



# Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

October 19, 2025



## Bulletin Art

### "Saint Lucy before the Judge" by Lorenzo Lotto (1532)

This parable correlates persistent organizing and prayer. Action and contemplation are not opposed to each other but are two sides of the same commitment. The story shows the way the world is but also the way it could be if enough people, no matter how marginalized, refused to remain silent in the face of injustice. It is not a fairy tale about a superwoman who topples patriarchal plutocrats with amazing magical powers. But it is about strength. If the weeping woman in 7:41 represents one expression of power, this widow demonstrates the other meaning of "crying out." A painting entitled *Saint Lucy before the Judge* by Renaissance painter Lorenzo Lotto (1532) captures this parable's scenario beautifully: a woman gestures fiercely at a judge high above her on his bench while two court officials try to hold her back; a crowd of men flail their arms; and in the foreground, a baby runs toward her in joy. These are the kind of women Jesus knew—not least his mother—as well as knew of through his tradition, from Sarah to Myriam and Rahab to Esther. Such advocates have always been the backbone of poor and oppressed communities: inconvenient, indefatigable, indomitable.

— Ched Myers, *Healing Affluenza and Resisting Plutocracy* (299-301)



### 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.

### 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, 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](http://gfbccary.org)



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



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

# 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 upcoming work anniversaries this month! October 30 is Cameron Aiken's one-year work anniversary and Helen Bishop's work anniversary is November 2nd.

## Poinsetta Dedications

We will be collecting donations for Poinsetta dedications through October 31st. We are hoping to order 36 large plants this year. A donation of \$15 will cover the cost of a large plant as well as the associated delivery fee. Please sign up at [gfbccary.org/poinsettas](http://gfbccary.org/poinsettas)

## 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.**

## Faith Giving Sundays

We're introducing Faith Giving Sundays as a way to partner with you in sustaining the vital mission of GFBC throughout the year. We ask you to consider making a special investment of \$20 on the last Sunday of every month. This collective effort is essential in ensuring our budget remains on track, allowing us to continue making a difference in our community and beyond. Contact Susan Beck if you have any questions or want to give a Gratitude Testimony about what GFBC means to you and why you give.



## Cary Council Assembly

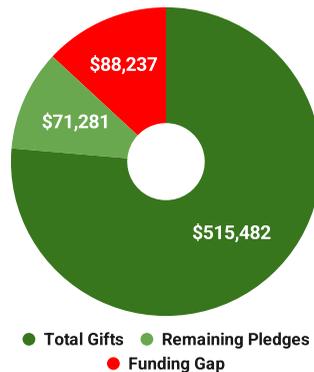
There's a Cary Town Council election this November! Come hear from the candidates and their response to ONE Wake's agenda on Saturday, October 25 at 10am. We'll hear from candidates at Cary Presbyterian Church (614 Griffis St, Cary, NC 27511) and then March to the Polls to cast our votes together!

## Annual Meeting

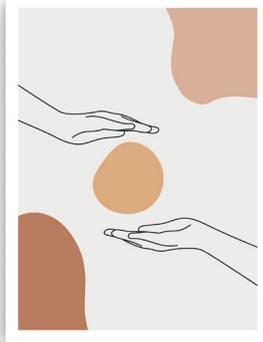
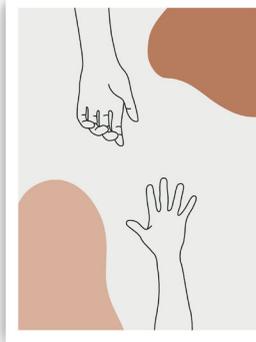
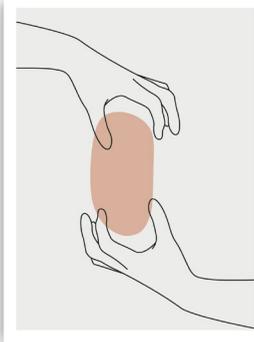
ONE Wake's Annual Meeting of Core Team leaders and other interested members will happen on October 21 at 7:00pm at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Cary (600 Walnut St, Cary, NC 27511). Come hear about the past year in ONE Wake, discuss our annual strategy, and confirm fundraising goals.

## HVAC Update

We still have some funds left to raise to finish off the HVAC project. See the graph below for more info.



# 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  
Blair Biser (at the death of his father, Daniel)  
Ella Biser (at the death of her grandfather)  
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](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.



Scan to Give  
Online Today!

# Order of Worship | Nineteenth 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** | Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart | arr. Cindy Berry

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

Leader: The Lord be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

**Passing of the Peace** 📖

**Call to Worship** 📖

Blessed are you poor who have no work or too little income.

**God has promised: yours is the kingdom of heaven.**

Blessed are you who are hungry now.

**God has promised: you shall be filled.**

Blessed are you who weep over unpaid bills, the loss of a job, or your children's lack of opportunities.

**God has promised: you shall be comforted, you shall laugh.**

Blessed are you who are merciful.

**God has promised: you shall receive mercy.**

Blessed are you who hunger and thirst for justice.

**God has promised: you shall be filled.**

The time is surely coming when God's justice and peace shall reign throughout the land.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Invocation** | Rick Chappell

✝ **Hymn** | Live Into Hope (pg. 7)

**Offertory Prayer** | Jazzmoné Sutton

**Offertory** | My Savior's Love | arr. Mary Ellen Kerrick

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** | 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** | Heaven Shall Not Wait (pg. 8)

**Reading** | Luke 18:1-8 | Rev. Spears-Newsome  
The word of God for us, the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** | The Call | Ralph Vaughan Williams (pg. 10)

**Sermon** | Persisting For Justice | Rev. Hayes

† **Hymn** | Precious Lord, Take My Hand (pg. 9) 

**Benediction** | Rev. Hayes

**Postlude** | Reflections on HYFRYDOL | arr. Don Phillips

**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!

**Thank you!**

Thank you to Rev. Lee Webb for leading hymns and conducting the anthem.

# Live Into Hope

1 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re -  
2 Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight  
3 Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to  
4 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of

gained, the end of greed. The op-pressed shall be the  
and with clar - i - ty, re - mov - ing shades of  
speak, the right to be, the right to have one's  
fear or want or greed. God now pro - claims our

first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!  
pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.  
dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.  
full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

# Heaven Shall Not Wait

Capo 1: (D) (G) (A) (A7) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)  
 Eb Ab Bb Bb7 Eb Cm7 Fm Bb

1 Heaven shall not wait for the poor to lose their pa-tience,  
 2 Heaven shall not wait for the rich to share their for-tunes,  
 3 Heaven shall not wait for the dawn of great i - de - as,  
 4 Heaven shall not wait for tri - um-phiant Hal - le - lu - jahs,

(D) (G) (A) (A7) (D) (G) (Asus) (A)  
 Eb Ab Bb Bb7 Eb Ab Bbsus Bb

the scorned to smile, the de-spised to find a friend:  
 the proud to fall, the e - lite to tend the least:  
 thoughts of com - pas - sion di-vorced from cries of pain:  
 when earth has passed and we reach an - oth - er shore:

(Bm7) (Em) (F#m) (Bm7) (D) (Em7) (A)  
 Cm7 Fm Gm Cm7 Eb Fm7 Bb

Je - sus is Lord; he has cham - pioned the un - want - ed;  
 Je - sus is Lord; he has shown the mas - ter's priv - ilege:  
 Je - sus is Lord; he has mar - ried word and ac - tion;  
 Je - sus is Lord in our pres - ent im - per - fec - tion;

(D) (G) (A) (A7) (D) (Bm) (Em)  
 Eb Ab Bb Bb7 Eb Cm Fm

in him in - jus - tice con - fronts its time - ly  
 to kneel and wash ser - vants' feet be - fore they  
 his cross and com - pa - ny make his pur - pose  
 his power and love are for now and then for

1-3	4
(Asus) (A) (Asus) (A) (D)	
Bbsus Bb Bbsus Bb Eb	

end. ev - er - more.

# Precious Lord, Take My Hand

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand —  
2. When my way grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near —

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
when my life is al - most gone;

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light —  
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall —

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.  
take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

The fourth system concludes the piece with a final cadence. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

# Anthem The Call

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Come, my way, my truth, my life:  
Such a way, as gives us breath:  
Such a truth, as ends all strife:  
Such a life, as killeth death

Come, my light, my feast, my strength:  
Such a light, as shows a feast:  
Such a feast, as mends in length:  
Such a strength, as makes his guest

Come, my joy, my love, my heart:  
Such a joy, as none can move:  
Such a love, as none can part:  
Such a heart, as joys in love.



## Connect

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## Leadership

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Cameron Aiken, Choir Director

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