



*When we open our hearts to love,
we can live as if born again.*

bell hooks



Greenwood Forest
Baptist Church August 18, 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 Efird*

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship (Psalm 30)

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up,
And did not let my foes rejoice over me.

O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,

And you have healed me.

O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
Restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

Sing praises to the LORD, O you faithful ones,

And give thanks to God's holy name.

For God's anger is but for a moment;

God's favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night,

But joy comes with the morning.

Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me!

O LORD, be my helper!"

You have turned my mourning into dancing;

You have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,

So that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Invocation | *Rev. Efird*

Hymn | *When the Lord Redeems the Very Least*

Offertory Prayer | *Carol Carter*

Offertory

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.

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 Prayers of the People | *Nathan Bullock*

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 | *We Cannot Measure How You Heal*

Reading | *Luke 5:17-26* | *Kevin Schaefer*

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

Thanks be to God.

Anthem | *I am the God* | Randy Palmer, Soloist

Sermon | *Redemptive Love* | *Rev. Efird*

Hymn | *When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace*

Benediction | *Rev. Efird*

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!

When the Lord Redeems the Very Least

1 When the Lord re - deems the ver - y least,
 2 When the Lord re - stores the sick and weak, we will re -
 3 When the Lord re - vives the world from death, we will re-joyce, will re -
 4 When the Lord re - turns in vic - to - ry,

joyce.
 joyce, will re-joyce.

When the hun - gry gath - er for the feast,
 When the earth is giv - en to the meek,
 When the word of God fills ev - ery breath,
 When we live in glo - rious lib - er - ty,

Refrain

we will re-joyce. We will re-
 we will re-joyce, will re-joyce, will re-joyce. We will re-joyce, will re-

joyce with glad-ness. We will re-joyce.
 joyce with glad-ness. We will re-joyce, will re-joyce with glad-ness. All our

days we'll sing to God in praise. We will re-joyce, will re-joyce, will re-joyce!
 We will re-joyce!

6 We Cannot Measure How You Heal

Unison

The musical score is written for a unison voice part. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are as follows:

1. We can - not meas - ure how You heal or
2. The pain that will not go a - way, the
3. So some have come who need Your help and

an - swer ev - ery suf - ferer's prayer, yet
guilt that clings from things long past, the
some have come to make a - mends, as

we be - lieve Your grace re - sponds where
fear of what the fu - ture holds, are
hands which shaped and saved the world are

faith and doubt u - nite to care. Your
pres - ent as if meant to last. But
pres - ent in the touch of friends. Lord,

hands, though blood - ied on the cross, sur -
 pres - ent too is love which tends the
 let Your Spir - it meet us here to

vive to hold and heal and warn, to
 hurt we nev - er hoped to find, the
 mend the bod - y, mind, and soul, to

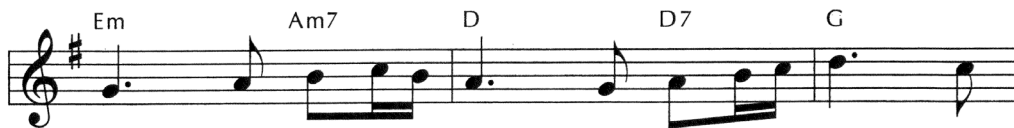
car - ry all through death to life and
 pri - vate ag - o - nies in - side, the
 dis - en - tan - gle peace from pain, and

cra - dle chil - dren yet un - born.
 mem - o - ries that haunt the mind.
 make Your bro - ken peo - ple whole.

8 When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace



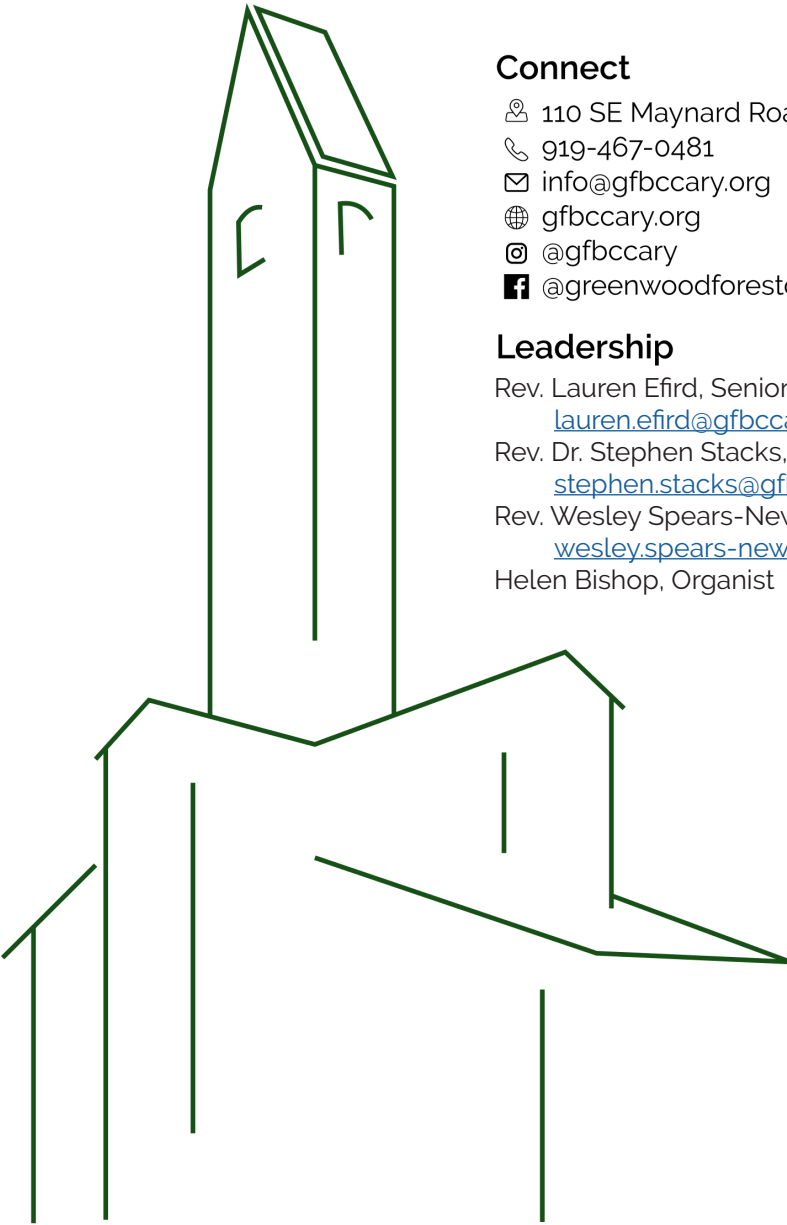
1 When hands reach out and fin - gers trace the beau - ty
2 When fin - gers spell and signs ex - press our prayer and
3 When bro - ken bod - ies will not mend, we thank you,
4 And when the ways we learn and grow are not the
5 Your Spir - it gives us dif - fer - ing ways to serve you



of a loved one's face, we thank you, God, that
praise and thank - ful - ness, we thank you, God, that
God, for Christ our friend. In him, our heal - ing
ways that oth - ers know, we thank you, God, that
well and of - fer praise. When all are joined as



love re - lies on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.
hands can sing; you bless the si - lent songs we bring.
can be - gin: he wel - comes all the wound - ed in.
we have learned your love's a gift, and nev - er earned.
one, we'll be your a - ble, strong com - mu - ni - ty.



Connect

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Helen Bishop, Organist

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