



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

January 18, 2026



Bulletin Art: *The Mothers*

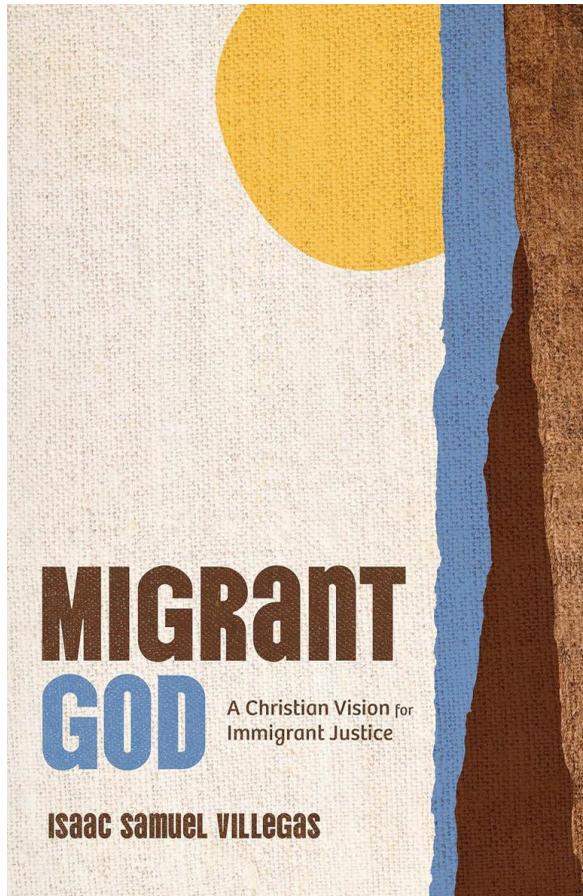
By: Käthe Kollwitzexpand

In this image of maternal protection, Kollwitz portrays a group of mothers banding together to guard their children from exterior threats while preventing them from leaving the safety of the circle. In 1918 Kollwitz responded to the poet Richard Dehmel's appeal to all capable Germans to sacrifice themselves to the death for the Fatherland. She believed that enough people had already fallen and quoted the poet Goethe who wrote, Seed corn must not be ground.

-*Minneapolis Institute of Art*

Current Sermon Series:

Our Current Sermon Series until January 25th is based on Rev. Isaac Villegas Book *Migrant God* which can be purchased on Amazon, Barnes and Noble's online storefront, and Bookshop.org



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

Chili Cookoff and Maker's Festival

Join us on January 25 for a special time of congregational sharing in food, fellowship, and craft! We want to share our gifts with one another, so if you're good at painting, pottery, quilting, music, writing, drawing, woodworking, or any other craft and want to share something you've made, we want to see it! Email Rev. Spears-Newsome (wesley.spears-newsome@gbccary.org) to sign up. We also want to award the Golden Spoon to the best chili chef in the congregation again! If you'd like to participate in the chili cookoff that will provide our meal for this event, email Rev. Spears-Newsome to reserve a spot.

Backpack Buddies

The Community Missions special fund which supports Backpack Buddies is running low. We need your financial support to continue Backpack Buddies in the new year. GFBC shares the cost of the food with the Kirk of Kildaire. The GFBC portion is \$4 a week per child. We are currently serving 105 children each week, for a total of about \$1700 per month. With \$100 we can serve 1 child through the end of this school year. Please consider giving to support this important ministry. Mark your contributions for Backpack Buddies.

We will continue to need double bagged, flat stacked plastic bags, keep them coming!

If you have questions about the Backpack Buddies ministry or how you can help contact Karen Upchurch (kaupchurch@gmail.com).

Faith Giving Sundays

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.

Thank you GFBC Family!

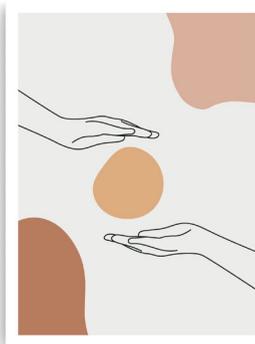
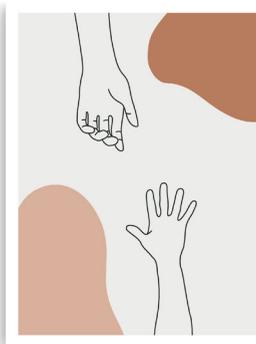
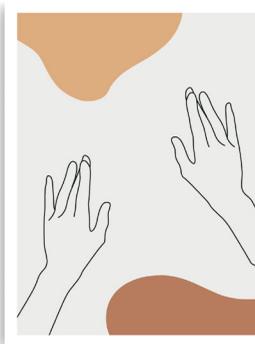
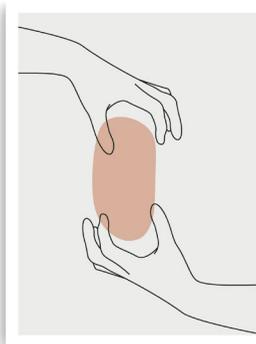
GFBC staff would like to express our sincere gratitude for the thoughtful love offering collected on our behalf. We truly appreciate each and every member of our church community and look forward to continuing to serve and support you in the coming year. Thank you for thinking of us this holiday season, and for all you do to make Greenwood Forest a thriving and inclusive community.

Discipleship Retreat: February 20-22

Nothing but the Blood: The Meaning of The Cross

Why did Jesus die by violent execution? Why would God choose this method of saving the world? Why does it matter? For Discipleship Retreat 2026, we will be taking a deep dive into "atonement theory"—how we explain the crucifixion and what it accomplished. The cross is central to our faith, and how we understand it matters greatly to how we practice our faith. Join us as we explore deep questions together over a reflective and inspiring weekend. Registration link coming soon!

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.

Bess Averre
Jo Brooks
Carrie
Mac Graham
Nancy Watson
Nancy Walters (Susan Beck's mother-in-law)
Anne Whelan
Steven (friend of GFBC)
Kathleen Wicker
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 | Second Sunday After Epiphany

✝ 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 | Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her | arr. Friedrich Zachau

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Hayes

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 40:1-11) 📖

I waited patiently for the LORD;

God inclined to me and heard my cry.

God drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog,

And set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

God put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise.

Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

Happy are those who make the LORD their trust!

Who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.

You have multiplied your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;

None can compare with you!

Were I to proclaim and tell of them,

They would be more than can be counted.

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,

But you have given me an open ear.

Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.

I delight to do your will, O God; your law is within my heart."

I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;

I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.

I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,

I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;

I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

Do not, O LORD, withhold your mercy from me; let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.

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.

Invocation | Greg Upchurch

Hymn | Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (pg. 7)

Offertory Prayer | Diana McGahan

† **Offertory** | Here I Am, Lord | arr. Jack Schrader

Doxology | Tune: OLD HUNDRETH

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. Amanda Warren 📖
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** | Wade in the Water (pg. 8)

Reading | Exodus 1:8-2:10 | Susan Beck
The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem | He Watching Over Israel | Felix Mendelssohn (pg. 10)

*He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps.
Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, He will quicken thee.*

Sermon | Why Have You Allowed Them to Live? | Rev. Hayes

† **Hymn** | There is a Line of Women (pg. 9) 📖

Benediction | Rev. Hayes

Postlude | Blest Be the Tie | arr. Albert Mendoza

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!

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O Thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side: bear me through the swell - ing cur - rent,

hold me with Thy power - ful hand; Bread of heav - en, Bread of heav - en,
lead me all my jour - ney through; strong De - liv - erer, strong De - liv - erer,
land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
be Thou still my strength and shield, be Thou still my strength and shield.
I will ev - er give to Thee, I will ev - er give to Thee.

Wade in the Water

Wade in the wa - ter, wade in the wa - ter chil - dren,

Wade in the wa - ter, God's gon-na trou-ble the wa - ter.

Verses

1. See that host all dressed in white,
2. See that band all dressed in red, God's gon-na trou-ble the
3. If you don't be-lieve I've been re - deemed,

wa - ter. The lead - er looks like the Is - ra - el - ite,
Looks like the band that Mo - ses led,
Just fol - low me down to Jor - dan's stream,

D.C.

God's gon - na trou - ble the wa - ter.

There is a Line of Women

Capo 1: (D)
Eb

(G)
Ab

1 There is a line of wom-en ex - tend - ing back to
 2 There is a line of wom-en who took on pow'r-ful
 3 There is a line of wom-en who stood by Je - sus'

(D)
Eb

(A)
Bb

(D)
Eb

Eve whose role in shap - ing hist' - ry God
 men, de - fy - ing laws and scru - ples to
 side, who housed him while he mini-stered and

(A)
Bb

(G)
Ab

on - ly could con - ceive; and though through end - less
 let life live a - gain; and though, de - spite their
 held him when he died; and though they claimed he'd

(Bm)
Cm

(Bm/A)
Cm/Bb

(G)
Ab

(F#m)
Gm

ag - es their wit - ness was re - pressed, God
 tri - umph, their sto - ries stayed un - told, God
 ris - en, their news was deemed sus - pect till

(Em)
Fm

(Bm)
Cm

(G)
Ab

(A)
Bb

val - ued and in - spired them through whom the world was
 kept their num - ber grow - ing, cre - a - tive, strong, and
 Je - sus stood a - mong them, his wo - man - ly e -

(D)
Eb

(G/A)
Ab/Bb

(A)
Bb

(D)
Eb

bless'd. So sing a song of Sa - rah— to
 bold. So sing a song of Shiph-rah with
 lect. So sing a song of An - na who

(G) (D)
Ab Eb

laugh - ter she gave birth; and sing a song of
 Pu - ah close at hand: en - gaged to kill male
 saw Christ's in - fant face; and sing a song of

(E) (A)
F Bb

Ta - mar who stood for wo - men's worth; and
 chil - dren, they foiled the king's com - mand; and
 Mar - tha who gave him food and space; and

(G) (D) (B m) (D/A)
Ab Eb Cm Eb/Bb

sing a song of Han - nah who bar - gained with her
 sing a song of Ra - hab who shel - tered spies and
 sing of all the Ma - rys who heed - ed his re -

(G) (G/F#) (E m) (D/F#)
Ab Ab/G F m Eb/G

Lord; and sing a song of Ma - ry who
 lied; and sing a song of Es - ther pre -
 quests and now at heav - en's ban - quet are

(G) (A) (D) (G/A) (A)
Ab Bb Eb Ab/Bb Bb

(♩) *Last time*

bore and bred God's Word.
 vent - ing gen - o - cide.
 Je - sus' fond - est guests.



Connect

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Helen Bishop, Organist

Cameron Aiken, Choir Director

Alex Filby, Director of Administration and Facilities

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