



"Love is the only force that allows
us to hold one another close
beyond the grave."
- bell hooks



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

August 11, 2024



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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.

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.



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Order of Worship

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

Welcome to Worship | *Rev. Lauren Efirid*

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship (Psalm 130)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive!

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,

Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you,

So that you may be revered.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

And in God's word I hope;

My soul waits for the Lord

More than those who watch for the morning,

O Israel, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,

With the Lord is great power to redeem.

It is God who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Invocation | *Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks*

Hymn | *The Solid Rock*

Offertory Prayer | *Tim Carr*

Offertory

Doxology | *Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH*

Transcendent God, we bless your name

Incarnate Christ, the risen one

The Spirit with us, Immanent

The Source, the Word, the Breath of life. Amen.

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.

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 | *Rev. Dr. 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 | *Abide With Me*

Reading | *John 11:1-44* | *Henry Meador*

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

Thanks be to God.

Anthem | *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* | arr. Jack Schrader

Sermon | *Loving into Life and Death* | *Rev. Efir*

Hymn | *When Sorrow Floods the Troubled Heart*

Benediction | *Rev. Efir*

Postlude

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!

The Solid Rock

1. My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and
2. When dark-ness seems to hide His face, I rest on His un -
3. His oath, His cov - e - nant, His blood sup - port me in the
4. When He shall come with trum - pet sound, oh, may I then in

righ - teous-ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but
chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
whelm - ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, He
Him be found, dressed in His righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -

whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all
then is all my hope and stay.
less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Abide With Me

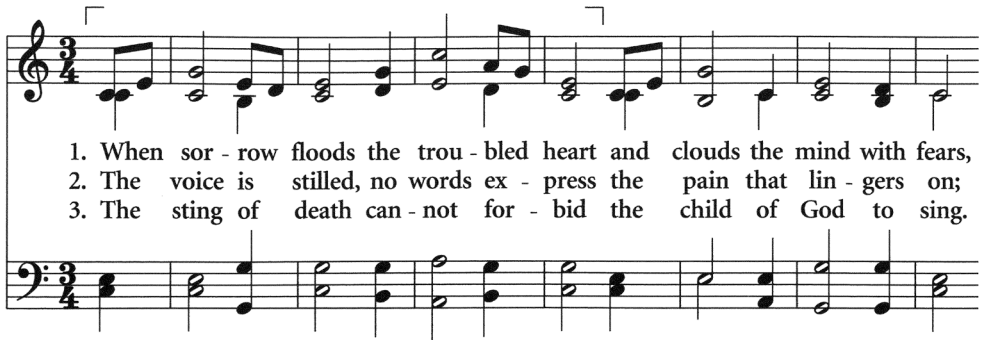
1. A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven - tide;
2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
3. I need Thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
4. Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
what but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

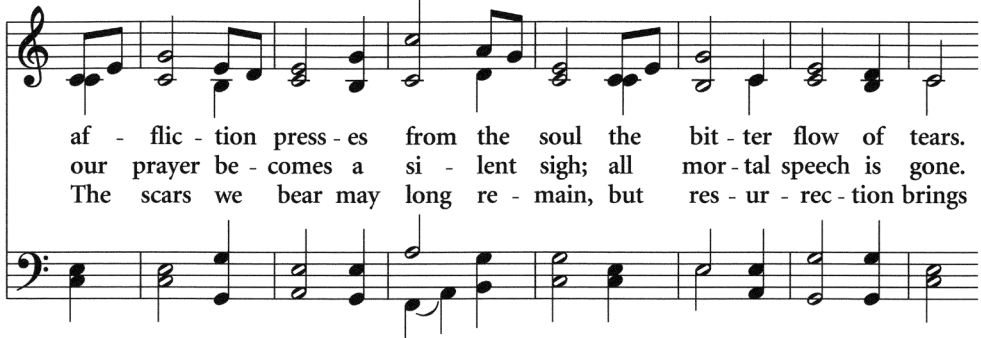
When oth - er help - ers fail, and com - forts flee,
change and de - cay in all a - round I see.
Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee.

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me!
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me!
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me!
In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me!

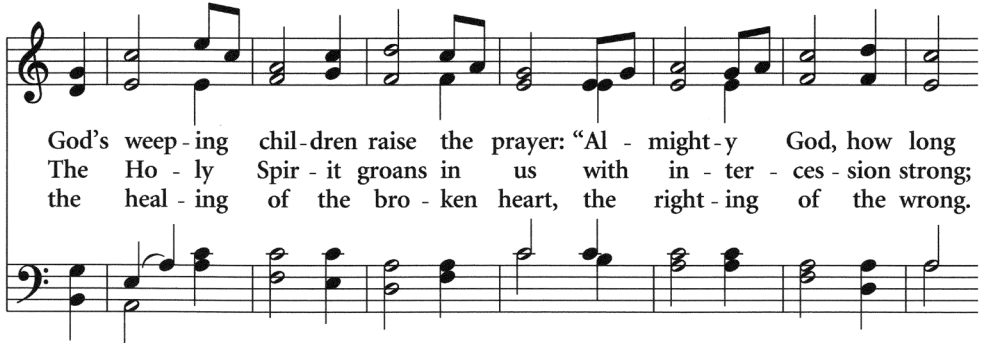
When Sorrow Floods the Troubled Heart



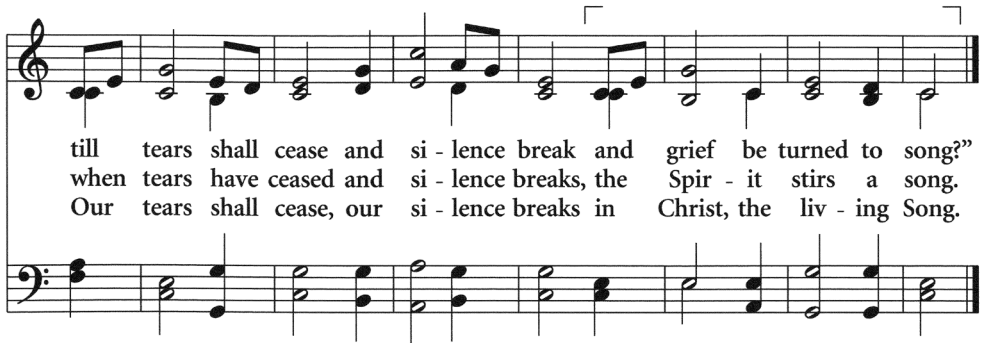
1. When sor - row floods the trou - bled heart and clouds the mind with fears,
2. The voice is stilled, no words ex - press the pain that lin - gers on;
3. The sting of death can - not for - bid the child of God to sing.



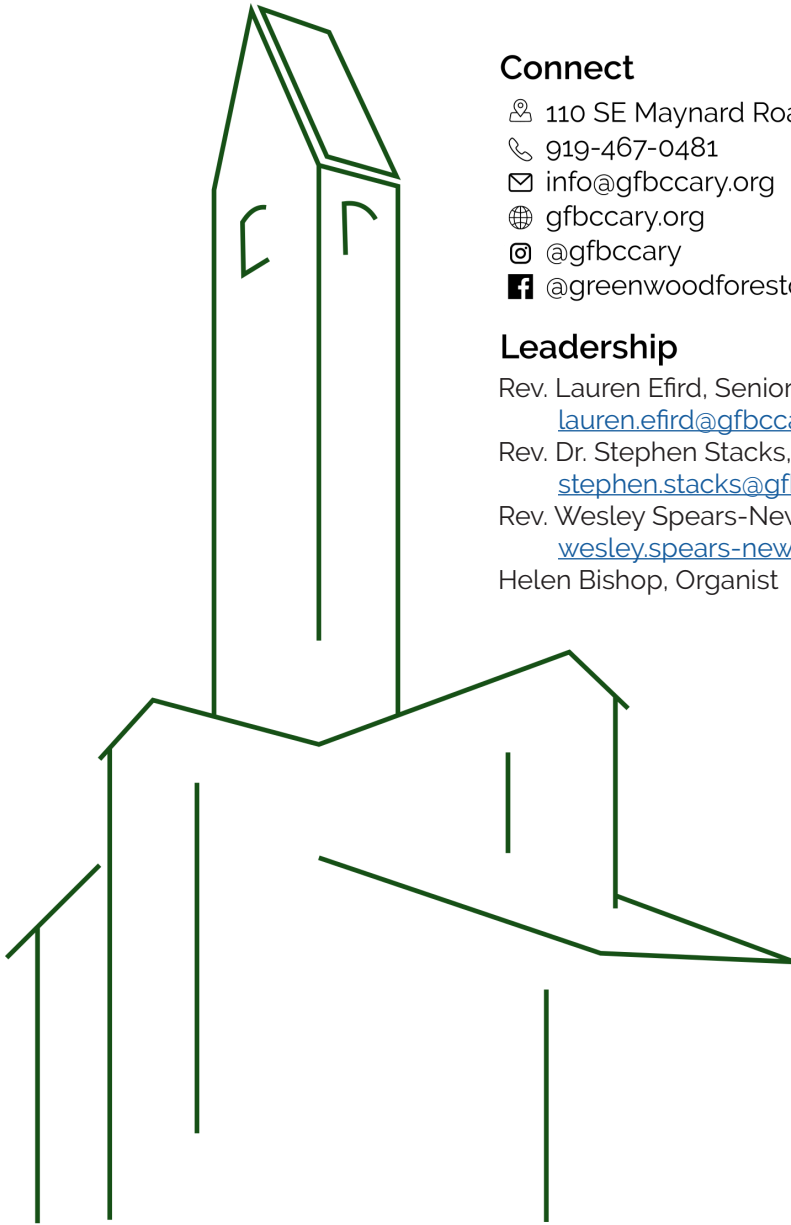
af - flic - tion press - es from the soul the bit - ter flow of tears.
our prayer be - comes a si - lent sigh; all mor - tal speech is gone.
The scars we bear may long re - main, but res - ur - rec - tion brings



God's weep - ing chil - dren raise the prayer: "Al - might - y God, how long
The Ho - ly Spir - it groans in us with in - ter - ces - sion strong;
the heal - ing of the bro - ken heart, the right - ing of the wrong.



till tears shall cease and si - lence break and grief be turned to song?"
when tears have ceased and si - lence breaks, the Spir - it stirs a song.
Our tears shall cease, our si - lence breaks in Christ, the liv - ing Song.



Connect

📍 110 SE Maynard Road Cary, NC 27511

☎ 919-467-0481

✉ info@gfbccary.org

🌐 gfbccary.org

📷 @gfbccary

📘 @greenwoodforestcary

Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efird, Senior Pastor

lauren.efird@gfbccary.org

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Associate Pastor

stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org

Helen Bishop, Organist

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