



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

November 17, 2024



Scan for Digital

Bulletin Art

Photograph by Carlos Vera Mancilla for Reuters

The determination it takes to confront those in power, especially from a position of vulnerability, takes great courage and fortitude. In this picture, we see a woman from Chile protesting on the anniversary of a military coup in her country. The photo was taken outside a memorial and cemetery dedicated to those who were 'disappeared' by the coup led by Augusto Pinochet in 1973.

Hannah, in today's Scripture, stood in a similar position of vulnerability but responded with courage and determination. She was mistreated in her household and looked down upon by her community but she took God to task for her suffering and found a way forward.

- Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

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, 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.

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.



Announcements | Church Events and Updates

Business Meeting

Please join us for a business meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 2pm this Sunday (11/17)! We'll receive a brief update on the property repurposing project at this meeting as well as make regular decisions.

Love Feast and Christmas Decorating (Nov. 24)

Join us 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. If you're willing to bring a soup for the potluck lunch, sign up at gfbccary.org/souper!

Immigration Justice Group

On November 12, 2017, Greenwood Forest Baptist Church first voted to offer sanctuary to Gilles Bikindou should he need it. While we never got the chance to provide sanctuary for Gilles, we have remained committed to his struggle and that of immigrants for the 7 years since. If you'd like to personally be involved in that effort, the Immigration Justice Group is meeting after worship on November 17 to discuss the fallout from the election and where we go from here. This group originally involved participants in our trip to the Southern Border last summer, but they are welcoming new members passionate about this issue. If you'd like to learn more, contact Diana McGahan at ddmccgahan@gmail.com.

Disability Theology

Our teaching series on disability concludes this Sunday, November 17. **Rev. Amanda Warren and Kevin Schaeffer are teaching us about disability theology.** Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45am!

Gratitude & Stewardship

We're exploring gratitude and stewardship in the life of our community this month. You'll hear from different church members each week about why this community matters to them. There's also a tree in the back of the Narthex where we invite you each week to write something you're thankful for about this community on a leaf and add it to the tree. We're thankful for you!

Stories & Spirituality Churchwide Faith

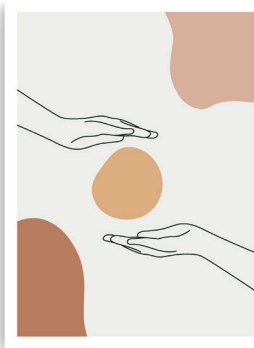
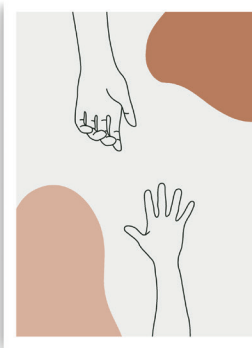
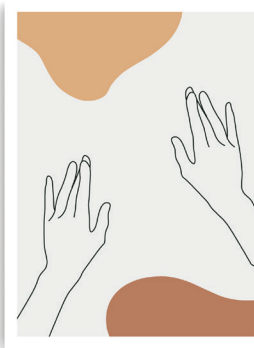
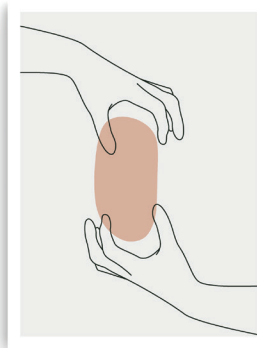
Formation (December 15)

Mark your calendars! Rev. Spears-Newsome spent his sabbatical this year exploring writing and reading progressive spiritual literature for children. Join us in the Fellowship Hall on December 15 at 9:45am to hear some of the stories Wes wrote and what else he learned while away.

For Pastoral Needs...

Please contact the church office or Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome directly while Rev. Efrid is on leave.

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

Jim Davis

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
- 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 Sisley.

Order of Worship | Lay Leadership 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 | Nathan Bullock

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (Psalm 16) 📖

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

I say to the Lord, "I have no good apart from you."

Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;

Their drink offerings I will not pour out.

The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;

You hold my lot.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;

I have a goodly heritage.

I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;

In the night my heart instructs me.

I keep the Lord always before me;

Because God is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;

My body also rests secure.

For you do not give me up to Sheol,

Or let your faithful one see the Pit.

You show me the path of life.

In your presence there is fullness of joy.

Invocation | Jazz Sutton

✝ Hymn | A Mighty Fortress is Our God (pg. 7)

Stewardship Testimony | Nathan Bullock

Offertory Prayer | Natalie Patten

Today's color is **green**, representing spiritual growth and possibility for God's work.

Lay Leadership Sunday

On lay leadership Sunday, the worship service is led entirely by the congregation. This annual practice recognizes the core Baptist belief in the priesthood of all believers and the conviction that access to God need not be mediated by ordained clergy.

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 | Jesus, Lover of my Soul | arr. Ellen Jane Lorenz 

† 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 | Dave Atkins 
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 | For All the Faithful Women (pg. 8)

Reading | 1 Samuel 1:4-20 | Lindsay Cowell
The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Reflection | Lou Owoc-Edwards

Anthem | When in Our Music God is Glorified (pg. 10)

Reflection | Elizabeth Deters

† Hymn | Canticle of the Turning (pg. 9) 

Benediction | Zelma Palmer

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!

A Mighty Fortress is our God

1. A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er fail - ing;
2. Did we in our own strength con-fide, our striv-ing would be los - ing,
3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat-en to un - do us,
4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a - bid - eth;

our help-er He, a - mid the flood of mor-tal ills pre - vail - ing.
were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choos - ing.
we will not fear, for God has willed His truth to tri-umph through us.
the Spir - it and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sid - eth.

For still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is He; Lord Sab - ba - oth, His
The Prince of Dark-ness grim, we trem-ble not for him; his rage we can en -
Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor-tal life al - so; the bod - y they may

great, and, armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
name, from age to age the same, and He must win the bat - tle.
dure, for lo, his doom is sure; one lit - tle word shall fell him.
kill: God's truth a - bid-eth still, His king-dom is for - ev - er.

For All the Faithful Women

Capo 3: (C) (Am7) (F) (G) (C)
 Eb Cm7 Ab Bb Eb

1 For all the faith - ful wom - en who served in
 2 We praise your name for Mir - iam, who sang tri -
 3 We sing of bus - y Mar - tha, who toiled with
 4 Lord, hear our praise of Dor - cas, who served the

(G) (C) (Am7) (Dm) (G)
 Bb Eb Cm7 Fm Bb

days of old, to you shall thanks be giv - en; to
 um - phant - ly while Pha - raoh's vaunt - ed ar - my lay
 pot and pan while Mar - y sat in si - lence to
 sick and poor. Her hands were cups of kind - ness, her

(C) (G7) (C) (Am)
 Eb Bb7 Eb Cm

all, their sto - ry told. They served with strength and
 drowned be - neath the sea; for Ruth, who left her
 hear the word a - gain. We praise the oth - er
 heart an o - pen door. O God, for saints and

(D) (G) (F) (G) (C)
 F Bb Ab Bb Eb

glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave. To you their
 home - land and ven - tured forth in faith, who pledged to
 Mar - y, who has - tened to the tomb and found her
 ser - vants, our fer - vent prayer we raise, that, faith - ful

(Am7) (F) (G) (C) (Dm) (G) (C)
 Cm7 Ab Bb Eb Fm Bb Eb

lives bore wit - ness, pro - claimed your power to save.
 serve and wor - ship Na - o - mi's God till death.
 Lord a - ris - en, dis - pel - ling doubt and gloom.
 in your ser - vice, our lives may sing your praise.

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



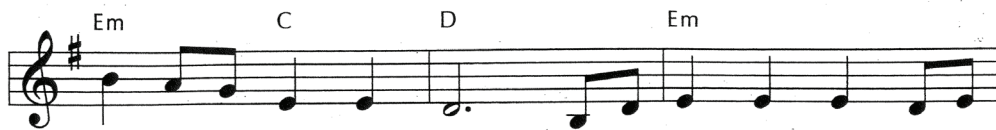
weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Anthem When in Our Music God is Glorified

Abe Cáceres

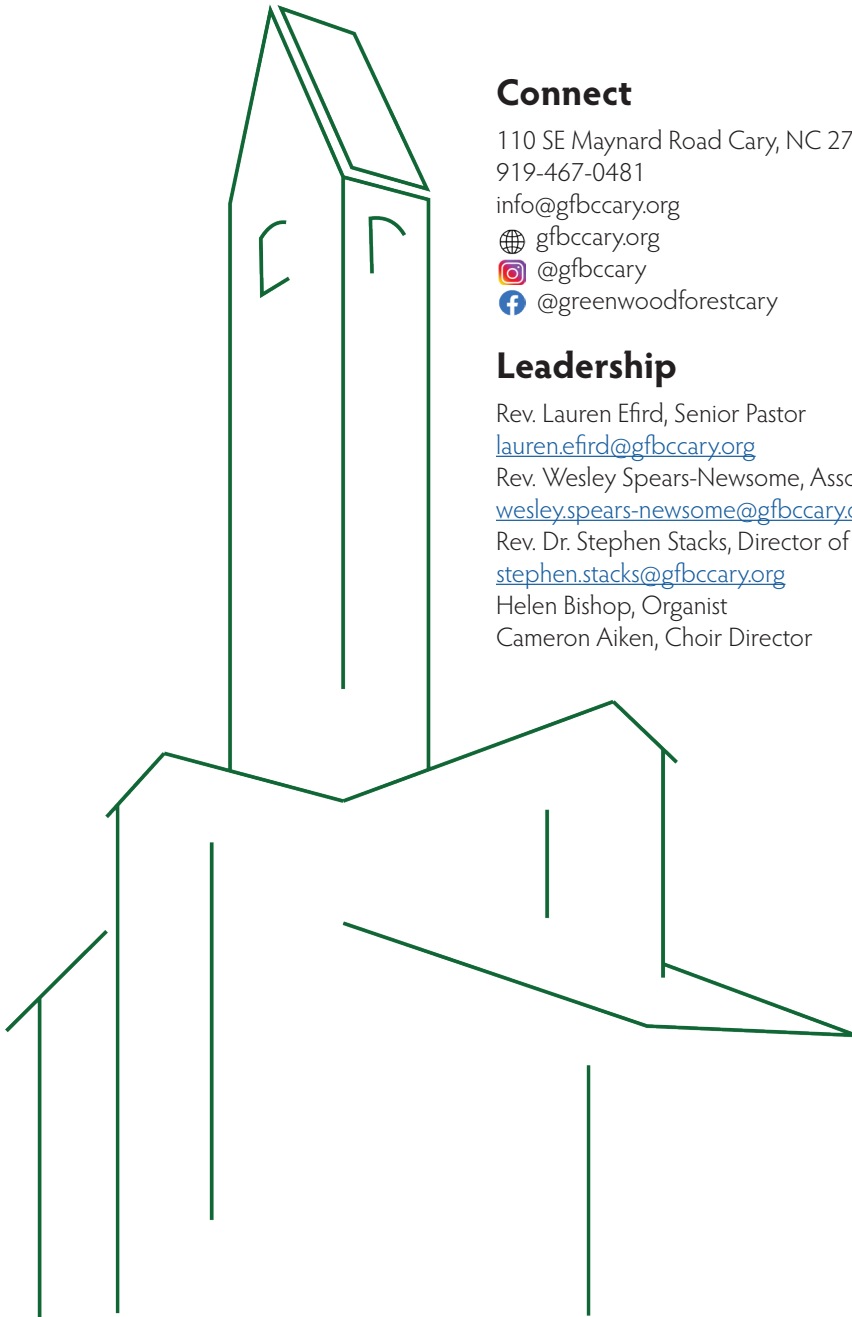
When, in our music, God is glorified,
And adoration leaves no room for pride,
It is as though the whole creation cried:
Alleluia!

How often, making music, we have found
A new dimension in the world of sound,
As worship moved us to a more profound
Alleluia!

So has the Church, in liturgy and song,
In faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
Borne witness to the truth in every tongue:
Alleluia!

And did not Jesus sing a Psalm that night
When utmost evil strove against the Light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:
Alleluia!

Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always:
Alleluia!



Connect

110 SE Maynard Road Cary, NC 27511

919-467-0481

info@gfbccary.org

gfbccary.org

[@gfbccary](https://www.instagram.com/gfbccary)

[@greenwoodforestcary](https://www.facebook.com/greenwoodforestcary)

Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efird, Senior Pastor

lauren.efird@gfbccary.org

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org

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

stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org

Helen Bishop, Organist

Cameron Aiken, Choir Director

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