

# Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

November 3, 2024



Scan for Digital

# 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, citizenship statuses, 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)

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# All Saints Day 2024

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*We remember ...*



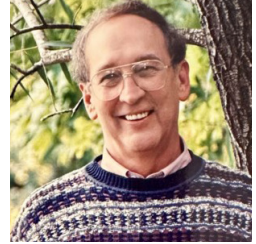
Nell Allen



Tim Carr



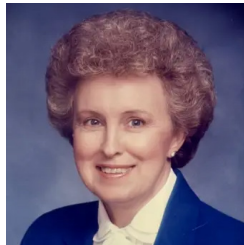
Jean Lamb



Terry Mitchem



Jeff Parent



Eva Puryear



Paul Smith



Etta Weatherman

## All Saints Bulletin Art

"All Saints" (digital collage) by Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

A doorway moves aside giving way from this world to the next with golden flecks representing all the saints moving between these realms. What God has prepared in the new creation is already the experience of those we have lost in this time and place. The swirling movement of gold represents our journeys through life and death as we draw closer to God.

# Announcements | Church Events and Updates

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## Go Vote!

November 5 is Election Day and your last chance to make your voice heard in the 2024 general election. Unlike during early voting, you can only go to your precinct to vote on Election Day. To find your voting location, consult your voter registration card or look online at <https://vt.ncsbe.gov/pplkup>. Remember you must bring a photo-ID with you to vote. If you encounter trouble voting, call 888-OUR-VOTE (888-687-8683).

Of particular interest to our community is the Cary Housing Bond, which has the enthusiastic support of ONE Wake. If approved, the bond will provide \$30 million for housing initiatives designed to support lower-income residents in Cary, including: creation of new affordable housing; preservation of existing affordable housing; funding for residents experiencing a financial hardship; and support for local non-profits.

## Poinsettias

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one, please fill out the form at [gfbccary.org/poinsettias](http://gfbccary.org/poinsettias) or call the church office. The cost is \$15 each. You can pay online at [gfbccary.org](http://gfbccary.org), with check or cash in the offering plate, or via mail to the church. The deadline is Wednesday, November 6.

## Disability Theology

Our teaching series continues Sunday and runs through November 17. Rev. Amanda Warren and Kevin Schaeffer are teaching us about disability theology. Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45am!

## Rev. Spears-Newsome is back!

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome is back from sabbatical. When you see Wes, say "welcome back!"

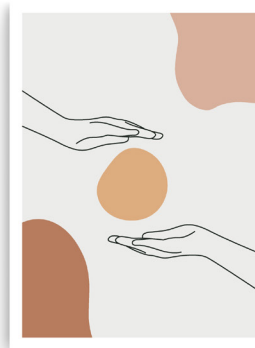
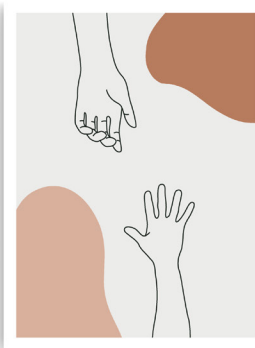
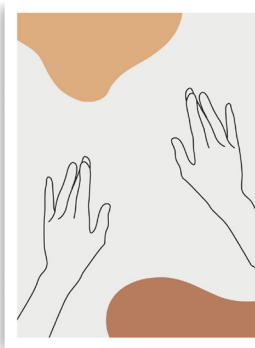
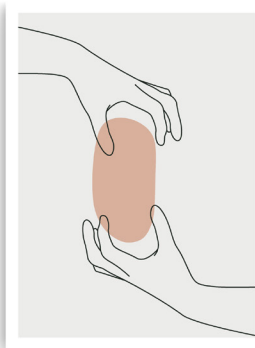
## Welcome Cameron Aiken!

We are thrilled to have Cameron Aiken on board as our Choir Director leading our singing in worship. Cameron has a Bachelor's degree in Vocal Performance from University of South Carolina, a Master's Degree in Vocal Performance from Rice University, a Master's in Music Education from Hunter College, and a Doctorate in Physical Therapy from Winston Salem State University. He has significant experience singing professionally, conducting church and community choirs, and teaching music in public schools. Cameron is starting immediately and will be in worship this Sunday. Give him a warm Greenwood Forest welcome when you meet him!

## Love Feast and Christmas Decorating (Nov. 24)

Mark your calendars for after worship on November 24! We'll be eating lunch together in a Souper Love Feast (bring a soup to share!) and then you can either (1) make an Advent wreath with the Children's Ministry or (2) help adorn the Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas.

# Community Notes | Prayer Requests and Giving



## Prayer

*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.*

Gilles Bikindou

Jo Brooks

Edwina Erwin

Barney Graham

Doris Martin

Jennie Pegram

Fred Seeger

Kathleen Wicker

Our siblings in Western North Carolina

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: Ecology

Our ecology team has been hard at work this church year considering ways to better our relationship with God's creation. You may have noticed composting employed at the recent Fall Festival, which dramatically cut our landfill waste for that event! Keep an eye out for ways this new team has for us to be better companions to the earth and if you're interested in joining the ecology subcommittee, reach out to Betsy Sisely.



# Order of Worship | All Saints 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

**Welcome to Worship** | Rev. Lauren Efrid

Leader: The Lord be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

**Passing of the Peace** 📖

**Call to Worship (Psalm 24)** 📖

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,

**The world, and those who live in it;**

For God has founded it on the seas,

**And established it on the rivers.**

Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?

**And who shall stand in God's holy place?**

Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,

**Who do not lift up their souls to what is false.**

They will receive blessing from the LORD,

**And vindication from the God of their salvation.**

Such is the company of those who seek the Lord,

**Who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!

**That the King of glory may come in.**

Who is the King of glory?

**The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle.**

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!

**That the King of glory may come in.**

Who is this King of glory?

**The LORD of hosts is the King of glory.**

**Invocation** | Nathan Bullock

✝ **Hymn** | For All the Saints (pg. 7; vv. 1, 3, 5)

**Offertory Prayer** | Nathan Bullock

Today's color is **white**, representing the glory of God and the resurrection of the dead.

### 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

† **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** | Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome   
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** | Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (pg. 8)

**Reading** | Ephesians 1:11-23 | Rev. Spears-Newsome  
The word of God for us, the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** | O Love (pg. 10)

**Sermon** | Wisdom of the Saints | Rev. Efird

† **Hymn** | It Is Well With My Soul (pg. 9) 

**Benediction** | Rev. Efird

**Postlude**

## 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.

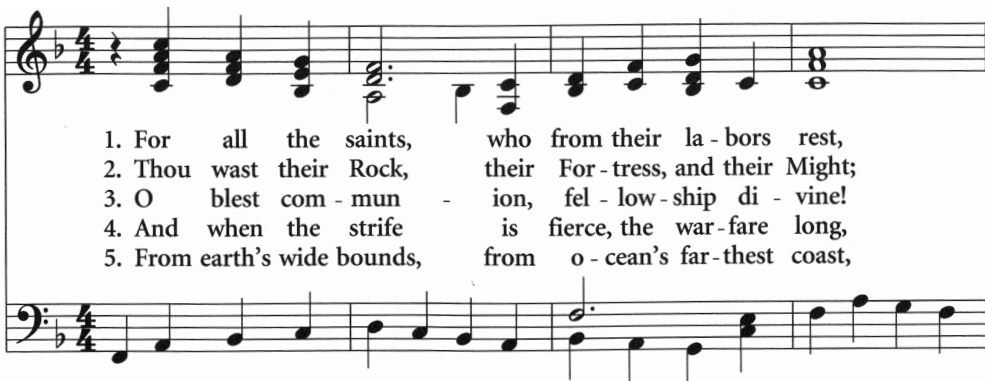
## The Prayers of the People

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.

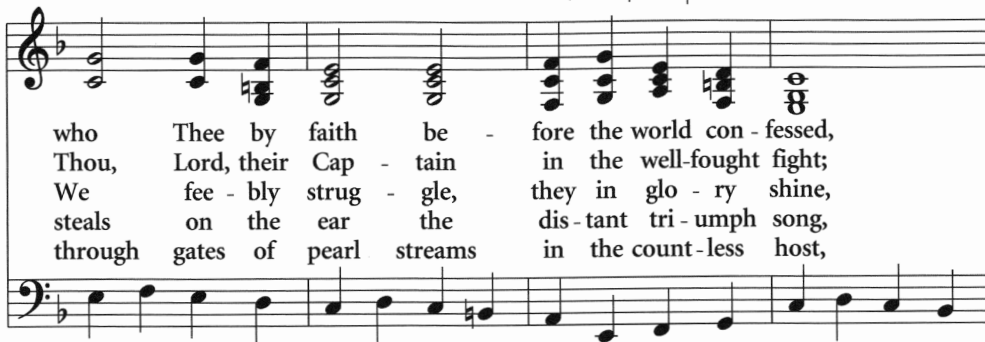
## Final Hymn: An Invitation

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!

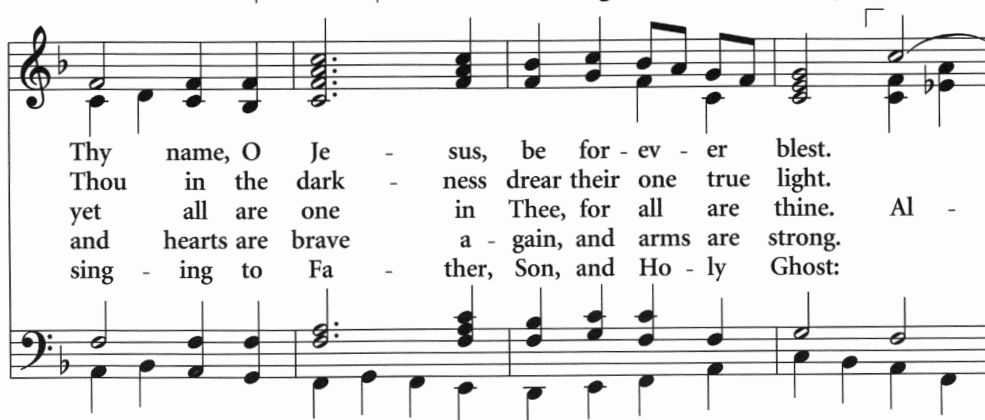
# For All the Saints



1. For all the saints, who from their labors rest,  
2. Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress, and their Might;  
3. O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
4. And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
5. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,



who Thee by faith before the world confessed,  
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine,  
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,



Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
Thou in the darkness drear their one true light.  
yet all are one in Thee, for all are thine. Al -  
and hearts are brave a gain, and arms are strong.  
sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:



le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



# Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



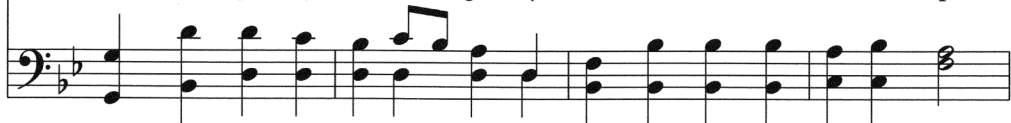
1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell-ing, joy of heaven to earth come down,  
2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast!  
3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all Thy grace re - ceive;  
4. Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less let us be;



fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell-ing; all Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
Let us all in Thee in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.  
sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.  
let us see Thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee:



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;  
Take a - way our bent to sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;  
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove,  
changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,



vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
pray, and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.  
till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.



# It Is Well With My Soul

1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way, When sor -  
2. Tho' Sa - tan should buf - fet, tho' tri - als should come, Let this  
3. My sin - oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous tho't: My sin  
4. And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, The clouds

rows like sea bil - lows roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast  
blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ has re - gard - ed my  
not in part, but the whole Is nailed to the cross and I  
be rolled back as a scroll, The trump shall re - sound and the

taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.  
help - less es - tate, And hath shed His own blood for my soul.  
bear it no more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
Lord shall de - scend, "E - ven so," it is well with my soul.

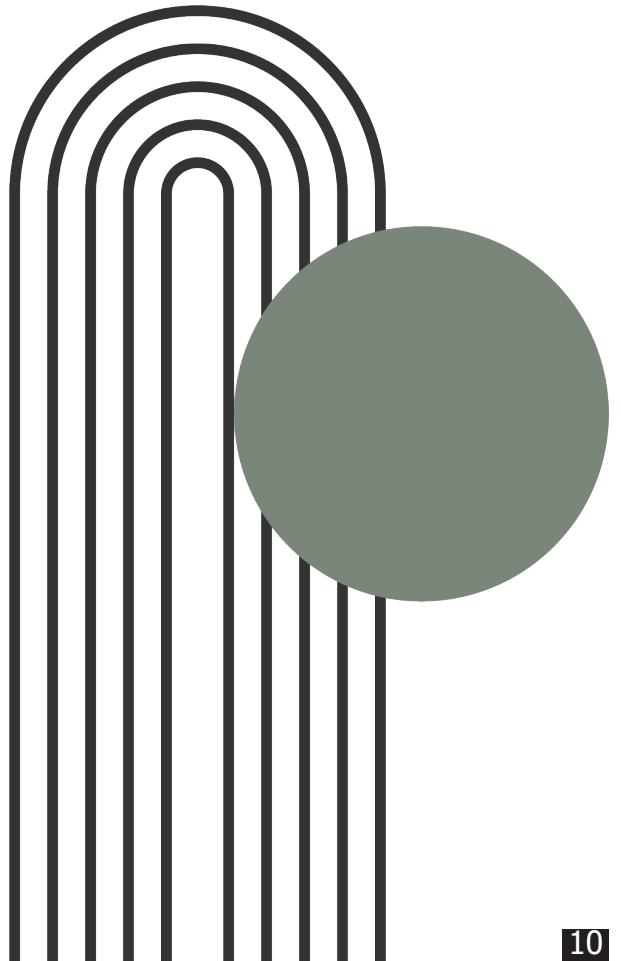
It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.  
It is well with my soul,

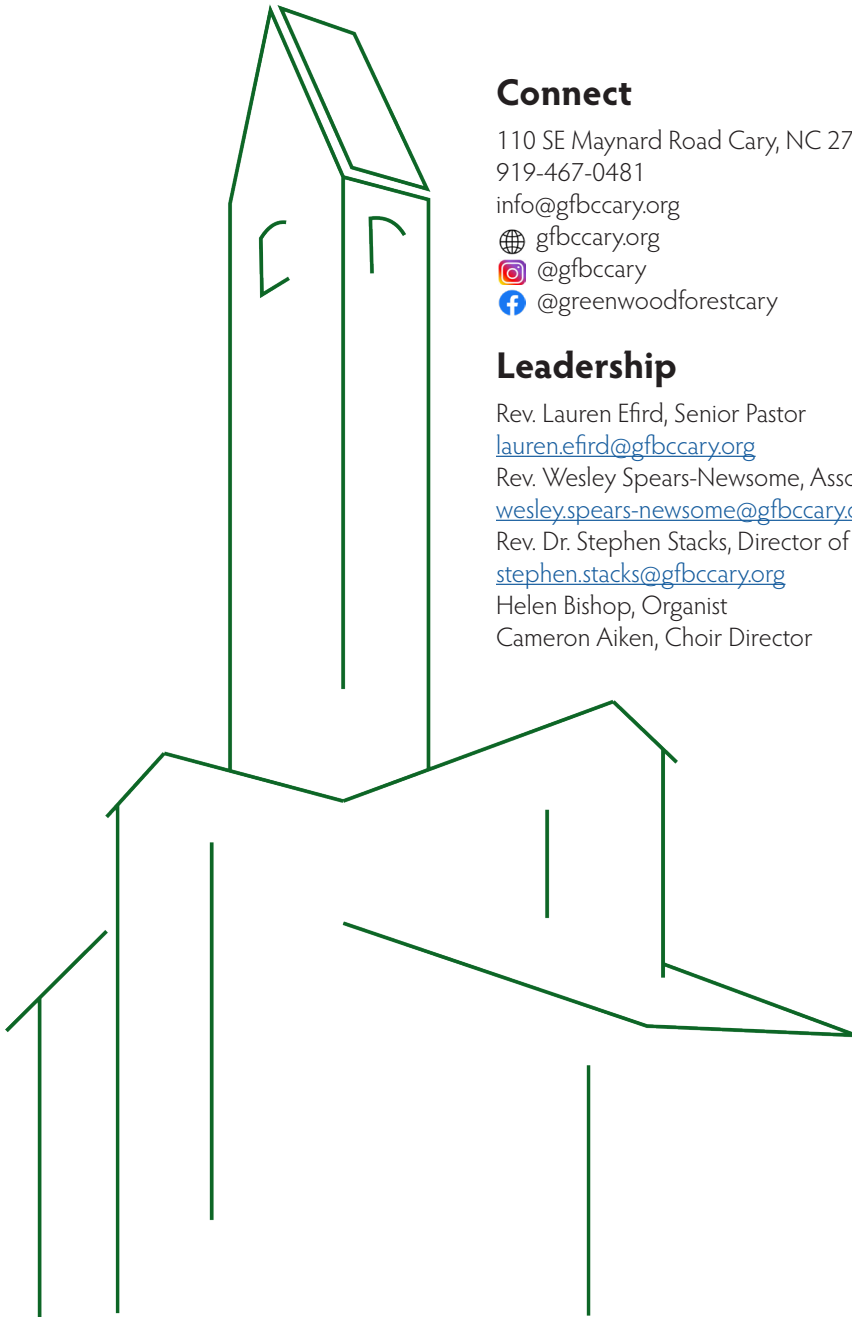
# Anthem O Love

Elaine Hagenberg

O Love that will not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
That in thy ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seeks me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
And feel the promise is not vain,  
That morn shall tearless be.





## Connect

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## Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efird, Senior Pastor

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

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

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

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Director of Liturgy & Formation

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

Helen Bishop, Organist

Cameron Aiken, Choir Director

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