



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

October 12, 2025



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Bulletin Art

"For He Had Great Possessions" by George Frederic Watts

The title of this picture is taken from the Biblical story of the rich man who approached Christ asking to become a disciple. When told that he must first sell all his worldly possessions he had second thoughts, choosing to reject the spiritual life and retain his great accumulation of material goods. First exhibited in 1894, the work was one of a group in which Watts expressed his antagonism towards greed. While the composition indicates the man's psychological dilemma, it also focuses the viewer's attention on the rich fabric of his clothes. The handling of the paint consciously strives to imitate that of the great Venetian painters, most notably Titian.

— Tate Modern Gallery Description

Current Sermon Series:

Jesus talked about money and how we relate to each other financially more than most topics. His parables often confront the ways we spend, save, and share in surprising ways for his time and for ours. For the next several weeks in worship, we'll be exploring Jesus's parables in Luke's Gospel for what they have to teach us about our relationship to wealth, possessions, and each other. Join us as we reimagine abundance together!



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 sanctuary if you need to rock your little ones.
-  Hearing assistance devices, transcripts of the sermon, and large print bulletins are available at the back of the sanctuary.
-  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



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Announcements | Church Events and Updates

Anniversaries & Appreciation

October is Pastor appreciation month! Thank you to our wonderful ministerial staff. Let them know you appreciate their work for us.

Two of our staff also have work anniversaries this month! October 2 is Rev. Lauren Hayes 14-year work anniversary. October 30 is Cameron Aiken's one-year work anniversary.

ICE Watch Training

Join volunteer trainers from Siembra NC to learn how to support Siembra dispatchers on the ground by responding to reports of ICE activity and verifying ICE presence. This training will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on October 13 from 6:30-7:30pm.

Newcomers Reception

All those new to GFBC are invited to a reception after worship! Join us in the narthex (the entrance/foyer area to the sanctuary) to get more information about this community, make connections, and find your place here at GFBC.

David Lamotte Concert

On Saturday, November 8, we will be hosting NC folk singer-songwriter David Lamotte. Join us at 7pm in the Sanctuary for a night of wonderful music! **Invite your friends and neighbors as this will be an inclusive and free event for the whole community.**



Cary Council Assembly

There's a Cary Town Council election this November! Come hear from the candidates and their response to ONE Wake's agenda on Saturday, October 25 at 10am. We'll hear from candidates at Cary Presbyterian Church (614 Griffis St, Cary, NC 27511) and then March to the Polls to cast our votes together!

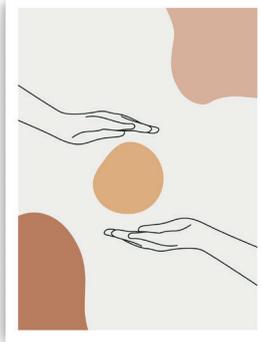
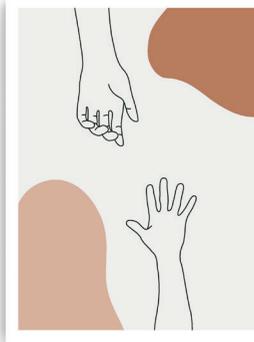
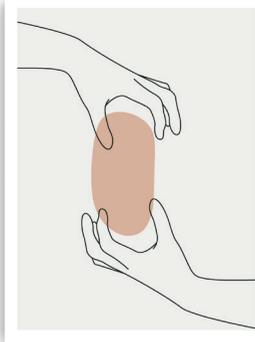
Annual Meeting

ONE Wake's Annual Meeting of Core Team leaders and other interested members will happen on October 21 at 7:00pm at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Cary (600 Walnut St, Cary, NC 27511). Come hear about the past year in ONE Wake, discuss our annual strategy, and confirm fundraising goals.

HVAC Update

We're so glad to be back in the Sanctuary and in our Faith Formation classrooms! Thank you so much for your generosity over the summer to make this moment possible. We still have some funds left to raise to finish off the HVAC project. These funds don't relate to the chiller (which cools the building) but the boiler (which heats the building). Please see your inboxes for the latest financial information in our weekly email and keep an eye out for more a detailed look at the boiler project in future communications.

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)
LeeAnn Price (Susan Beck'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 | Eighteenth 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 | Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake | arr. Johann Gottfried

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Hayes

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship 📖

Come, bless the Lord, in whom we find our refuge and safety.

You are our God; all the good things come from you alone.

Come, bless the Lord, who gives us a rich inheritance, and surrounds us with abundance.

You are our God; our lives are in your hands.

Come, bless the Lord, who guides us on the path to eternal life, whose presence strengthens and sustains us.

You are our God; we will not be shaken.

Invocation | Nathan Bullock

† **Hymn** | Be Thou My Vision (pg. 7)

Offertory Prayer | Diana McGahan

Offertory | The God of Abraham Praise | arr. Cindy Berry

† **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.

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.

The Prayers of the People | Rev. Al Whitehouse

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 | Seek Ye First (pg. 8)

Reading | Luke 18:18-30 | Rev. Hayes

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

Thanks be to God.

Anthem | Order My Steps | arr. Jack Schrader (pg. 10)

Sermon | Entering the Eye of the Needle | Rev. Hayes

† Hymn | As Saints of Old (pg. 9)

Benediction | Rev. Hayes

Postlude | We Will Go Out with Joy in the Spirit

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!

Be Thou My Vision

Unison

1. Be Thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be Thou my wis - dom and Thou my true word;
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor vain emp - ty praise,
4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that Thou art:
I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord:
Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and Thou my high tower,
Thou and Thou on - ly first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pres - ence my light.
raise Thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
High King of heav - en, my trea - sure Thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Seek Ye First

1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God
2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,

The first system of music is in G major (one sharp) and 2/2 time. It consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

and His righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
seek and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

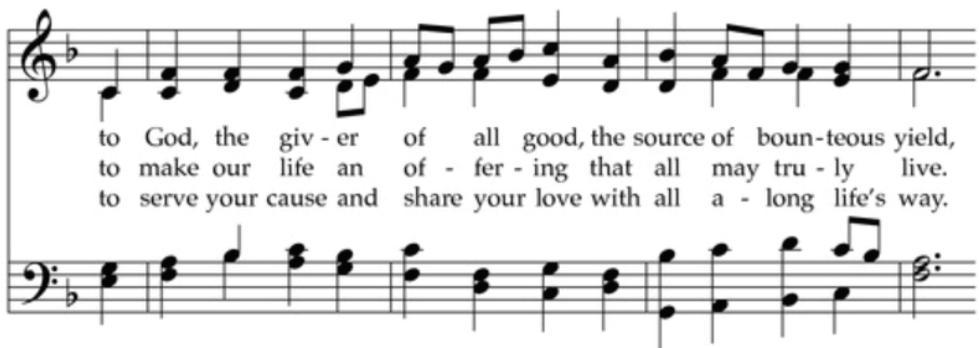
add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

The third system of music concludes the piece. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

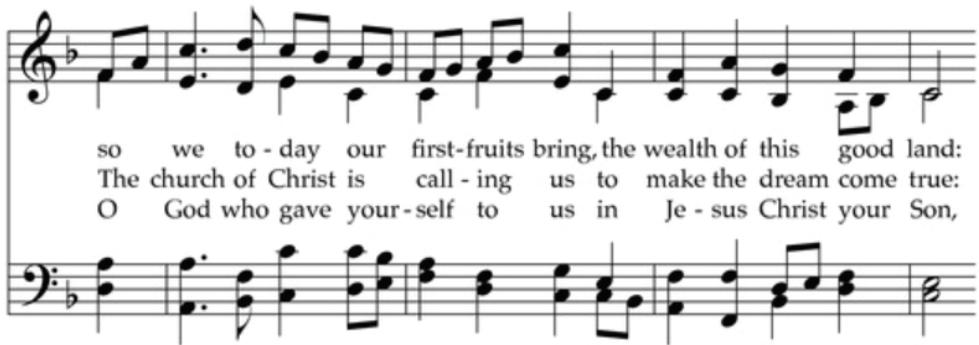
As Saints of Old



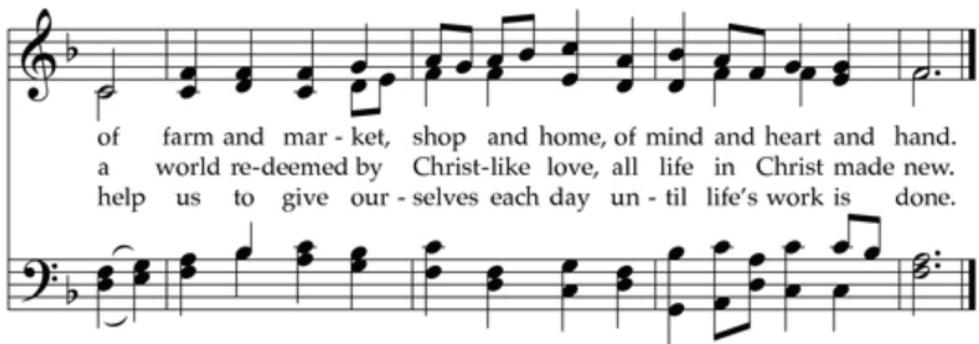
1 As those of old their first-fruits brought of vine-yard, flock, and field
2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la-bor, love, and give,
3 In grat-i-tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to-day,



to God, the giv-er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
to make our life an of-fer-ing that all may tru-ly live.
to serve your cause and share your love with all a-long life's way.



so we to-day our first-fruits bring, the wealth of this good land:
The church of Christ is call-ing us to make the dream come true:
O God who gave your-self to us in Je-sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar-ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
a world re-deemed by Christ-like love, all life in Christ made new.
help us to give our-selves each day un-til life's work is done.

Anthem Order My Steps

arr. Jack Shrader

Order my steps in your word, dear Lord.
Lead me, guide me every day.
Send your anointing, Father, I pray.
Order my steps in your word.

Humbly I ask thee, teach me thy will.
While you're working, help me keep still.
Satan is busy, God is real.
Order my steps in your word.

I want to walk worthy, my calling to fulfill.
Please, order my steps Lord, and I'll do your blessed will.
The world is ever changing, but you are still the same.
If you order my steps, I'll praise your name.

Order my steps in your word.
Order my tongue in your word.
Guide my feet in your word.
Wash my heart in your word.
Show me how to walk in your word.
Show me how to talk in your word.
When I need a brand new song to sing.
Show me how to let your praises ring.



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