



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

April 7, 2024



Scan for Digital

Bulletin Art The Kien Valley

Full Title: The Kien Valley with the Bluemlisalp Massif | Ferdinand Hodler

Ferdinand Hodler (1853-1919) was a well-known Swiss painter who began his artistic career in a more realistic style but eventually embraced a form he called parallelism. Known at one point for his patriotic art, he also condemned atrocities during the First World War, despite his friends urging him to retract his criticisms. He was subsequently forced out of several German art groups. His work was frequently collected by German Jews and much of it was lost during the Holocaust.

The Kien Valley is a picturesque town in Switzerland, part of which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Bluemlisalp Massif is the mountain that looms in the background of the piece, part of a high ridge that frames the valley.



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

- 3 | Announcements
- 4 | Community Notes
- 5 | Order of Worship
- 7 | Songbook

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

Faith Formation Series Begins April 14

Dr. Lydia Hoyle and Rev. Bucky Sydnor will present three different interpretive approaches to the story of Lazarus in John 11 on April 14–28. Lydia will teach on April 14 and 21, focusing on Eastern Orthodox and imaginative/contemplative approaches to the text, and Bucky will teach on April 28, focusing on the historical critical approach. It will be a fascinating three weeks of diving into one of the most interesting passages in John's gospel.

New Sermon Series and Spring Cantata

During the month of April, we'll be reflecting on the role of all God's creation in our faith. The series "The Earth is the Lord's" begins with Genesis and ends in Revelation before we enjoy our spring cantata. On April 28, the Sanctuary Choir will perform Ola Gjeilo's *Sunrise Mass* in worship. The piece is a reflection on creation from space down to the ground. It uses the Latin mass text, beautiful lush harmony, and strings to reflect on the spiritual dimension of our relationship to the earth. It will be a beautiful conclusion to our April worship series on creation care. Make plans to be there!

AWAB Event in Durham

Recently, Greenwood Forest was recognized by the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists (AWAB) as a congregation safe and supportive of LGBTQ people. Our new friends at AWAB are hosting an event at Watts Street Baptist Church in Durham called "Being Trans in 2024" with Rev. Dr. Donnie Anderson. Rev. Dr. Anderson is

an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, United Church of Christ, and American Baptists (USA). She is a pastor, educator, counselor, and social activist who lives in Providence, RI. When, at age 69, she came out to her family, they were shocked. "I've been told many times that I am the first transgender person someone knows, to which I reply, I am the first OUT transgender person you know." Join AWAB for this conversation on April 11 at 7pm at Watts Street Baptist Church.

Help Preserve Affordable Housing in Apex with Habitat

If you live in Apex, your community needs you to help preserve affordable housing. Habitat for Humanity and Fiesta Cristiana (one of our ONE Wake partners) have let us know that approximately 1,100 Apex residents, currently living in 3 manufactured home communities, are vulnerable to displacement. Residents are concerned that what is happening to the Chatham Estates mobile home park (another partner in ONE Wake) in Cary may soon happen to them.

Our partners in Apex, then, are asking the Apex Council to modify its 2045 Land Use Map to keep these homes zoned as manufactured home communities and/or only allow for redevelopment of these properties for affordable housing that is financially and practically accessible to the current manufactured home community residents.

If you live in Apex, sign onto this letter at tinyurl.com/gfbcapexhousing to show your support for affordable housing.

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
Jo Brooks
Valerie Brooks
Aaliyah Murray (family of Gail Jones)
Katheron E. Palmer (mother of Randy Palmer)
Jennie Pegram
Fred Seeger
Paul Smith
Felecia Spears (friend of Susan Beck)
Nancy Walters (mother-in-law of Susan Beck)
Mathias Warne (family of Gail Jones)
Patti Webb
Gladys Wells
Kathleen Wicker
Alison Zieglmeier
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 and Fellowship Ministry

The Outreach and Fellowship Ministry is responsible for so many things we enjoy inside our community of faith and our wider community. As we reflect on creation this month, the Outreach and Fellowship Ministry asks that you consider how you can care for the earth both at church and at home!

Order of Worship Second 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 | *O Happy Morning* | arr. Asubuhi Njema Loo

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Efirid

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (by Modern Liturgist) 📖

The heavens are telling the glory of the Lord; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

All around us are signs and wonders, fingerprints of the creator.

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it; the world, and all who live in it.

All around us we find life; all the created world is related to us.

Come, let us dwell in God's work of art! Here in this wondrous world we are not alone. We share this life with the heavens and the earth...

With the waters and the land, with trees and grasses, With fish, birds, and animals, with minerals and creatures of every form, And with all our human family.

God is good and everything God makes is good.

Praise to the creator of all that is, seen and unseen!

Invocation | Blair Biser

† **Hymn** | *Morning Has Broken* (pg. 7)

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

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, expressed through a peace sign, a handshake, a wave, conversation, etc. We hope you will take the time to greet and speak with those around you or with someone you haven't met!

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.

Offertory Prayer | *Andy Jarrell* 📖

Offertory | *They'll Know We Are Christians* | *arr. Susan Geschke*

† **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** | *This is My Father's World* (pg. 8)

Reading | *Genesis 1:24-31* | *Ella Biser*

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

Thanks be to God.

Anthem | *The Earth is Yours* (pg. 10)

Sermon | *The Heavens and the Earth* | *Rev. Efird*

† **Hymn** | *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth* (pg. 9)

Benediction | *Rev. Efird*

Postlude | *Heaven and Earth, and Sea and Air* | *arr. Mendoza*

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. A short doxology follows as we offer our gifts.

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!

Worship Leadership

Thank you to Blair Biser for leading hymns today and to all our lay leaders, musicians, and handbell choir for assisting in worship this week.

Morning Has Broken

Unison

1. Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first
 2. Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from
 3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the

morn - ing, black-bird has spo - ken like the first
 heav - en, like the first dew - fall on the first
 morn - ing born of the one light E - den saw

bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
 play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery

morn - ing! Praise for them spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where His feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

This is My Father's World

1. This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-tening ears,
2. This is my Fa-ther's world, the birds their car - ols raise;
3. This is my Fa-ther's world, O let me ne'er for - get

all na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
the morn - ing light, the lil - y white de - clare their Mak-er's praise.
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Rul-er yet.

This is my Fa-ther's world, I rest me in the thought
This is my Fa-ther's world, He shines in all that's fair;
This is my Fa-ther's world, why should my heart be sad?

of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the won-ders wrought.
in rust-ling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me ev-ery-where.
The Lord is King! Let heav-en ring! God reigns! Let earth be glad!

Mothing God, You Gave Me Birth

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand.

System 1: Chords: D, A, G, Em7. Lyrics: 1 Moth - er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright; 2 Moth - er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing; 3 Moth - er - ing Spir - it, nur - turing one, in arms of

System 2: Chords: D, Bm, F#m. Lyrics: morn - ing of this world. Cre - a - tor, source of ev - ery; me your food of light, grain of life, and grape of; pa - tience hold me close, so that in faith I root and

System 3: Chords: G, D, G, D. Lyrics: breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun. love, your ver - y bod - y for my peace. grow un - til I flower, un - til I know.

Anthem The Earth is Yours

Gungor | Evan and Lou Owoc-Edwards

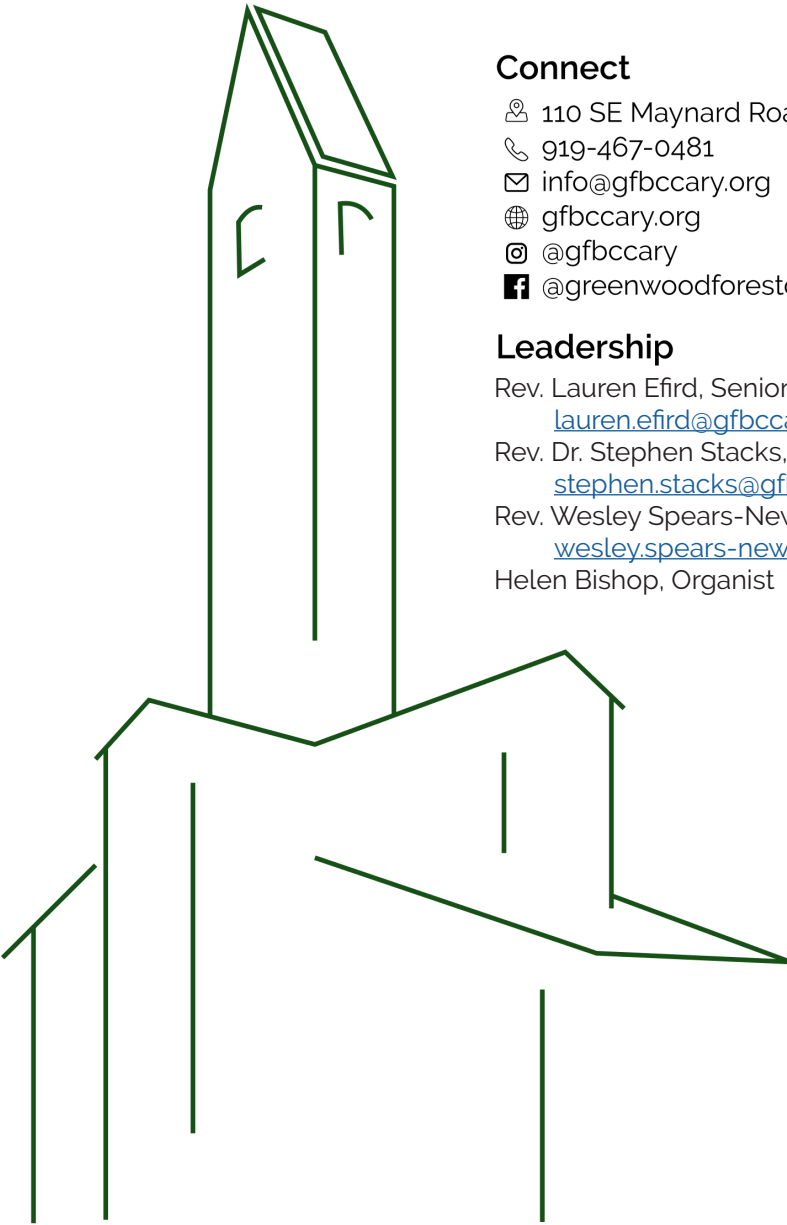
Your voice it thunders
The oaks start twisting
The forest sounds with cedars breaking
The waters see you and start their writhing
From the depths a song is rising
Now, it's rising from the ground

Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord
The earth is yours and singing
Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord
The earth is yours
The earth is yours
Your voice it thunders

The ground is shaking
The mighty mountains
Now are trembling

Creation sees you
And starts composing
The fields and trees
They start rejoicing

And now it's rising from the ground
Now it's rising from the ground
Hear us crying out
Hear us crying out



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