

# Greenwood Forest

## Baptist Church

Nov. 12, 2023



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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



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](http://gfbccary.org)



[greenwoodforestcary](https://www.facebook.com/greenwoodforestcary)



[@gfbccary](https://www.instagram.com/gfbccary)

# Announcements Church Events and Updates

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## GFBC's 60th Anniversary

We're celebrating the 60th Anniversary of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church on November 19 with a special worship service and a luncheon to follow! RSVP at [gfbccary.org/gfbc60](http://gfbccary.org/gfbc60). The RSVP deadline is November 15 at noon.

Our sixties-themed luncheon will feature stories from fellow church members, a special look at items from the church archives, a book of testimonies from across the congregation, a BBQ lunch, and more! Suggested donation for lunch is \$10 per adult and \$5 for kids.

As you recall our past sixty years, consider a special offering in multiples of 6! Can you give an extra \$6, \$60, or even \$600? All your gifts go toward the ministries of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church and the community we serve.

## Trip to Tucson, Arizona

We're taking a new trip this year for the Freedom Ride, this time to the U.S.-Mexico border in Arizona. We'll be traveling as a group with an organization called **Borderlinks** based in Tucson, AZ.

We'll engage in some service, learning, and relationship-building activities with longtime residents of the borderlands and the migrants who cross them. The trip is scheduled for June 30-July 6. We'll be traveling by plane to AZ (not by bus!) and will be staying at a Borderlinks facility designed to accommodate groups like ours.

Register at [gfbccary.org/tucson](http://gfbccary.org/tucson) soon as spots are limited. Deadline to register is January 31. If you have questions, please direct them to Rev. Spears-Newsome.

## Helen Bishop's Anniversary

November 1st marks Helen Bishop's 24th year at GFBC as our organist (and pianist and flutist and singer and general maker of amazing music!) Please be sure to tell Helen a big "thank you!" for her many years of service at GFBC and for sharing her amazing talents in worship. We are forever grateful.

## "Souper" Love Feast and Sanctuary Adornment

We'll be preparing the church for Advent on November 26 and we want you to join us! After worship on Sunday 11/26, we'll have a potluck "Souper" Love Feast, Advent wreath-making, and we'll decorate the sanctuary together!

Sign up to bring food at [gfbccary.org/souper](http://gfbccary.org/souper) today! This event is a fun time for children, youth, and adults to prepare themselves for this next season.

# 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)  
Barbara Dial (sister of Carol Carter)  
Elaine Dodson  
James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes' brother)  
Anjar Hossain (friend of Kevin Schaefer)  
Tony Izador (family of Roz Slawson)  
Aaliyah Murray (family of Gail Jones)  
Katheron E. Palmer (mother of Randy Palmer)  
Fred Seeger  
Eddie Stewart (friend of Diana Morde)  
Mathias Warne (family of Gail Jones)  
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](http://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:

### **60th Anniversary of GFBC**

Greenwood Forest has now been in Cary for 60 years! We've worshipped, served, grieved, celebrated, and more for over six decades. None of that would have been possible without the beloved community that gathers here each week. As you recall our past sixty years, consider a special offering in multiples of 6! Can you give an extra \$6, \$60, or even \$600? All your gifts go toward the ministries of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church and the community we serve.

# Order of Worship Lay Leadership Sunday

✝ 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** | *Pour Me Out* | *Brandon Lake* (pg. 10)

**Welcome to Worship** | *Rev. Amanda Warren*

Leader: The Lord be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

## Passing of the Peace 📖

**Call to Worship (by Rev. Warren & Nathan Bullock)**

Let us remember the wisdom that has been passed down to us;

**And give thanks for those who have shared what they have heard and know;**

For prophets of old, like Moses, who lead your people out of slavery;

**For Jesus Christ, whose life showed us the depth of sacrificial love;**

For the modern prophets, who shine a light on the inequalities in the world;

**And who teach us that there is room for all at God's table;**

For the music leader who taught us "Jesus Loves Me";

**And the Sunday School teacher who helped us memorize the Lord's Prayer;**

For the Pastor who reminded us that nothing can separate us from the love of God;

**And the people who brought us food in our time of grief, sickness, and need;**

For the way "Mama n them" shared their encounters with God;

**And for the communities that made us feel truly welcome;**

We will tell the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord

**That the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn;**

May the lessons that we have been given create a firm foundation;

**So that our spiritual descendants will set their hope in God;**

May they each embrace the fullness of the person God created them to be;

**5 As they build a community, of radical unconditional love and acceptance;**

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.

Following God's commands to act justly and to love mercy;  
**May they walk humbly with God towards the future for which we pray.**

**Invocation** | *Lindsay Cowell*

† **Hymn** | *Gather Us In (pg. 7)*

**Offertory Prayer** | *Andy Jarrell*

**Offertory** | *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot* | arr. Vandall 📖

† **Doxology** | *Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH* 📖

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, you heavenly hosts,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

**The Prayers of the People** | *Johnny Jackson* 📖

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** | *The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound (pg. 8)*

**Reading** | *Psalm 78:1-7* | *Anna Claire Jarrell*

The word of God for us, the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Reflection** | *Rick Chappell*

**Anthem** | *The Servant Song (pg. 10)*

**Reflection** | *Blair Biser*

† **Hymn** | *Bricks and Mortar, Hands and Labor (pg. 9)* 📖

**Benediction** | *Roz Slawson*

**Postlude** | *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* | arr. Wolaver

## The Offertory

During the offertory music, we pass plates across the pews as a way to make our collective offering to God and the wellbeing of this community.

## The Doxology

A “doxology” is a short hymn that usually praises the Trinity. We sing the doxology as we 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!

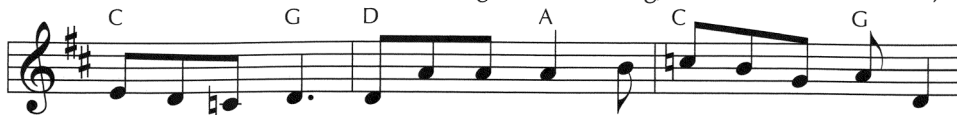
## Thank You!

Leanne Glasgow, Music Leader  
Sally Shaver & Addie Smith, Pianists  
Rev. Amanda Warren, Worship Chair

# Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter; here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his - tory,  
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,  
 light years a - way: here in this place the new light is shin - ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en; gath-er us in, the  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty; gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion; give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en;  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly;  
 bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.



# The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

1. The church of Christ can - not be bound by walls of wood or stone.  
2. True faith will o - pen up the door and step in - to the street.  
3. True love will not sit i - dly by when jus - tice is de - nied.  
4. If what we have, we free - ly share to meet our neigh - bor's need,

Where char - i - ty and love are found, there can the church be known.  
True ser - vice will seek out the poor and ask to wash their feet.  
True mer - cy hears the home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.  
then we ex - tend the Spir - it's care through ev - ery self - less deed.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 3/2. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines. The first system contains four verses, and the second system contains two verses. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody.

# Bricks and Mortar, Hands and Labor

1. Bricks and mor - tar, hands and la - bor day by day a  
2. For the dream - ers still a - mong us who can see what's  
3. May these walls be - come a shel - ter — rest a - long the

build - ing raise; but the church of Christ our Sav - ior  
yet to be; for the work - ers and the plan - ners  
jour - ney's way; ho - ly space where grace is prac - ticed,

grows with wor - ship, work, and praise. For the saints who've  
who make real the dreams we see; for Your peo - ple,  
wel - come space where love holds sway. May these walls di -

gone be - fore us, faith - ful ser - vants, dream - ers strong, we who see their  
still com - mit - ted to Your gos - pel in this place; for these gifts that  
vide us nev - er, may Your Spir - it make us one. May our hearts and

vi - sion liv - ing join glad hearts in grate - ful song.  
have been giv - en un - to You be thanks and praise.  
doors be o - pen — room e - nough for ev - ery - one.

# **Prelude** Pour Me Out

Brandon Lake

Make me a vessel of your peace  
Where there is war let fighting cease  
All that divides us, come reconcile us  
Make me a vessel of your peace

Make me a vessel of your hope  
Where dreams are dead, come wake them up  
A new horizon, I feel it rising  
Make me a vessel of your hope

Make me a vessel of your love  
Where there is hatred, break it up  
All creeds and colors, bind us together  
Make me a vessel of your love

Like a rushing river let mercy flow  
Through my heart to your world

*Pour me out*

*Pour me out*

*Pour me out*

*Wherever I am, wherever I go*

# **Anthem** The Servant Song

arr. Francis Patrick O'Brien

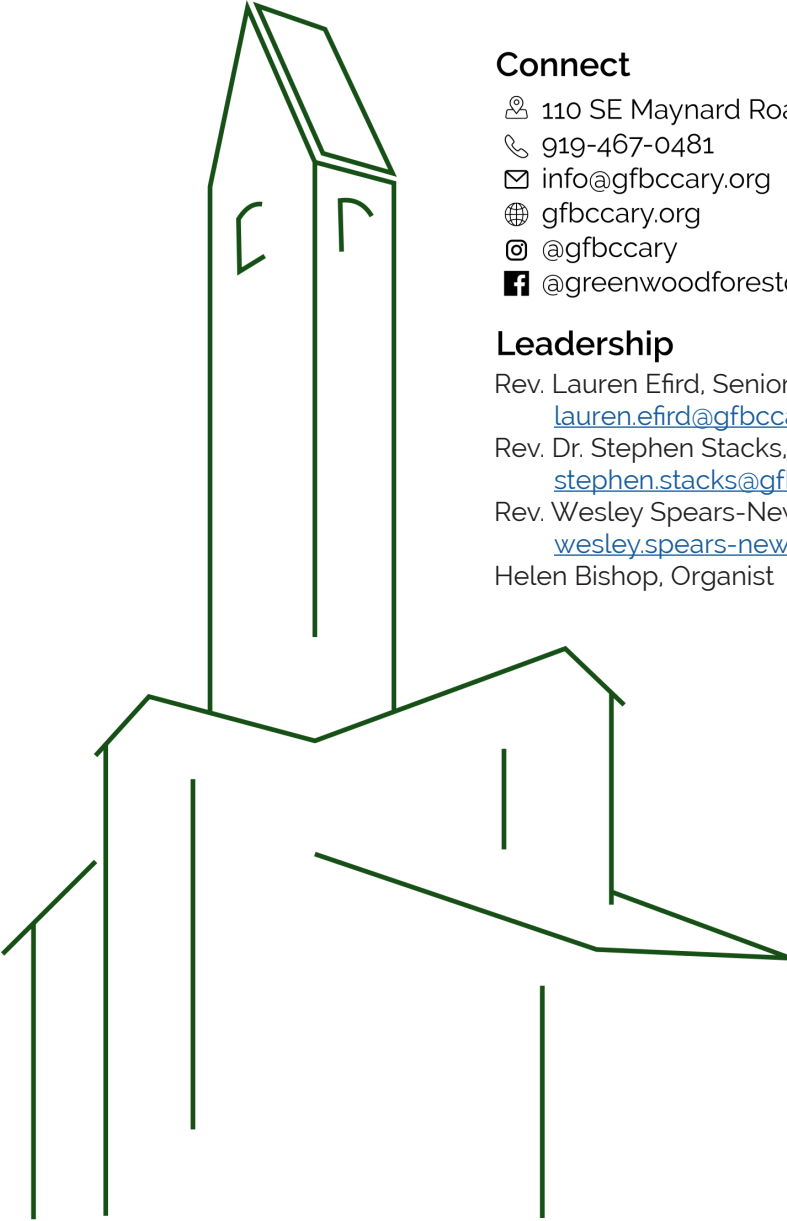
Will you let me be your servant,  
Let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I might have the grace  
To let you be my servant, too.

I will weep when you are weeping.  
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
Till we've seen this journey through.

We are pilgrims on a journey.  
We are travelers on the road.  
We are here to help each other  
Walk the mile and bear the load.

When we sing to God in heaven,  
We shall find such harmony  
Born of all we've known together  
Of Christ's love and agony.

I will hold the Christ-light for you  
In the night time of your fear.  
I will hold my hand out to you;  
Speak the peace you long to hear.



## Connect

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☎ 919-467-0481

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📘 @greenwoodforestcary

## Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efird, Senior Pastor

[lauren.efird@gfbccary.org](mailto:lauren.efird@gfbccary.org)

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Associate Pastor

[stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org](mailto:stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org)

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

[wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org](mailto:wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org)

Helen Bishop, Organist

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