



# Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

Sept. 1, 2024



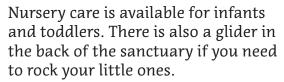


# an inclusive **community** of faith

# Welcome

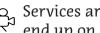
We are so glad you've chosen to join us this week. Greenwood Forest Baptist Church is an inclusive community of faith, which means we welcome, affirm, and include all God's people in their diversity of genders, sexual orientations, races, ethnicities, ages, abilities, and backgrounds. We are each beloved by God and we are happy to welcome you to our church exactly as you are.

# REMINDERS



Hearing assistance devices are

 $\mathfrak{D}$ ))) available at the back of the sanctuary along with a transcript of the sermon.

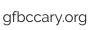


Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera.

Gender-neutral, single-occupant bathrooms are located at the back of the sanctuary in the Narthex.







# **Order of Worship**

# **Chiming of the Hour**

## Prelude

Welcome to Worship | *Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks* Leader: The Lord be with you! People: And also with you!

# **Passing of the Peace**

# Call to Worship (based on Matthew 11:28-30)

If you are tired from carrying heavy burdens, Weary of long days and restless nights, Of demanding work and stressful lives, come to Christ and he will give you rest. Take God's yoke upon you. Put it on your shoulders and learn— Learn to be gentle with yourself and with others, Learn to be humble about your limits and your flaws, Learn to rest in God's love and abundance. Unlike the burdens of our world, the yoke of Jesus is easy, and his burden is light.

Invocation | Rev. Dr. Stacks

Hymn | All Who Hunger Gather Gladly

**Offertory Prayer** | Susan Beck

# 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. 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 | Come Away from Rush and Hurry

**Reading** | Isaiah 55:1-3a | Anna Claire Jarrell The word of God for us, the people of God. **Thanks be to God.** 

Sermon | Rev. Dr. Stacks

# **Communion** | *Rev. Dr. Stacks*

Prayer of Confession: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be obedient disciples. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we've not loved our neighbors, and we've not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us for what we have done and for what we've left undone, and free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mystery of Faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

**Hymn** | I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Benediction | Rev. Dr. Stacks

# 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.

### Communion

During Communion, we gather around the table as Christ showed us, to remember and give thanks. We have an open table—all who wish to take Communion are invited.We practice intinction, which means you receive a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. A gluten-free option is available on the altar.

### **Final Hymn: An Invitation**

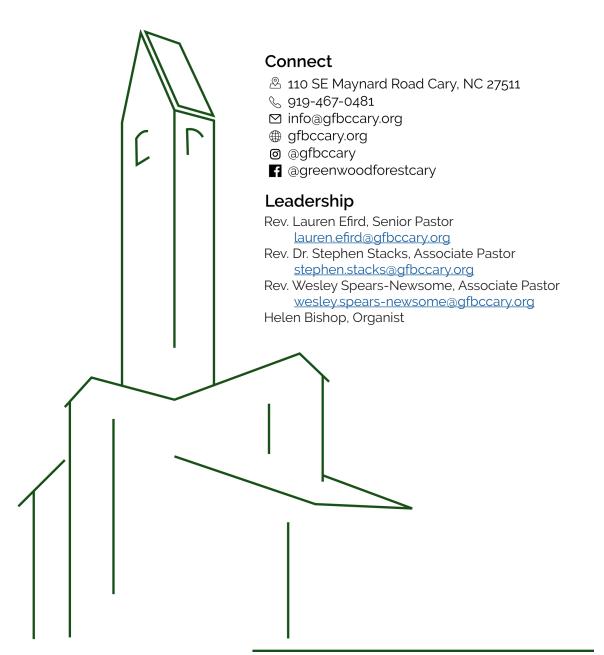
During the final hymn, if you'd like to join our community at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, we invite you to come forward to the altar. When you come forward, you'll be greeted by a minister and a deacon who will then introduce you to the congregation after the hymn. Welcome!







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*Reprinted hymns come from Celebrating Grace, Glory to God, or the The African American Heritage Hymnal unless otherwise noted. Copyrighted music use covered by CCLI License #1243530, OneLicense #A-721397.*