



"St. Paul Preaching at Athens" (1778) by James Jeffreys



Greenwood Forest

Baptist Church

May 14, 2023



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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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Guest Preacher Rev. Chalice Overy



Chalice is a spiritual leader formed in the Black church tradition. Her ministry aims to make The Divine accessible, especially to those who find themselves on the margins of mainstream Christianity. She thrives in the areas of spiritual direction, conflict transformation and preaching, and has a strong interest in culturally authentic spiritual practices. Chalice serves as the Associate Pastor at Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC.

Chalice completed undergraduate studies at UNC-Chapel Hill and received a Master of Divinity from Duke Divinity School. She enjoys skiing and swimming, and loves daylight and fresh air. Her greatest

aspiration is to navigate this world as authentically as possible by showing up as herself, everyday, in every space.

BE A HERO!
Donate Blood **June 2**



 visit redcrossblood.org and search "greenwood"

Announcements Church Events and Updates

Dinner Theater (5/19)

You are cordially invited to be our guest at a special night of music and fine food at GFBC on May 19 at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall! Steve Denning (head chef) and Stephen Stacks (sous chef) will prepare a multiple course meal and the evening will feature a Broadway Revue put on by B.J. Facemire and the GFBC Music Ministry. Tickets are available for a suggest donation of \$75 and all proceeds will go to the organ fund as we prepare to complete our long-awaited renovation. You can purchase tickets at gfbccary.org/dinnertheater. Do not miss this incredible evening—register now!

Blood Drive (6/2)

The annual blood drive will be on June 2, 2023. You can mark your calendars now and even make appointments at the [Red Cross website](#). Use the sponsor code “Greenwood” on the website to find the blood drive hosted at the church.

Freedom School

We'll be hosting a special Faith Formation series on faith and freedom movements May 14, 21, and June 4. The curriculum is designed to prepare Freedom Riders for their trip this summer, but everyone in the church is invited to attend if they are interested! Freedom School will meet in Room C221.

Easter Egg Fundraiser

In the Narthex, you'll find 100 Easter Eggs that are a part of raising funds for our Freedom Riders' trip to Alabama this summer. Here's how it works: all the eggs have a dollar amount in them between \$1 and \$100 (no repeated amounts). Draw an egg and donate that money to the Freedom Ride at gfbccary.org/give or by check. Either way write “Freedom Ride Egg” in the memo line. But wait, there's more! Each egg contains a prize from a Freedom Ride sticker and some candy up to a GFBC mug or a Freedom Ride t-shirt. You can donate more than once to increase your shot at a bigger prize!

The Greenwood App

A greenwood is a forest that is filled with life and abundance and that is what we hope for in your spiritual life. As a tool for you, we've developed an app called The Greenwood that you can use on your spiritual journey. The Greenwood includes most of the practices and disciplines we explored together on the Discipleship Retreat this year, daily prayer for each day of the week, and access to all of our available discipleship resources. The Greenwood is available in the Google Play store and coming soon to the Apple App Store (Apple users can access a preview right now at gfbccary.org/app).

Calling All Graduates!

Graduation Sunday is on June 11! We want to recognize all our graduates alongside our high school seniors, so please email Wes (wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org) and let him know your school and degree if you've graduated since last summer.

Community Notes Prayer Requests and Giving



PRAY

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.

Nell Allen
Dan Barboriak (friend of Valerie Brooks)
Gilles Bikindou
Valerie Brooks
Katie Buchanan (Pat and Tom Brooks' niece)
Scott Davenport (friend of the Biser family)
Elaine Dodson
Vanna Fox
James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes' brother)
Rick Hoyle (at the death of his mother)
Angela Patton (Leta Huntsinger's cousin)
Diedre Scofield Queen (friend of Valerie Brooks)
Fred Seeger
Lee and Patti Webb
Our partners at Ebenezer Baptist in Cuba



GIVING

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:

Music Ministry

Music is a vital part of spiritual and communal life. Here at GFBC, we strive to express the diversity of God's beloved community by using a wide variety of music many different traditions. This month, we're presenting pieces from Broadway musicals at a Dinner Theater to benefit the completion of the organ renovation! We can't make this happen without you, so be sure to sign up to come at gfbccary.org/dinnertheater. The suggested donation is \$75 for a four-course meal and a show, but give what you can!

Order of Worship Sixth Sunday of Easter

✝ 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: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (Ps. 66:8-20) | *Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks*

Bless our God, O peoples,

Let the sound of God's praise be heard,

Who has kept us among the living,

And has not let our feet slip.

For you, O God, have tested us;

You have tried us as silver is tried.

You laid burdens on our backs;

You let people ride over our heads;

We went through fire and through water;

Yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

We will come into your house with burnt offerings;

We will pay you the vows we uttered when we were in trouble.

Come and hear, all you who fear God,

And we will tell what God has done for us.

We cried aloud to God,

With our tongues, God was extolled.

If we had cherished iniquity in our heart,

The Lord would not have listened.

But truly God has listened;

Today's color is **white**, representing the glory of the resurrection.

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.

God has given heed to the words of our prayer.

Blessed be God, because God has not rejected us
Or removed God's steadfast love from us!

Invocation | *Rev. Dr. Stacks*

† **Hymn** | *Lift High the Cross (v. 1 & 4; pg. 7)*

Offertory Prayer | *Chris Cook*

† **Doxology** | *Tune: 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 host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
O praise God! O praise God!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Prayers of the People | *Rev. Spears-Newsome* 📖
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** | *I Need Thee Every Hour (v. 1-3; pg. 8)*

Scripture Reading | *Acts 17:22-31* | *Rev. Efird*
The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem | *O Sifuni Mungu (pg. 10)*

Sermon | *Rev. Chalice Overy*

† **Hymn** | *Just a Closer Walk with Thee (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!

Lift High the Cross

Unison

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

Fine

all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.

Parts

1. Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod, our
2. O Lord, once lift - ed on this glo - rious tree, as
3. For Thy blest cross which doth for all a - tone, cre -
4. So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: praise

D.C.

King vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 Thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to Thee.
 a - tion's prais - es raise be - fore Thy throne.
 to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

I Need Thee Every Hour

1. I need Thee ev - ery hour, most gra - cious Lord;
2. I need Thee ev - ery hour, stay Thou near - by;
3. I need Thee ev - ery hour, in joy or pain;
4. I need Thee ev - ery hour, teach me Thy will;
5. I need Thee ev - ery hour, most Ho - ly One;

no ten - der voice like Thine can peace af - ford.
temp - ta - tions lose their power when Thou art nigh.
come quick - ly and a - bide, or life is vain.
Thy prom - is - es so rich in me ful - fill.
O make me Thine in - deed, Thou bless - ed Son.

I need Thee, O I need Thee; ev - ery hour I need Thee!

O bless me now, my Sav - ior, I come to Thee.

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

1. I am weak but Thou art strong;
2. Through this world of toil and snares,
3. When my fee - ble life is o'er,

Refrain: *Just a clos - er walk with Thee,*

Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
Time for me will be no more;

Grant it, Je - sus, if You please?

I'll be sat - is - fied as long
Who with me my bur - den shares?
Guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er

Dai - ly walk - ing close to Thee,

As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.
To Thy king - dom shore, to Thy shore.

Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Anthem O Sifuni Mungu

arr. Emerson

Viumbe vyote vya mungu wetu

Na mfalme wetu

Pazeni sauti ili nasi mwimbe

Watu wote

Viumbe vyote

Awaye yote

Sifu mungu

All creatures of our God and King (O sifuni mungu)

Lift up your voice and with us sing (O sifuni mungu)

Thou burning sun with golden beam (imbeni, imbeni)

Thou silver moon with softer gleam (pazeni, sauti, imbeni)

All men (Watu wote)

All creatures (Viumbe vyote)

Everybody (Awaye yote)

Praise the Lord (Sifu mungu)

All men (Watu wote)

All creatures (Viumbe vyote)

Everybody (Awaye yote)

Praise the Lord (Sifu mungu)

Thou rushing wind that art so strong (O sifuni mungu)

Ye clouds that sail in heaven along (O sifuni mungu)

Thou rising morn in praise rejoice (imbeni, imbeni)

Ye lights of evening find a voice (Pazeni sauti imbeni)

Thou flowing water pure and clear (hm, hm, hm, hm)

Make music for thy Lord to hear! (hm, hm, hm, hm)

Thou fire, so masterful and bright (imbeni!)

That givest man both warmth and light (imbeni)

Let all things their Creator bless (O sifuni mungu)

And worship Him in humbleness (O sifuni mungu)

Oh praise the Father, praise the Son (imbeni, imbeni)

And praise the Spirit, three in one (pazeni sauti imbeni)

O sifuni mungu (imbeni)

O sifuni mungu (imbeni)

O sifuni mungu (imbeni)

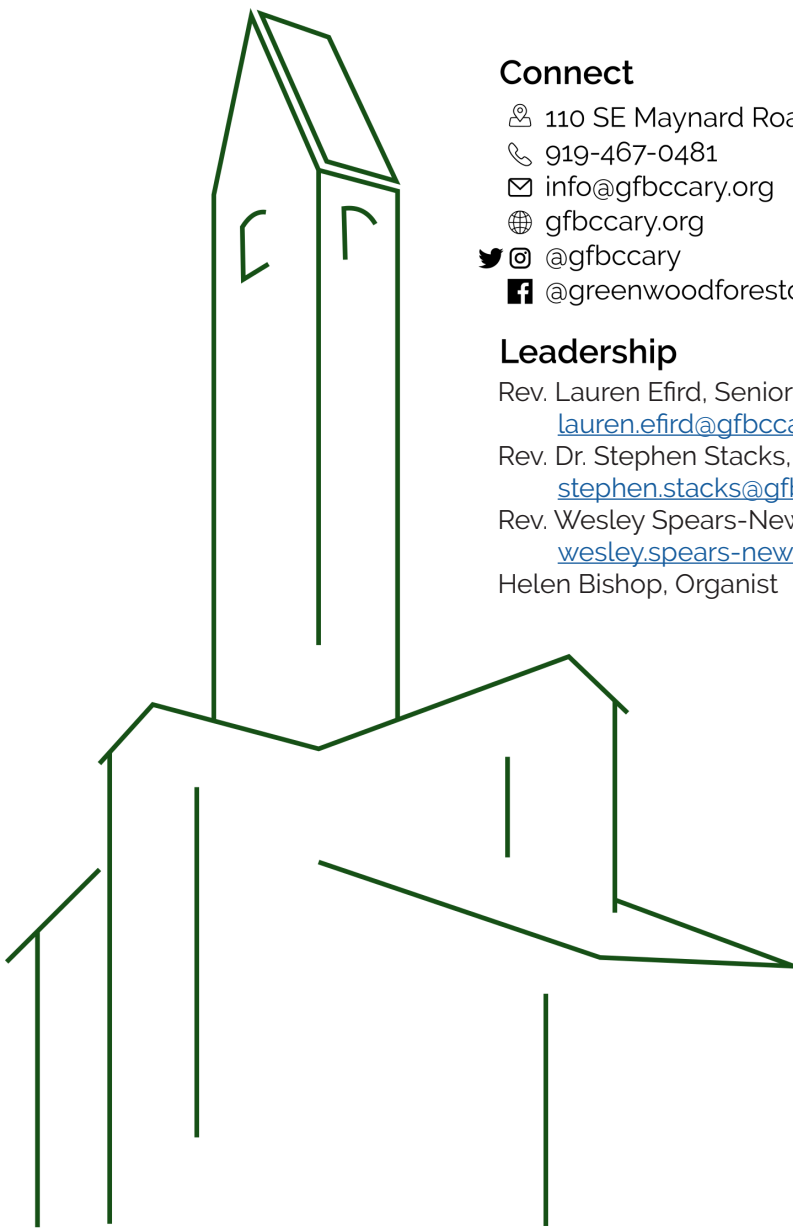
Tusifu mungu,

Tusifu mungu,

Tusifu mungu,

Pazeni sauti na wote imbeni

O sifuni mungu!



Connect

📍 110 SE Maynard Road Cary, NC 27511

☎ 919-467-0481

✉ info@gfbccary.org

🌐 gfbccary.org

🐦 @gfbccary

📘 @greenwoodforestcary

Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efird, Senior Pastor

lauren.efird@gfbccary.org

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Associate Pastor

stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org

Helen Bishop, Organist
