



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

August 31, 2025



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Bulletin Art

"Beyond Civilization" by Ilya Schor | Woodcut in Rabbi Abraham Heschel's The Sabbath: Its Meaning for Modern Man

Throughout the seminal edition of Rabbi Heschel's *The Sabbath* there are woodcuts by another Jewish artist named Ilya Schor. I picked the woodcut from the second chapter, which is called "Beyond Civilization." In this chapter, Heschel describes how we have made so many technical leaps in our civilization (and many more since he wrote the book), but we seem constantly on the way to disaster. Labor is meant to be endowed with divine dignity, but we have so contorted and distorted its function, that it is now often condemnation. He describes Sabbath as "to set apart one day a week for freedom, a day on which we would not use the instruments which have been so easily turned into weapons of destruction, a day for being with ourselves, a day of detachment from the vulgar, of independence of external obligations, a day on which we stop worshipping the idols of technical civilization, a day on which we use no money, a day of armistice in the economic struggle." It's a worthy topic for Labor Day Sunday.

-- Rev. 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.

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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

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.

Church Kickoff Breakfast Potluck

Join us on September 7 during the Faith Formation hours (9:45am) in the Fellowship Hall for a breakfast potluck! Bring your favorite breakfast dish to share and come hear about what's happening this year at Greenwood Forest.

Update From Finance

We are truly grateful that the HVAC Giving Campaign to the Capital Improvements Fund has had such a great response. In addition to the \$537,309 pledged to fund the goal of \$675,000, there has been \$52,805 received in unpledged contributions! This means we are only \$84,886 short of reaching our goal to fully fund both the replacement of the chiller and the boiler this year. If you are able to continue to contribute to the Capital Improvements Fund for this very necessary project, please do so. Your participation will help us get past this physical

plant challenge without the worries of equipment breakdowns in the near future



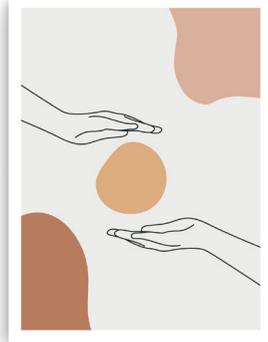
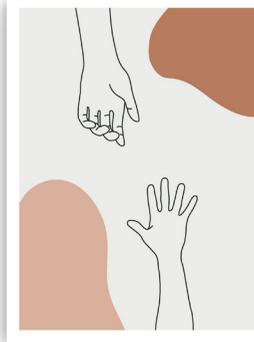
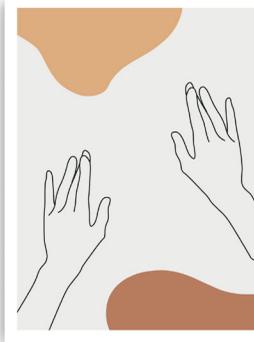
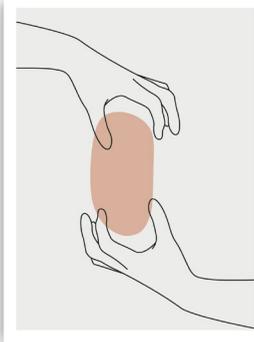
Thank You from BPB

Backpack Buddies would like to thank our wonderful GFBC members for volunteering their time to deliver food this school year. Thanks to your efforts, they have fulfilled their need for delivery drivers.

A Morning with Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove

Cary Presbyterian Church invites you to join them for 'A Morning with Jonathan Wilson Hartgrove: Looking to the Gospels to Make Sense of Our Current Political Climate'. The event will take place on September 27th in Cary Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Free lunch will be provided.

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
Mac Graham
Carrie
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 | Twelfth 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 | For the Fruit of All Creation | arr. Jane Holstein

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship 📖

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;

And you that have no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

Without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

And your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me;

Listen, so that you may live.

Invocation | Al Whitehouse

✝ **Hymn** | All Who Hunger Gather Gladly (pg. 7)

Offertory Prayer | Diana McGahan

Offertory | Let All Things Now Living | arr. Don Wyrzten

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: 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 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** | Come Away from Rush and Hurry (pg. 8)

Reading | Genesis 1:1-2:4 | Diana McGahan

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

Thanks be to God.

Anthem | Just a Closer Walk With Thee | Jack Schrader (pg. 10)

Sermon | Sabbath | Rev. Spears-Newsome

† **Hymn** | I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (pg. 9) 

Benediction | Rev. Spears-Newsome

Postlude | Ho, All Who Thirst | JACOB'S WELL

The Prayers of the People

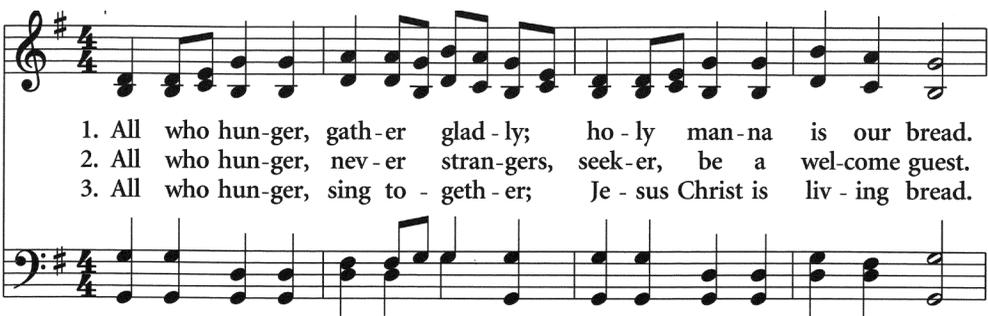
This prayer typically has five parts: a confession, prayers for the earth, prayers for the world, prayers for the church, and prayers for those with needs in our own community.

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

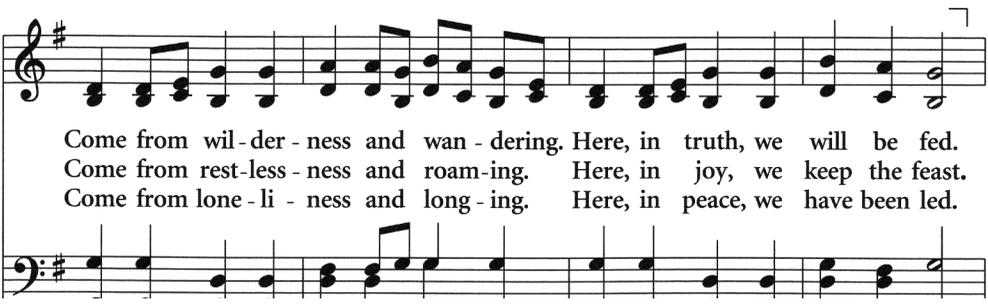
Final Hymn: An Invitation

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!

All Who Hunger Gather Gladly



1. All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.
2. All who hun-ger, nev-er stran-gers, seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
3. All who hun-ger, sing to-geth-er; Je-sus Christ is liv-ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-dering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.

Come Away from Rush and Hurry

Unison

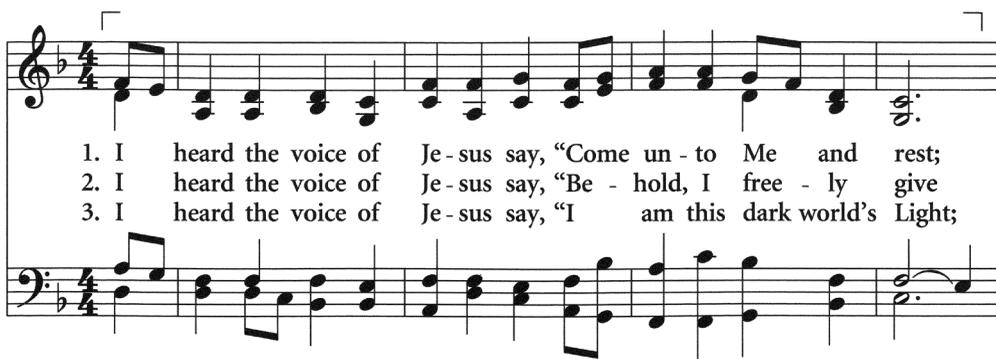
1. Come a - way from rush and hur - ry to the still - ness of God's
2. In the pas - tures of God's good - ness we lie down to rest our
3. Come, then, chil - dren, with your bur - dens — life's con - fu - sions, fears, and

peace; from our vain am - bi-tion's wor - ry, come to Christ to find re -
soul. From the wa - ters of God's mer - cy we drink deep - ly, are made
pain. Leave them at the cross of Je - sus; take in - stead His king-dom's

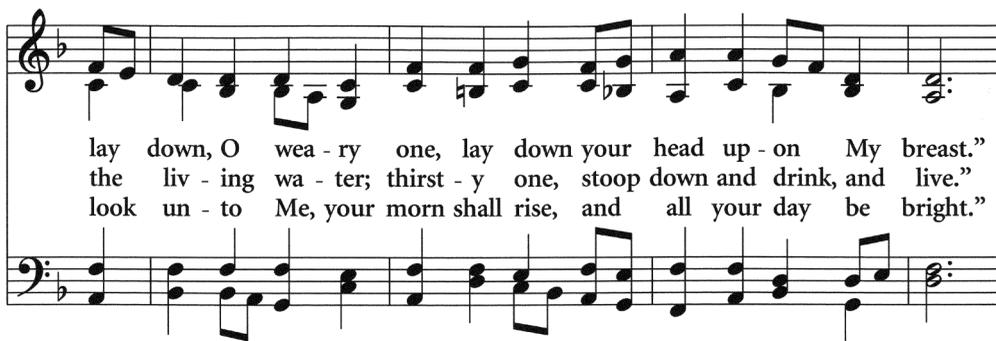
lease. Come a - way from noise and clam - or, life's de-mands and fren-zied
whole. At the ta - ble of God's pres - ence all the saints are rich - ly
reign. Bring your thirsts, for He will quench them — He a - lone will sat - is -

pace; come to join the peo-ple gath-ered here to seek and find God's grace.
fed. With the oil of God's a-noint-ing in - to ser-vice we are led.
fy. All our long - ings find at - tain-ment when to self we glad - ly die.

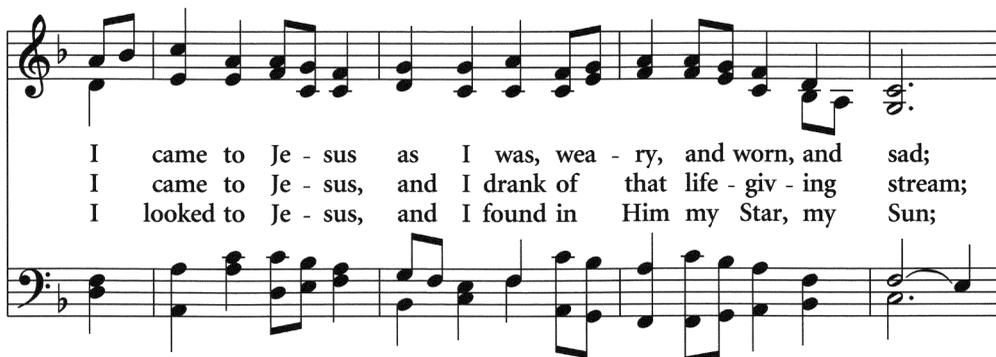
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



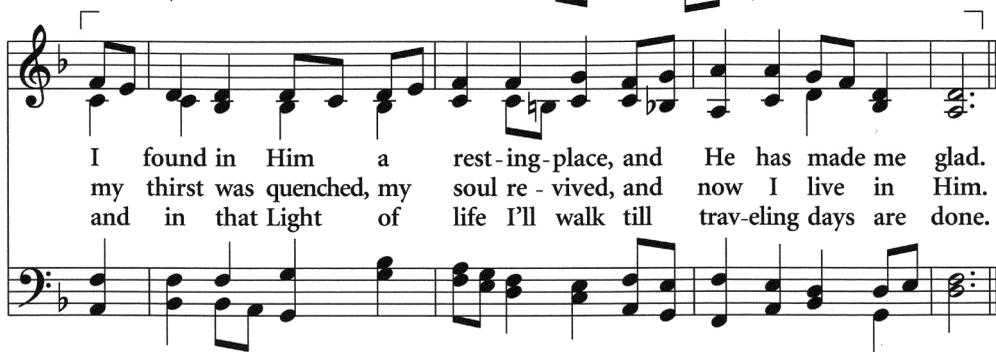
1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to Me and rest;
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's Light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on My breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, stoop down and drink, and live."
look un - to Me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, wea - ry, and worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in Him my Star, my Sun;



I found in Him a rest - ing - place, and He has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in Him.
and in that Light of life I'll walk till trav - eling days are done.

Anthem Just a Closer Walk With Thee

arr. Jack Schrader

Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

I am weak, but Thou art strong,
Jesus, keep me from all wrong,
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

Through this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.

When my feeble life is o'er,
Time for me will be no more,
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom's shore, to Thy shore.



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