

#### GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBY TERIAN CHURCH

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to man on whom his favor rests." Luke 2:14 - NIV

Christmas Eve 6:36 PM Service Christmas Eve Celebration

December 24, 2013 6:30 p.m.

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth..." - John 1:14



# PRELUDE

## Gail Rollings

# LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

RESPONSIVE LITANY Words & Music by Joel Raney (from "The Wonder of Christmas, A Candle Lighting Ceremony For Advent") CCL No. 3162073

- One: During Advent, we have journeyed in faith toward God's wondrous gift.
- All: O come, let us adore him.
- One: During Advent, we stood in awe of God's saving grace.
- All: O come, let us adore him.
- One: During Advent, we recalled the promise of God's spoken words.
- All: O come, let us adore him.
- One: During Advent, we waited for the time of God's glorious arrival.
- All: O come, let us adore him.
- One: Tonight our waiting is over, our eyes are open, and the gift is given.
- All: O come, let us adore him.

\*Those who are able, please stand Congregation reads **BOLD** face type [Congregation is invited to join the choir in singing final refrain.]



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### **UNISON PRAYER**

*Gracious God,* thank you for guiding us throughout this season of wonder. We stand amazed at the promise now fulfilled and awed by your humble birth. Help us receive, again, the joy and wonder of the greatest gift offered to the world. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our newborn King. *Amen.* 

#### WELCOME

Rev. Jason Cashing

CALL TO WORSHIP

- One: Come, thou long expected Jesus.
- All: We, along with those of every age, and along with all those who join us in worship this evening,
- One: Around the world, expect you, O Christ to be present with us. For you have come in your birth in Bethlehem and you are present.
- All: Wherever your church comes together, renew our awareness of your coming, then and now. Amen.
- \* HYMN "O Come, All Ye Faithful" #182

\* A PRAYER OF PRAISE & ADORATION (In unison) We will indeed praise you, O God, and cause your works to be known. Your mercy and grace shall endure forever. As we obey your commandments and abide by your wisdom, we shall proclaim to the nations how you can be trusted. Upheld by the covenant you established, our feet firmly place on an unshakeable foundation, we enter your presence and give you all the glory!

#### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

FIRST READING	Old Testament: Isaiah 9:2-7	7 Pg. 555
CHORAL ANTHEM	"Still Is The Night"	CCL #3162093
SECOND reading	New Testament: Luke 2:1-	20 Pg.832
*HYMN	"What Child Is This"	#184

\*WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH (from "The Gospel of John", Chapter 1)

I believe that Jesus is the Word of God, that he was with God at the beginning of Creation and, in fact, was God.

I believe that Jesus is the Light of God *that came into a darkened world* so that, through his light, all people might experience the gift of new life.

I believe that Jesus is Emmanuel, God who lived with us, as one of us, and that, as we trust our lives to him, we become children of God.

In him, we discover divine grace for a fresh start; we find the truth that sets us free from all that holds us back. Until the first Christmas, no one had ever seen God, but, in Jesus, we now know who God is and how much we are loved. Amen.

# CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (In pews)

# INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

#### GIVING THANKS TO GOD

Minister: Gracious God, our Creator, we give you thanks....

All: For the wonder and goodness of Creation, for so bountifully providing for our needs, for staving with us though we turn away from you, and, in your abounding mercy, for seeking to restore us in our brokenness to your wonderful image.

Minister: Loving Jesus, our Redeemer, we give you thanks...

For your servant's life of preaching, teaching and healing All: and for your atoning sacrifice on the Cross which has both restored our relationship with our Creator and broken the power of sin to control our lives.

- Minister: Holy Spirit, who sustains us moment by moment, we give you thanks...
- All: For your transforming presence which creates unity from our diversity and makes us one with the living God, we worship in Jesus Christ. Prepare us to be faithful disciples, modeling Jesus' love, humility, obedience, and concern for iustice for a world in need.
- Minister: O Lord, as the Body of Christ, bearers of Good News and God's ambassadors of reconciliation, we now lift up to you the thanksgivings and concerns we've shared today and these personal requests for your merciful and powerful intervention [each prays in silence]...and now we pray the prayer which Jesus taught, saving: "Our Father .... Amen."

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE The Bread of Life...The Cup of Salvation

PRAYER OF SENDING

INVITATION & LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

HYMN OF PRAISE & DEPARTURE "Silent Night! Holy Night!"

#186



# Christmas Poinsettias 2013



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

Bobby & Donna Allen - In memory of Darrell G. Allen.

**Dennis & Peggy Allen** - In honor of our wonderful daughter, Morgan,and son-in-law, Josh; In memory of James, Marie & Dean Allen, Dennis' father, mother & brother, and Laura Lambert, Peggy's mother.

Marguerite Bishop - In honor of my husband, Blake Bishop.

Grace & Helen Cibula - In memory of Virginia, "Pete" & Peggy.

**Sandy & Jim Correll** - In honor of our family; In memory of Milt Morgan, our beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

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

**Robert & Ann Hartsell** - In honor of Mila C. Campen; In memory of Robert L. Campen, Louise T. Hartsell & Lonnie C. Hartsell.

Ruby & Jerry Hasky - In memory of grandson, Brandon Hasky.

**The Hunter Family** - In honor of Jason & Megan Cashing; In memory of Robert & Wilma Hunter, Henry & Pearle Livesay, and Cliff & Edith Mayerhoefer.

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

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

**Jennifer Meurer** - In memory of Richard Wille, Bob & Mary Harper, Sheila Bischoff, and Peggy Forloines.

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

Howard Scott & Cory Scott - In memory of Cliff Scott.

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

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

Janet Swinton - In memory of Raymond Swinton.

Barbara Taliaferro - In memory of husband, Tommie Taliaferro.

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



Please take your Poinsettias home after the Christmas Eve service.

May you, your family, and friends have a Blessed Christmas!

#### Class of 2013

Pamela Harsh Evelyn Lichvar H. F. Scott, Jr.

#### Class of 2014

Mary Holc Valerie Harsh

#### Class of 2015

Rose Scott Glenda Mayhew Mary Kay Schroeter

# Clerk of Session

David Johnson

#### **GMPC TRUSTEES**

Class of 2013 Dennis Allen Class of 2014 Ron Recher Class of 2015 Donald Hunter

#### PRIMARY CHURCH CONTACTS

Website: www.gregorymemorial.org & Facebook.com/gmpcva Church Office Hrs.: Tues. - Thurs. 9 AM – 2 PM (Tel. 804-732-1081/Fax. 804-861-5150) Pastor: Rev. Jason Neal Cashing, jason@gregorymemorial.org Secretary: Nancy Adams, gregorymemorialoffice@verizon.net Organist: Sandra Perkins, Accompanist: Gail Rollings Treasurer: Kevin Foster, kevin.foster@bsvnet.com, phone 804-732-1096 Financial Secretary: Sandy Hunter, baskethunters@comcast.net, phone 804-733-8414