



Greenwood Forest

Baptist Church

July 16, 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: *Detail of artwork in the sanctuary of a Benedictine monastery in Petrópolis (Brazil).*

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

Welcome Dr. Abe Cáceres!



It is said, "Count your blessings." I say, if I were to count my blessings, I'd never get anything done! I could tell you about my degrees from Syracuse University (piano and organ), and Indiana University

(ethnomusicology), or my two Fulbrights (to Colombia and Mexico), but my greatest blessings are my life mate of 42 years, Mila, our 2 kidults and their families which include 5 grandkids. I am semi-retired but continue to teach and play piano and organ and compose. Conducting is another passion, so I am excited for this opportunity. I look forward to being a part of this community and making music together in praise to our God. The blessings just keep coming!

- Dr. Abe Cáceres, Sabbatical Worship Leader

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.

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. 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!

Summer Book Club!

Rev. Lauren Efrid will be leading a 4-week summer book club at Bond Brothers Beer Company on the book *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans. Sessions will be on Aug. 9, 16, 23, and Sept. 6 at 4:30pm. If you're interested, please RSVP at gfbccary.org/inspired.

Help Stop LGBTQ 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 (SB49), and a ban on gender-affirming care (HB808). All three were vetoed by the governor. If you'd like to help prevent those bills from overcoming the veto, write or call your state senator **and** state representative (regardless of party) and urge them to vote against 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

We 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 baking items (sugars, flours, oils, mixes).** 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)
Aaliyah Murray
Fred Seeger
Our partners at Ebenezer Baptist in Cuba

Thank You Note

Thank you so much for the gifts, the prayers, and the words of encouragement you have shared over the past couple of weeks. The sabbatical support funds and gift words were especially generous and will help me do all of the things I hoped to do over my break. I will miss all of you. I am looking forward to being back with you in October, and sharing with you about how restful and productive my sabbatical has been!

- Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks



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 7th 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 | *O, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus* | arr. Don Phillips

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (from 1 John 4) | Rev. Spears-Newsome

Beloved, let us love one another,

Because love is from God;

Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

God's love was revealed among us in this way:

God sent God's only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

Beloved, since God loved us so much,

We also ought to love one another.

If we love one another,

God abides in us, and God's love is perfected in us.

God is love;

Those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

Invocation | Rev. Spears-Newsome

† **Hymn** | *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* (pg. 7)

Offertory Prayer | Chris Cook

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 | *Greg Upchurch* 📖

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** | *They'll Know We are Christians* (pg. 8)

Reading | *Song of Songs 2:8-17* | *Nathan Bullock*
The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem | *Ubi Caritas* (pg. 10)

Sermon | *Love Shows Us the Divine* | *Rev. Spears-Newsome*

† **Hymn** | *I Love the Lord* (pg. 9) 📖

Benediction | *Rev. Spears-Newsome*

Postlude | *Praise Him! Praise Him!* | *arr. Susan Naylor Callaway*

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!

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell-ing, joy of heaven to earth come down,
2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast!
3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all Thy grace re - ceive;
4. Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less let us be;



fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
Let us all in Thee in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.
sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.
let us see Thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee:



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;
Take a - way our bent to sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove,
changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,



vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
pray, and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.



They'll Know We Are Christians

Unison

1. We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord.
2. We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand.
3. We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side.
4. All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come.

We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord.
We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand.
We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side.
And all praise to Christ Je - sus, His on - ly Son.

And we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored.
And to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
And we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save each one's pride.
And all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one.

And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our

love. Yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

I Love the Lord

1. I love the Lord, He heard my
2. I love the Lord, He heard my

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time. The treble staff contains two vocal lines with lyrics. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. A large slur covers the vocal lines from the first measure to the end of the system.

cry and pit - ied ev - ery groan.
cry and chased my grief a - way.

The second system continues the vocal lines and accompaniment. The lyrics are split across two lines. A large slur covers the vocal lines from the first measure to the end of the system.

Long as I live, and trou - bles rise,
O let my heart no more de - spair

The third system continues the vocal lines and accompaniment. The lyrics are split across two lines. A large slur covers the vocal lines from the first measure to the end of the system.

I'll has - ten to His throne.
while I have breath to pray.

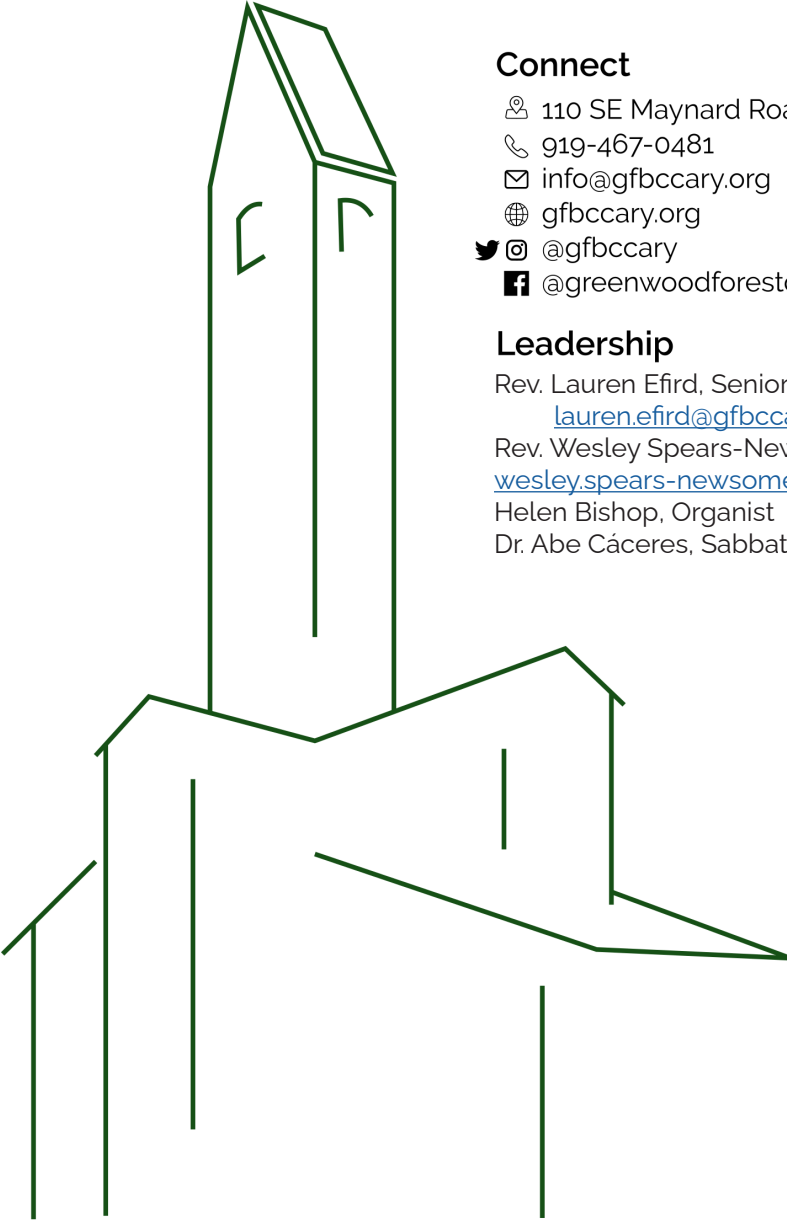
The fourth system concludes the piece. The lyrics are split across two lines. A large slur covers the vocal lines from the first measure to the end of the system. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Anthem Ubi Caritas

Ola Gjeilo

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Amen.

*Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in him.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other
with a sincere heart. Amen.*



Connect

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Leadership

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Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

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Helen Bishop, Organist

Dr. Abe Cáceres, Sabbatical Worship Leader

