



Greenwood Forest

Baptist Church

July 9, 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.

CONTENTS

- 2 | Announcements
- 3 | Community Notes
- 4 | Order of Worship
- 6 | Songbook

Bulletin Art: "Judith" by Jean-Joseph Benjamin-Constant (d. 1902), a French painter and etcher.

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

Rev. Dr. Stacks' Sabbatical ***Help Stop LGBTQ***

This Sunday is Rev. Dr. Stacks' last Sunday before his sabbatical! Thank Stephen for all that he does and wish him the best on this time of rest and renewal! Dr. Abe Cáceres will begin joining us next week in worship.

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!

Summer Choir

The next session of Summer Choir will be on July 16! If you've ever wondered about joining the choir, Summer Choir is a great time to try it out. We will meet directly following worship next Sunday, July 16.

Discrimination in NC

During the last legislative session, three bills targeting transgender and other LGBTQ people passed the NC General Assembly: a ban on trans athletes in women's sports (HB574), a "Don't Say Gay" bill banning certain instruction and forcibly outing kids to families (SB49), and a ban on gender-affirming care for minors (HB808).

All three bills were vetoed by the governor but the General Assembly can override the veto. If you'd like to help prevent those bills from overcoming the veto, write or call (or better yet, go visit!) your state senator **and** state representative (regardless of party) and urge them to vote against these bills.

The veto-proof majority is very slim and it only takes a minor defection to defeat any of these bills.

You can find your legislators and how to contact them at ncleg.gov/findyourlegislators. If you need a form letter to guide you, you can find one at ncisready.org/2023bills.

Christmas in July

Area churches, including Greenwood Forest, are participating with a Christmas in July donation drive with our partner Dorcas Ministries. Each week you can bring a different item with you to church to donate to Dorcas! **This week, we are collecting Personal Care and Hygiene products.** There's a festive box outside the office for you to drop off your donations on Sundays!

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
Laura Crook
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)
Jeff McLaughlin (at the death of his father, Edwin McLaughlin)
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:

Neighborhood Summer Program

The Neighborhood Summer Program meets the needs of neighborhood children through both food and summer enrichment. For children on the traditional school calendar, summer can be a time without food provided at school as well as learning. This year, over 100 participants are benefiting from this partnership between GFBC, the Kirk of Kildaire, Cary Presbyterian, and St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Without your gifts, none of this work is possible!

Order of Worship 6th 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 | *Do Justice, Love Kindness* | *Abe Cáceres*

Welcome to Worship | *Rev. Lauren Efirid*

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (Ps. 145:8-14) | *Rev. Spears-Newsome*

The LORD is gracious and merciful,

Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The LORD is good to all,

And God's compassion is over all that God has made.

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,

And all your faithful shall bless you.

They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom,

And tell of your power,

To make known to all people your mighty deeds,

And the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,

And your dominion endures throughout all

generations.

You are faithful in all your words,

And gracious in all your deeds.

You uphold all who are falling,

And raise up all who are bowed down.

Invocation | *Rev. Spears-Newsome*

✝ **Hymn** | *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory* (pg. 7)

Offertory Prayer | *Steve Denning*

Today's color is **green**, representing growth and new life.

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.

† **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. 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** | *Awesome God* (pg. 9)

Reading | *Judith 16* | *Rev. Spears-Newsome*

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

Anthem | *My God is so High* (pg. 6)

Sermon | *Judith's Song* | *Rev. Efird*

† **Hymn** | *Lead On, O King Eternal* (pg. 10) 📖

Benediction | *Rev. Efird*

Postlude | *Variations on "Lead On, O King Eternal"* | *Abe Cáceres*

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!

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory



1. Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord;
2. He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall nev - er sound re - treat;
3. In the beau - ty of the lil - ies, Christ was born a - cross the sea,
4. He is com - ing like the glo - ry of the morn - ing on the wave;



He is tram - pling out the vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He is sift - ing out the hearts of all be - fore His judg - ment seat;
with a glo - ry in His bo - som that trans - fig - ures you and me;
He is wis - dom to the might - y, He is hon - or to the brave;



He hath loosed the fate - ful light - ning of His ter - ri - ble swift sword;
O be swift, my soul, to an - swer Him; be ju - bi - lant, my feet!
as He died to make us ho - ly, let us live to make all free.
so the world shall be His foot - stool, and the soul of wrong His slave.



His truth is march - ing on.
Our God is march - ing on. Glo - ry! glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry! glo - ry, hal - le -
Our God is march - ing on.
Our God is march - ing on.



lu - jah! Glo - ry! glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Our God is march - ing on.



Awesome God

Our God is an

The first system of music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The vocal line begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady bass line of quarter notes: G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1.

awe - some God. He reigns from heav - en a - bove with

The second system continues the vocal line with a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The piano accompaniment continues with the same bass line.

wis - dom, pow'r, and love. Our God is an awe - some

The third system continues the vocal line with a quarter note F#4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, and a quarter note C4. The piano accompaniment continues with the same bass line.

God. Our God. He reigns! He

The fourth system features a first ending (1.) with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The second ending (2.) has a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note A4. The piano accompaniment continues with the same bass line.

The fifth system continues the piano accompaniment with a steady bass line of quarter notes: G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1.

reigns! He reigns! Our

The first system of the musical score consists of two vocal staves (treble and bass clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The vocal lines feature long notes with ties, and the piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

God is an awe - some God. He God.

The second system continues the musical score with two vocal staves and piano accompaniment. It includes first and second endings for both the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are: "God is an awe - some God. He God." The first ending leads back to the beginning of the phrase, while the second ending concludes with a final chord.

Lead On, O King Eternal

1. Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, the day of march has come;
2. Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
3. Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, we fol - low, not with fears;

hence - forth in fields of con - quest Thy tents shall be our home:
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er Thy face ap - pears;

through days of prep - a - ra - tion Thy grace has made us strong,
for not with swords' loud clash - ing, or roll of stir - ring drums;
Thy cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light:

and now, O King E - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song,
with deeds of love and mer - cy the heav - en - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might.

Anthem My God is So High

arr. Hall Johnson

My God is so high

You can't get over him

He's so low

You can't get under him

He's so wide

You can't get around him

You must come in, by and through the Lamb

One day as I was walkin' along the heav'nly road

My Savior spoke unto me

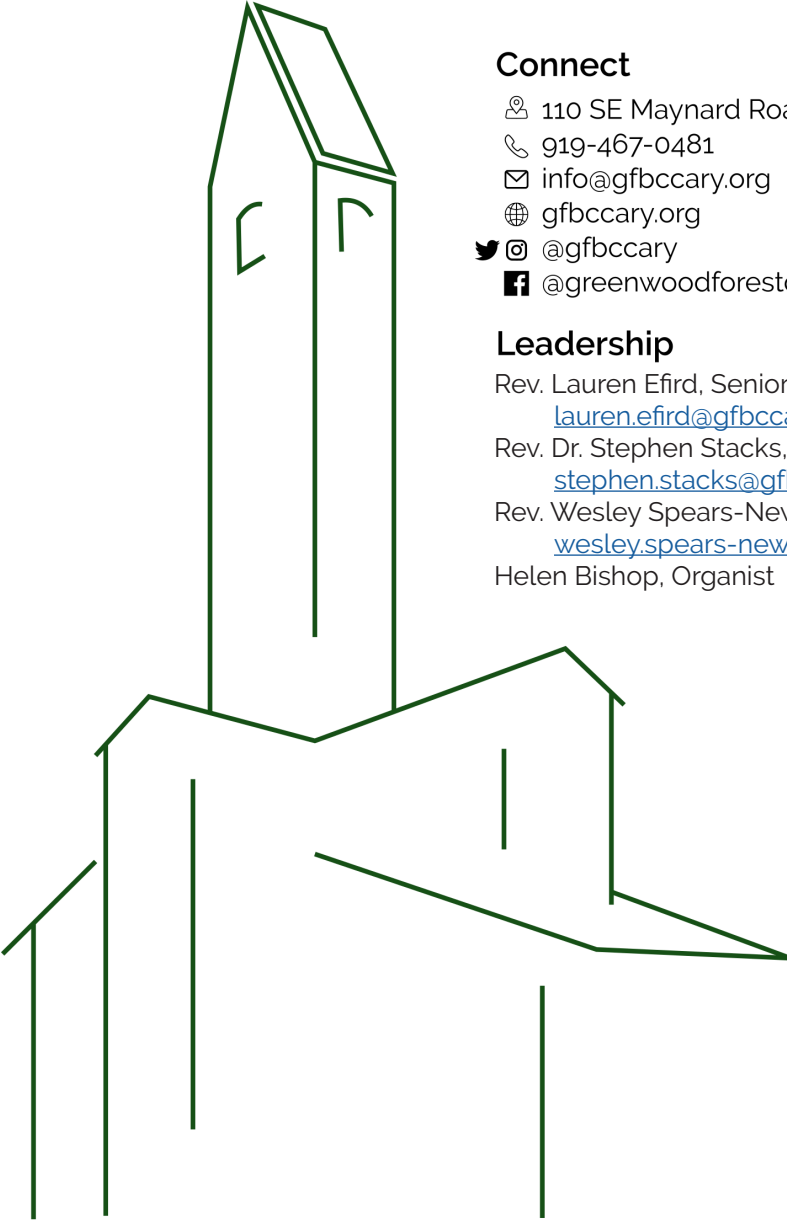
And filled my heart with love

I'll take my gospel trumpet

And I'll begin to blow

And if my Savior help me

I'll blow wherever I go



Connect

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Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

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Helen Bishop, Organist
