-Newsome*

† **Hymn 107 (v.2)** | *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

For Christ is born of Mary,  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep the angels  
Keep their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars,  
Together proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the king,  
And peace to all the earth!

**Reflection 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. Efird*

† **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 kept 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.*

**Reading** | *Now the Work of Christmas Begins* by Howard Thurman | *Rev. Spears-Newsome*

**Closing Prayer** | *Rev. Efir*

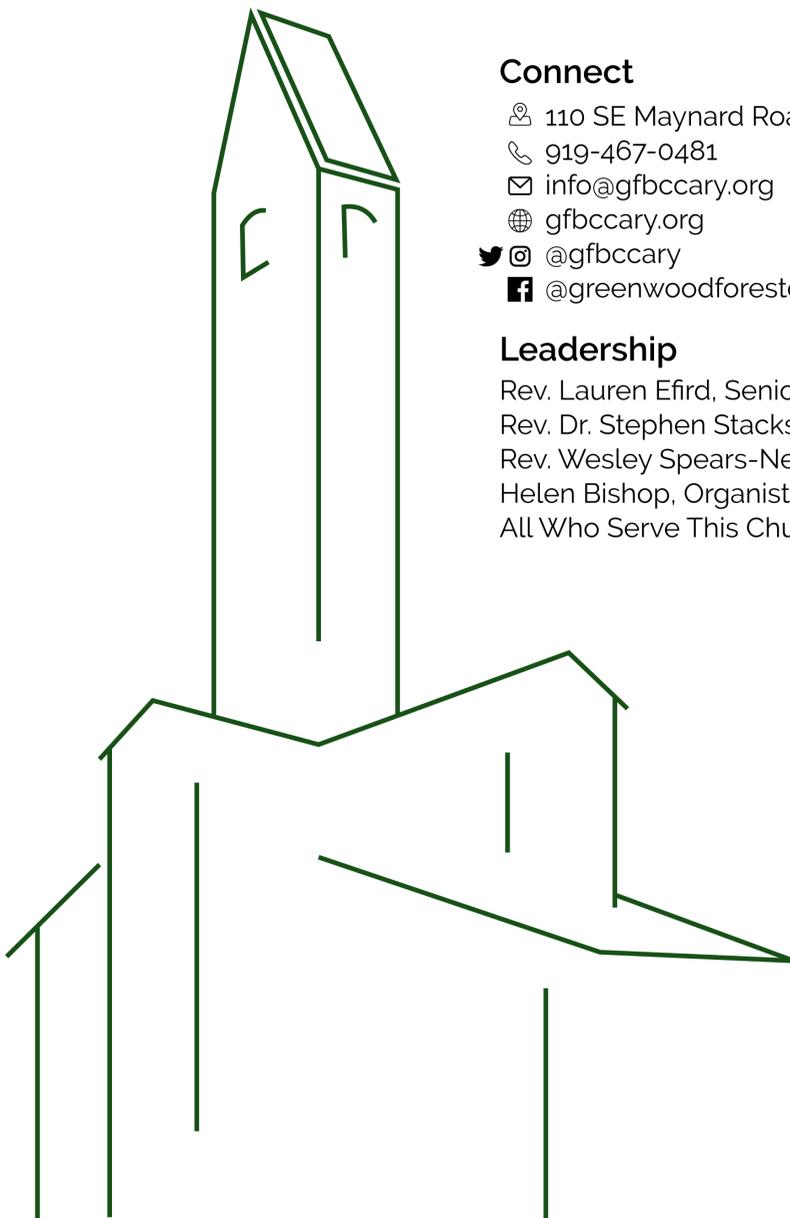
† **Hymn 134 (vv. 1 and 4)** | *Silent Night, Holy Night*

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. Efir*





## 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

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