



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

July 27, 2025



Bulletin Art

"Job And His Friends" by Ilya Repin, oil on canvas

In this artwork, the central figure, Job, appears anguished and emaciated, sitting on the ground draped in a pale, humble garment that adds to his portrayal as a man who has suffered immensely. His friends can be seen around him, presenting a stark contrast with their richly colored and detailed attire, which signifies their untouched prosperity. Their expressions and postures suggest a discourse of comfort or perhaps debate, reflecting the biblical story where Job's friends visited him to discuss his plight and offer their counsel.

Behind them, the rocky and desolate landscape, basked in an ethereal light, creates a dramatic backdrop that underscores the gravity of the scene. The muted yet warm palette of the surroundings, with soft greens and the pinkish glow of the rocks, evokes a serene atmosphere that contradicts the turmoil experienced by the figures in the foreground. Repin's attention to detail in the textures of the costumes and the natural setting adds a layer of realism, bringing the viewer into a moment that feels both historically distant and emotionally immediate.

- Artchive.com

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 Fellowship Hall if you need to rock your little ones.



Transcripts of the sermon and large print bulletins are available at the sound table for those who need them.



Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera.



Restrooms are located on the hallway off the Fellowship Hall. You are welcome to use the bathroom that best aligns with your gender identity (our gender-neutral, single-occupant restrooms are currently in a part of the building without HVAC).



Announcements | Church Events and Updates

Youth Return from WNC

Our youth spent much of last week in Western North Carolina helping out with relief efforts in response to Hurricane Helene. With friends from Community United Church of Christ, Pilgrim United Church of Christ, and Umstead Park United Church of Christ, we were welcomed by our denominational partner Circle of Mercy in Asheville. Youth restored river banks, helped build Habitat for Humanity houses, and heard from local voices about the floods and recovery. They're already planning to welcome our friends from the mountains to the Triangle later this year!



you've got a
friend
friendship. connection. creation.

August Faith Formation

In August, Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome and our high school youth will be leading Churchwide Faith Formation! They'll be showcasing an interview game called "Wild Card" (based on the podcast of the same name) with various adults in the congregation. You won't want to miss these deep conversations at 9:45am in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays in August.

All Ages Movie Night!

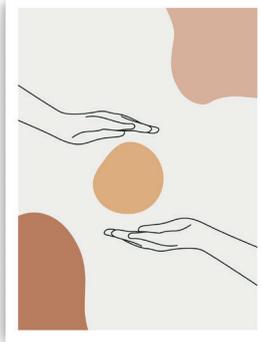
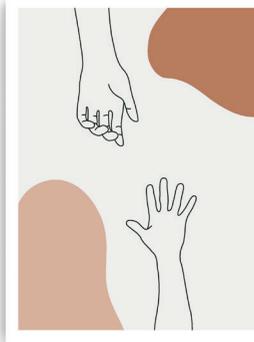
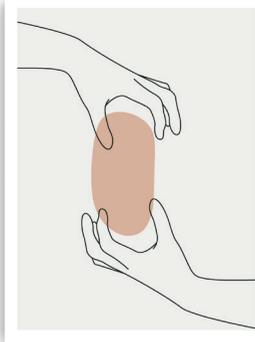
This evening at 4:30pm, we'll begin an all ages movie night screening of Toy Story (1995)! Whether you're nine months old or 99 (yes, that means you!), come join us for a movie in the Fellowship Hall on July 27!

Thank You Note

I have been retired one month, but I am still basking in the kindness and generosity of the loving folks at GFBC. A simple thank you so inadequately expresses my deep gratitude for the overwhelming love gift and the kind words you shared with me at the reception on June 29th. Truly, the greatest gift was your friendship these past eleven-plus years. I miss you all and will always cherish this church's support and love. You really are my GFBC Family!

- Karen Burden

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.

Jo Brooks
Barbara Dial (Carol Carter's Sister)
Doris Martin
The family of Jennie Pegram at her death
Kathleen Wicker
Steven (friend of GFBC)
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.



Scan to Give
Online Today!

Order of Worship | Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

✝ 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 | God, Who Touches Earth with Beauty | arr. Ralph Manuel

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Hayes

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship 📖

God's love is for all of creation.

The vastness of God is for human, animal, soil, and sun, all together as God's beloved.

God has not come into the world in Jesus to condemn us.

Jesus has come to live God's love in the flesh.

While the world is dim with injustice and the feeling of loneliness,

It is in Jesus that the light of love illumines our path of friendship.

Come, let us join our lives with the Friend, whose love is for the whole world.

Let us worship God!

Invocation | Lynn McLaughlin

✝ **Hymn** | Blest Be the Tie (vv., 1 and 4; pg. 7)

Gratitude Testimony | Donna Scott

Offertory Prayer | Susan Beck

Offertory | When We Walk with the Lord | arr. Benjamin Harlan 📖

Today's color is **green**, representing spiritual growth.

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: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God. Alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
O praise God! O praise God!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

† **Hymn** | What a Friend We Have in Jesus (pg. 8)

Reading | Job 2:11-13 | Rev. Spears-Newsome
The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem | The Servant Song | arr. Francis Patrick O'Brien (pg. 10)

Sermon | Rev. Hayes

† **Hymn** | Abide with Me (pg. 9) 

Benediction | Rev. Hayes

Postlude | May the Love of the Lord | SOON TI

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.

* = In the Lord's Prayer, you may say any name for God (e.g., Mother/Father/Parent).

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!

Blest Be the Tie

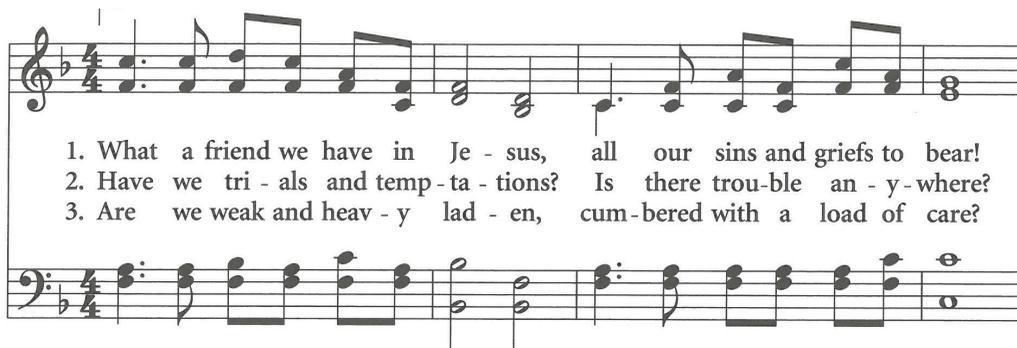
1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;
2. Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
3. We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear;
4. When we a - sun - der part, it gives us in - ward pain;

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

the fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com-forts and our cares.
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It concludes with a double bar line. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the treble staff.

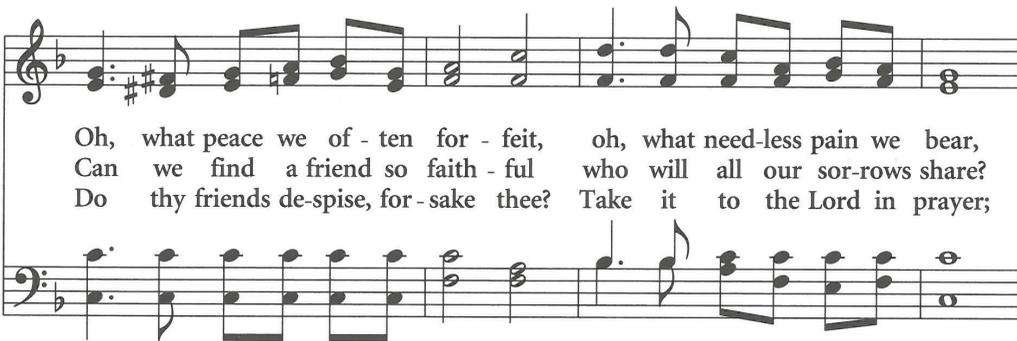
What a Friend We Have in Jesus



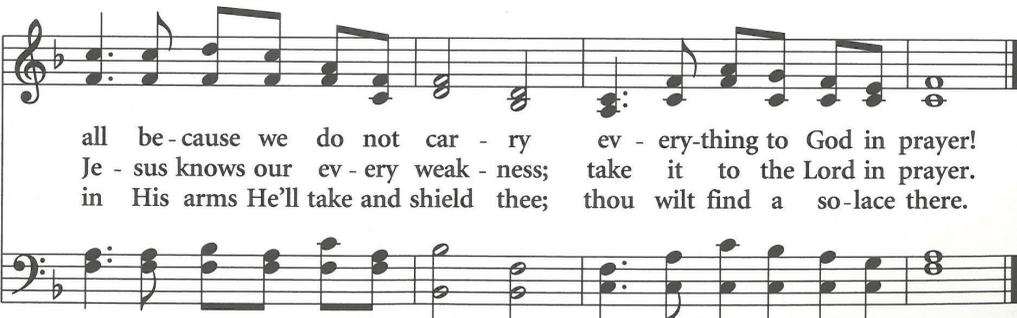
1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge; take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, oh, what need - less pain we bear,
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to the Lord in prayer.
in His arms He'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so - lace there.

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!

Anthem The Servant Song

arr. Francis Patrick O'Brien

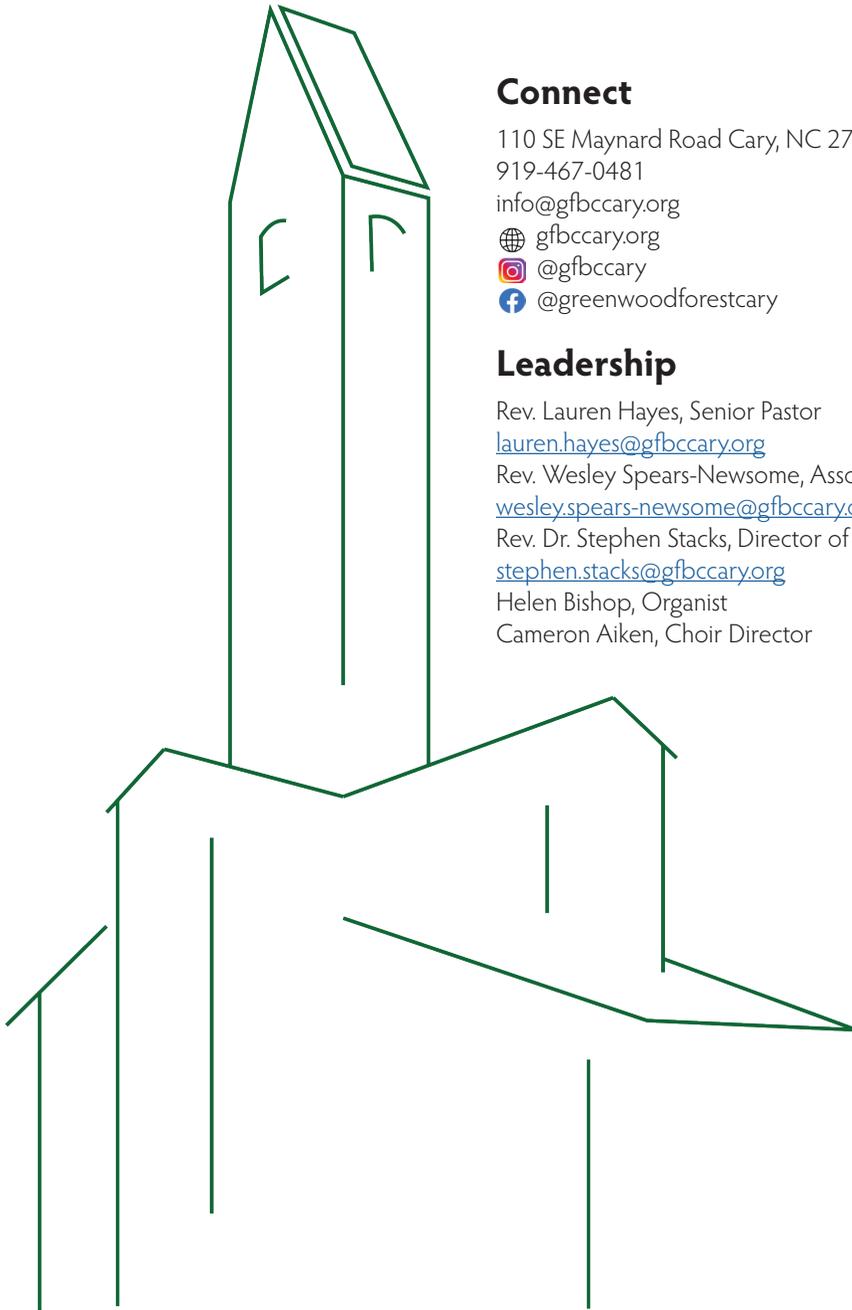
Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are trav'lers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
'til we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.



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Cameron Aiken, Choir Director

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