

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 182 - 6300 Courthouse Road
Prince George, VA 23875



Christians Who Love and Care.

*"May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.
Psalm 25:21*

December 23, 2012

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, December 23, 2012 - 11:00 am

4th Sunday of Advent

Liturgical Color: Purple or Blue

"May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.

Psalm 25:21

Let us prepare our hearts in silence to meet God's Spirit in worship!

GOD GATHERS THE PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Sandra Perkins & Gail Rollings

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

CHOIR "THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS
A Candle Lighting Ceremony For Advent"

Words & Music by Joel Raney

"FOURTH SUNDAY - "THE WONDER OF HOPE"

RESPONSIVE LITANY

Choir: During Advent, we ignite the wonder of expectation.

Congregation: Open our eyes, O Lord, to behold your glory.

Choir: During Advent, we look for the light that shines in the darkness.

Congregation: Open our eyes, O Lord, to behold your glory.

Choir: During Advent, we embrace the hope that enlivens the soul.

Congregation: Open our eyes, O Lord, to behold your glory.

Choir: During Advent, we welcome the Savior who beckons the world.

Congregation: Open our eyes, O Lord, to behold your glory.

Choir: During Advent, we rejoice in the One who has reclaimed the lost.

Congregation: Open our eyes, O Lord, to behold your glory.

*Congregation: please stand, if able; **bold type read aloud.**

CANDLE LIGHTING

Reading by Pat Hunter

[Congregation is invited to join the choir in singing the final refrain below.]

Words and Music by
JOEL RANEY

Congregation:



There is won - der in the hope of the birth of a
King, there is won - der in the sound of the an - gels as they
sing. O — come, O come, Em - man - u -
el, and join us here.

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Advent texts by Rev. Rich Davis, Senior Pastor First Presbyterian Church, River Forest, IL

CLOSING PRAYER (in unison)

Gracious Lord, open our eyes to the wonders you have done, open our ears to the promises you have spoken, and open our hearts that we might become the people you have called us to be. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Lord, Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Kay Schroeter

PASSING OF THE PEACE/SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Rev. Beverly Bullock

Call to Worship

One: Surely, God is my salvation; I shall trust and not be afraid.

All: For the Lord God is my strength and my might and has become my salvation.

One: With joy you will give thanks to the Lord and call on God's name.

**All: We will sing you our praises, O God, for you have done glorious things!
Let us worship God!**

*Opening Hymn

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

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We Confess Our Sin (in unison)

[We blend our voices in this our common confession.](#) O God, you are the hope of our salvation. The Apostle teaches that there are a variety of gifts, yet we judge others because they do not fit our mold. There is one Savior, yet we mistrust those who do not believe as we do – and doubt that they are lead by the same spirit. Forgive us for the many ways in which we sever the parts of Christ's body. Through him, please reconcile us to one another and pardon our estrangements - in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

A Moment of Silent Confession

*Promise of God's Forgiveness

One: Who is in a position to condemn?

All: Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

All: The old life has gone, a new life has begun.

One: Know that we have been forgiven and be at peace!

All: Hallelujah, Amen!

*Congregational Response (Hymn #734, Gloria Patri)

The Giving of Our Tithes, Gifts and Selves to God - Offertory

*Congregational Response (#34 Doxology)

*Prayer of Dedication

WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

Time for Children - Junior Sermon

Pat Hunter

Choral Anthem

(Children ages 3 – 1st grade are invited to leave for Junior Church; older children may pick up a “Worship Board” in the right front pew for their use during the service.)

Bible Readings	Micah 5:2-5a	Old Testament	Pgs. 756-757
	Luke 1:39-56	New Testament	Pgs. 831-832

Sermon

“Deliverance”

Rev. Beverly Bullock

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*Reflective Hymn

"What Child Is This?"

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***We Affirm Our Faith - The Apostle's Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People (in unison)

O God of the prophets and psalmist, of Mark and of Paul, hear our prayers:

Be with your children as they face their trials. Let them not be so overpowered that they succumb to their challenges. Give them the strength to withstand the pressure, and the courage to boldly face those times when their faith is tested.

Let us not be reserved in proclaiming the gospel of Christ. Keep us free from the fear of embarrassing ourselves. Give us the joy that makes constraint inappropriate, and the assurance of new life that makes us willing to take risks.

Let us remember that through times of trial, you do indeed accompany your people – every step of the way. So set us, we pray, amidst those who are seeking salvation. Help us to stand with them long enough to trust us – that together we can learn how Christ sets people free. We ask this in the name of our Savior who taught us to pray: “Our Father Who Art In Heaven...”

Blessing

One: We have been blessed!

All: We have met for divine worship, as God's people.

One: We have been blessed!

All: Our sins have truly been forgiven.

One: We have been blessed!

All: We now go out into the world as the body of Christ, witnessing to the Risen Christ. We have been blessed indeed. Hallelujah, Amen!

*Pastoral Benediction

*Choral Benediction

-WELCOME TO GREGORY MEMORIAL! -

We hope and pray that as you worship with us today you may experience the love of God and be encouraged for the coming week. Visitors, make sure to let us know of your presence by completing one of the registration cards in the pews and placing it in the offering plate. We invite both visitors and "regulars" to use the cards to let us know of your prayer requests or special needs.

VISITOR INFORMATION --- We have special informational packets for our visitors, both adults and children. Please ask an usher for assistance.

SUNDAY SCHOOL---We offer engaging classes each Sunday for all ages beginning at 9:45 am. Children, youth and one adult class meet on the second floor of the Educational Building, and another adult class meets downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for coffee in the kitchen before and after class!

NURSERY & JUNIOR CHURCH---During the worship service, we provide loving child care for infants and toddlers. Children ages pre-K through 1st grade are invited to join their parents in the service through the Time with Children after which they can follow their leaders to a worship-based activity appropriate for their age. For children who remain in the worship service, there are "worship boards" in a box in the front right pew for their learning and enjoyment during the service.

2012 STEWARDSHIP TO DATE

The Facts:

Annual budget expense	\$137,754
Pledged & projected income	\$133,804
Monthly budget needs	\$ 11,480
Weekly budget needs	\$ 2,650

The Figures:

Offering 11/25	\$2,354.37
Offering 12/02	\$2,919.36
Offering 12/09	\$2,261.11
Offering 12/16	\$3,772.58
Offering 12/23	\$
Offering 12/30	\$

ATTENDANCE: December 16

Worship: 131	Sunday School: 16
	Spiritual Enrichment 6
	Fellowship 10
	Youth 0
	One Room 0

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY: December 23-January 5, 2013

December 23-29

December 30-January 5

Today	23	30
9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship <i>Christmas Joy Offering</i>		9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship <i>Emergency Aid Offering</i>
Monday	24	31
6:30 pm Christmas Eve Service & Holy Communion		New Year's Eve
Tuesday	25	JAN. 01
CHRISTMAS DAY!		NEW YEAR'S DAY
Wednesday	26	02
7:00 pm Choir Office Open		7:00 pm Choir
Thursday	27	03
2-8:00 pm Cleaning Office Open		2-8:00 pm Cleaning
Friday	28	04
Office Open		
Saturday	29	05

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Sunday Servants	Today, December 23	December 30
USHERS	Sheila Fields Janet Swinton Rose Scott Wayne Powers	Valerie Harsh Rose Scott Jerry Bond Debbie Smith
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Mary Kay Schroeter	Rose Scott
JUNIOR SERMON	Pat Hunter	Patsy Johnson
JUNIOR CHURCH	Jennifer Smyth Jared Smyth	Kris Holliday Max Holliday
NURSERY	Ruby Spain	Virginia Maloney
COUNTING	David Johnson Sheila Fields	Sandy Hunter Evelyn Lichvar

DECEMBER GATEKEEPER: Josh Ingram

OUR PRAYER IN TIMES OF JOY AND CONCERN.....

Ruby Hasky	All who have lost loved ones to senseless & random violence
Katherine Tompkins	Kay Alloway & Family (loss of bother, Mitchell Bowen, Nov. 19)
Christine Belsches	The family of Erika Fifer (Morgan Allen's friend)
Marian McDonald	All persons recovering from natural disasters
Gladys Wiseman	Jimmy Belsches (Son of Christine Belsches)
Audrey Turner	Mary Chadwick (Dink Armstrong's sister)
Kenneth Figg	Laura Lambert (Peggy Allen's mother)
Clara Smith	Dan Price (David Johnson's brother)
June Hawks	Ed Smiley (Friend of Doug Holc)
Aida Faries	2012-2013 School Year
Don Vtipil	Frank Solesbee
PNC	Pat Hunter

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE & SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be held on Monday, December 24th, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

2013 WALL CALENDARS “Bible Passages” are available (while supply lasts) in the Fellowship Hall on the table at the entrance door. Drop by and pick up your copy. These complimentary calendars were provided to the Church by E. Alvin Small Funeral Homes and Crematory 2933 Boulevard, Colonial Heights, Va. and 3935 S. Crater Road, Petersburg, Va. (Tel. 804-526-3400; www.ealvinsmall.com)

HOLIDAY OPERATING SCHEDULE - Church Office Hours, as approved by Session:
Week of Dec. 23-29 (Christmas): **Dec. 26 (Wed.), 27 (Thurs.) & 28 (Fri.)**
Week of Dec. 30-Jan. 5 (New Year's): **Jan. 2 (Wed.), 3 (Thurs.), 4 (Fri.).**

+Scripture, if printed in bulletin, quoted from The Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version Bible. Copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, published by Zondervan, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49530, U.S.A]

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SERMON NOTES

IMPORTANT WEBSITES & PHONE NUMBERS

[Clip & save this listing for future reference.]

James House www.thejameshouse.org	(804) 458-2840 ... 24-hour Hotline (804) 458-2704 ... Hopewell Office (804) 732-1711 ... Petersburg Office
YWCA www.ywcarichmond.org	(804) 643-0888 ... 24-hour Hotline
CARES www.careshelterpetersburg.org	(804) 861-0849
Nat'l. Domestic Violence Hotline www.thehotline.org	1 (800) 799-7233 (1-800-799-SAFE)
Nat'l. Center for Missing & Exploited Children www.missingkids.com	1 (800) 843-5678 (1-800-THE-LOST)
Poison Control Hotline www.poison.org	1-800-222-1212
Child Abuse Hotline	1 (800) 552-7096
Center for Elder Rights & Aging Services Information	1 (800) 552-3402 (Voice/TTY)

PRIMARY CHURCH CONTACTS

Church Phone: 804-732-1081 Website: www.gregorymemorial.org
Church Office Hours: Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm.
Temporary Supply Pastor: Rev. Beverly Bullock, mobile 804-892-1785,
bevbullock@aol.com

Secretary: Nancy Adams, gregorymemorialoffice@verizon.net

Organist: Sandra Perkins, Accompanist: Gail Rollings

Clerk of Session: David Johnson

Treasurer: Kevin Foster, kevin.foster@bsvnet.com, phone 804-732-1096

Financial Secretary: Sandy Hunter, phone 804-733-8414

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church
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Christmas Poinsettias 2012



The beautiful live poinsettia plants decorating our Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by the following :

Dennis & Peggy Allen - In memory of Dennis' mother, father, and brother, Marie & James Allen and Dean Allen.

Blake & Marguerite Bishop - In honor of my mother, Gladys Wiseman.

Rev. Beverly S. Bullock - To honor all those who have gone before us.

Grace & Helen Cibula - In honor of the PNC for its dedicated hard work; and In honor of our youth and their great leaders.

Sandy & Jim Correll - In honor of our families; and In memory of Milt Morgan, Jr., Sandy's father, beloved husband of Lois and beloved grandfather.

Aida Faries - In memory of Warren Faries; and In memory of Bessie Faries.

Sheila Fields - In memory of Aunt Ruby.

Kevin, Tara, Kevin II & Madison Foster - In honor of Evelyn Foster, Jean Waymack, Frank & Sarah Solesbee, and Grace & Helen Cibula; and In memory of Garland Foster and Irvin Waymack.

Jerry & Ruby Hasky - In memory of Brandon Hasky.

The Hunter Family - In memory of Henry & Pearle Livesay; In memory of Robert & Wilma Hunter; and In memory of Cliff & Edith Mayerhoefer.

Larry & Linda Johnson - In honor of our grandchildren, Corinne, Jack, Owen and Natalie; and In memory of our parents, Clarence & Ima Johnson and Homer & Mae Elkins.

Evelyn Lichvar - In memory of my mother, Agnes Bauer.

Shirley MacNeill - In memory of James MacNeill and Trudy McClenny.

Glenda & Les Mayhew - In memory of Gladys Vtipl and Dick & Joan Mann.

Virginia Maloney - In memory of Elizabeth and Linda Blasco.

The Mauger Family, Matt, Jessica, Avery & Jase - In honor of Mary Jane Mauger, Matt's grandmother; and In memory of Jessica's grandparents, Lula Belle & Maurice Zachman and Minnie & William Bailey, and Matt's grandparents, Bob Mauger and Nettie & John Cumpston.

Jennifer Meurer - In memory of Robert & Mary Harper; and In Memory of Richard Wille.

Dianne Overstreet - In memory of my parents, Olivia & Francis Epps.

Rose Scott & Wayne Powers - In memory of Peg Ward & Roland Wiseman & Jimmy Wiseman.

Ron & Judy Recher - In honor of our parents, Bill & Alcie Recher and Carl & Alice Aufdermarsh.

Howard & Cory Scott - In memory of Cliff Scott.

Marquita Simpson - In memory of Jerry Simpson; and In memory of Ruth & John McKillop.

Janet Swinton - In memory of Raymond Swinton.

Gladys Wiseman - In memory of Roland Wiseman & Jimmy Wiseman.



*Please take your Poinsettias home after the Christmas Eve service.
Christmas Blessings!*