



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

June 25, 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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Bulletin Art: *"The Prophetess Deborah Ordering Barak..."*, a perhaps unfinished work by Francesco Solimena (d. 1747). Solimena is most well-known for his intense baroque paintings. Deborah sits beneath the tree from which she led ancient Israel.

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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Announcements Church Events and Updates

Summer Program Underway

The Neighborhood Summer Program happens every summer for local kids. The program offers food (breakfast and lunch) and summer enrichment activities for children of all ages. You can bring your child to the Kirk of Kildaire Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from June 20 to August 17 from 9am to 1pm. Greenwood Forest members serve as volunteers to help on Thursdays during the summer and you can sign up at gfbccary.org/summer. Ask Wes if you need any more information!

Yarn Donations Needed

During the Summer Program, Marlen Ruegg leads a crafting class with local parents on Thursday mornings. We need donations of chunky yarn and Red Hearts brand worsted weight yarn to support the program. If you would like to help in the class, you can reach out to Rev. Wes Spears-Newsome, as well!

Congregational Surveys

We have two surveys we'd like everyone to fill out, one focused on your spiritual life and your place at church. You can find the Spiritual Life survey at gfbccary.org/life and the Find Your Place survey at gfbccary.org/place.

Your responses shape the life of the church in important ways because we wouldn't be who we are without you. These surveys will be open for responses for the next few weeks and we want to hear from you soon!



Golden Oldies

A series exploring the songs of the Hebrew Scriptures in worship.

June 18
Miriam's Song
Exodus 15:1-21

June 25
Deborah's Song
Judges 5

July 2
Hannah's Song
1 Samuel 2:1-10

July 9
Judith's Song
Judith 16:1-6, 13

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
Gilles Bikindou
Valerie Brooks
Scott Davenport (friend of the Biser family)
Debra Davis (friend of Susan Beck)
Elaine Dodson
Stephanie Fancher (friend of Gerry Ritter)
Vanna Fox
James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes' brother)
Tony Izydor (Roz Slawson's nephew-in-law)
Diedre Scofield Queen (friend of Valerie Brooks)
Fred Seeger
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:

Outreach Ministry

Outreach at Greenwood Forest takes many different forms, including hospitality, charitable work, and simply inviting people to church! A few examples: In early June, we hosted a Blood Drive to help the sick. On Transgender Day of Visibility, we partnered with Pride of Cary to host an event around trans identity, rights, and more. Every week, we host groups in our church who need places to meet to advance recovery and community. Without your gifts, none of this work is possible!

Order of Worship 4th Sunday after Pentecost

✝ 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 | *My Inmost Heart Now Yearneth* | arr. Walther

Welcome to Worship | *Rev. Lauren Efird*

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (Ps. 116:1-4, 12-19) | *Rev. Efird*

Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,

for I am poor and needy.

Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you;

Save your servant who trusts in you.

You are my God; be gracious to me,

For to you do I cry all day long.

Gladden the soul of your servant,

For to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,

Abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;

Listen to my cry of supplication.

In the day of my trouble I call on you,

For you will answer me.

There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,

Nor are there any works like yours.

All the nations shall come and bow down before you,

All the nations you have made shall glorify your name.

For you are great and do wondrous things;

You alone are God.

Turn to me and be gracious to me;

Give your strength to your servant;

Show me a sign of your favor,

Today's color is **green**, representing growth and new life. Clergy stoles are **rainbow** in honor of Pride Month and the inclusive love of God.

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.

**So that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame,
Because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

Invocation | *Rev. Efird*

† **Hymn** | *O Worship the King (pg. 7)*

Offertory Prayer | *Carol Carter*

† **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. Amanda Warren* 📖
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** | *For All the Faithful Women (pg. 8)*

Reading | *Excerpts from Judges 4-5* | *Rev. Efird*
The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem | *Praise the Lord (pg. 10)*

Sermon | *Deborah's Song* | *Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks*

† **Hymn** | *God of Grace and God of Glory (pg. 9)* 📖

Benediction | *Rev. Efird*

Postlude | *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* | *arr. Fred Bock*

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!

O Worship the King

1. O wor-ship the King, all glo-ri-ous a - bove, and grate - ful - ly
2. O tell of His might, O sing of His grace, whose robe is the
3. Thy boun-ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite? It breathes in the
4. Frail chil-dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail, in Thee do we

sing His power and His love; our Shield and De - fend - er, the
light, whose can - o - py space! His char - iots of wrath the deep
air, it shines in the light, it streams from the hills, it de -
trust, nor find Thee to fail: Thy mer - cies how ten - der, how

An - cient of Days, pa - vil-ioned in splen-dor, and gird - ed with praise.
thun - der-clouds form, and dark is His path on the wings of the storm.
scends to the plain, and sweet-ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
firm to the end, our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

For All the Faithful Women

Capo 3: (C) (Am7) (F) (G) (C)
 Eb Cm7 Ab Bb Eb

1 For all the faith - ful wom - en who served in
 2 We praise your name for Mir - iam, who sang tri -
 3 We sing of bus - y Mar - tha, who toiled with
 4 Lord, hear our praise of Dor - cas, who served the

(G) (C) (Am7) (Dm) (G)
 Bb Eb Cm7 Fm Bb

days of old, to you shall thanks be giv - en; to
 um - phant - ly while Pha - raoh's vaunt - ed ar - my lay
 pot and pan while Mar - y sat in si - lence to
 sick and poor. Her hands were cups of kind - ness, her

(C) (G7) (C) (Am)
 Eb Bb7 Eb Cm

all, their sto - ry told. They served with strength and
 drowned be - neath the sea; for Ruth, who left her
 hear the word a - gain. We praise the oth - er
 heart an o - pen door. O God, for saints and

(D) (G) (F) (G) (C)
 F Bb Ab Bb Eb

glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave. To you their
 home - land and ven - tured forth in faith, who pledged to
 Mar - y, who has - tened to the tomb and found her
 ser - vants, our fer - vent prayer we raise, that, faith - ful

(Am7) (F) (G) (C) (Dm) (G) (C)
 Cm7 Ab Bb Eb Fm Bb Eb

lives bore wit - ness, pro - claimed your power to save.
 serve and wor - ship Na - o - mi's God till death.
 Lord a - ris - en, dis - pel - ling doubt and gloom.
 in your ser - vice, our lives may sing your praise.

God of Grace and God of Glory

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on Thy peo - ple
 2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn Thy Christ, as -
 3. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils
 4. Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that

pour Thy power; crown Thine an - cient church - 's sto - ry,
 sail His ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us,
 we de - plore; let the search for Thy sal - va - tion
 they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es

bring her bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 in the fight to set all free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 serv - ing Thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing Thee whom we a - dore.
 that we fail not man nor Thee! That we fail not man nor Thee!

Anthem Praise the Lord

Florence Price

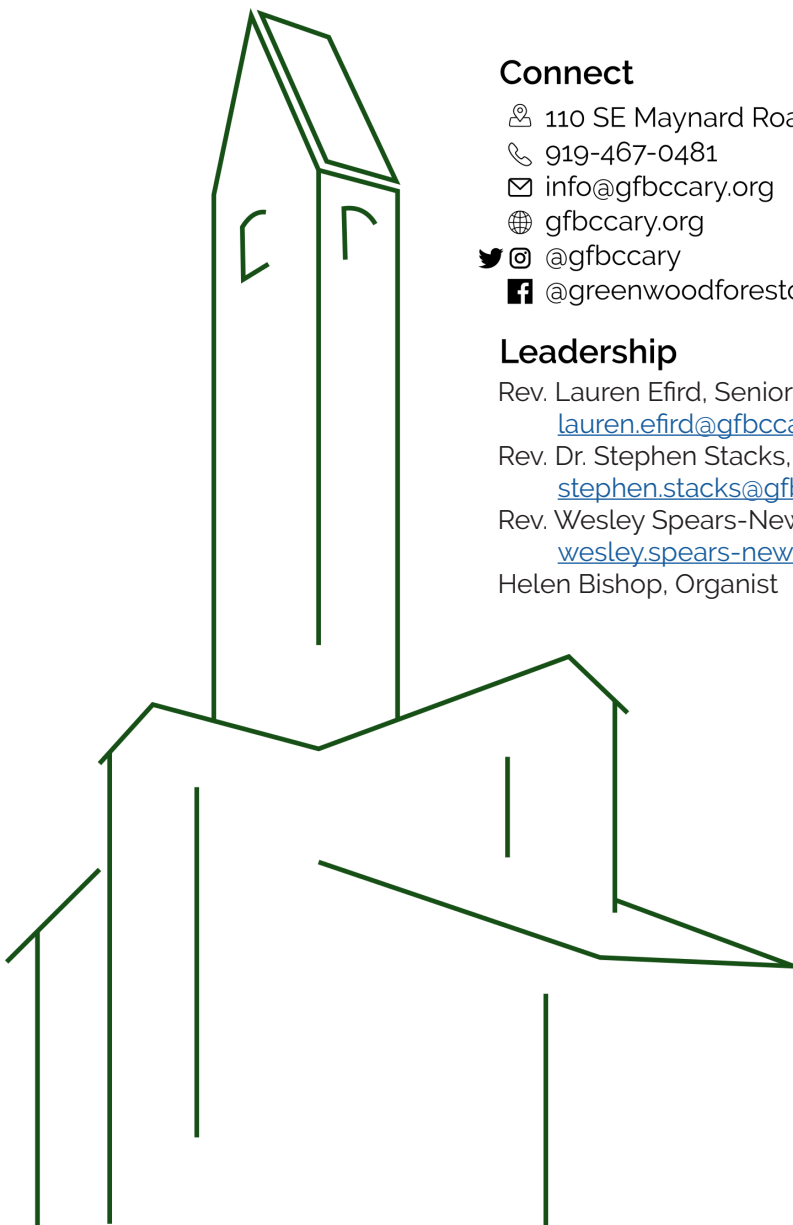
Praise the Lord, all ye nations!

Praise the Lord, all ye people!

Praise the Lord,

For his merciful kindness is great toward us,

And the truth of the Lord endureth forever.



Connect

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Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efird, Senior Pastor

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Helen Bishop, Organist
