Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



December 3, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.

"First Sunday of Advent"

We welcome you to worship with us this morning, as we gather in community to draw closer to God, made known in Christ. We pray you will know the presence of the Lord, through our worship, and through the work of the Spirit. We invite you to take these moments before worship to calm your hearts and minds and open yourself to the quiet stillness of the presence of God!

GOD GATHERS THE PEOPLE

Prelude

Sandra Perkins & Gail Rollings

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome & Announcements

Rose Scott

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Jason N. Cashing

Sharing of Joys/Concerns

Call to Worship

One: The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill my promise to my people.

All: Justice and righteousness will fill the land and all will live in peace and safety.

Candle Lighter: We light this candle as a symbol of the hope we have in the promise of the Lord's coming.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

*Opening Hymn #106 – "Prepare the Way, O Zion"

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

(A Moment of Silent Confession)

Promise of God's Forgiveness

One: Hear the good news of the gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, healed, and made whole.

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

All: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Amen!

*Congregational Response (Hymn #581)

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

Congregational Response (Hymn #606)

*Prayer of Dedication

WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

Time for Children– Junior Sermon Megan Cashing Children ages 3 – 1st Grade are invited to Junior Church after the Anthem; 'Worship Boards' are on the front pew for older youth.

Choral Anthem – "The Wonder of Christmas"

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Gracious Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may hear your word with joy. Amen.

Scripture 1st Reading: Daniel 3:1-30 2nd Reading: John 18:36-37

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"Facing an Idol"

Rev. Jason N. Cashing

*Reflective Hymn #357 – "The Days Are Surely Coming"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Affirmation of Faith

Sermon

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. [John 1:1-5]

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

One: Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayers.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION [see insert]

*Departing Hymn #88, verses 1-4 – "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

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 go out into the world as the body of Christ, bearing the good news of the gospel. We are blessed, indeed. Amen!

*Pastoral Benediction

*Choral Benediction & Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENT(S)

> TODAY:

Angel Tree Gifts deadline; gifts should be wrapped and labeled with tags, please!

We begin Advent readings.

Interested youth & parents are requested to attend **Workcamp 2018** planning meeting at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

- A Hanover Xmas! Fri. & Sat., Dec. 8 & 9, suitable for all ages & physical abilities. See interactive re-enactments by candle lit path, then relax by fireplace for treats & musical performances. Overnight accommodations available. For more info, call 804.779.2811 or visit www.CampHanover.org.
- Registration for Winter Camp at Camp Hanover is open for 3-day program for youth currently in grades 5-12, also camp veterans & newcomers. Small groups of 10-12 with 2 counselors for as many of our camp activities as the weather allows! To register, visit www.camphanover.org/winter-camp or call camp office 804.779.2811.

DON'T FORGET:

Ft. Lee Playhouse will be featuring "Driving Miss Daisy" in February. Tickets are \$13.00. Carpool from church parking lot. Sign-up sheet in Narthex. Tickets will be purchased in advance of show. <u>Date TBA</u>. [Outreach Committee -- Judy Recher]

Use Christmas Card Box in the Narthex for congregation's cards.

Church office Hours, during upcoming holidays:

Christmas & New Year's Weeks: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

GMPC Information

www.gregorymemorial.orgwww.facebook.com/gmpcva 804.732.1081 Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Pastor: Rev. Jason Cashing (Jason@gregorymemorial.org)

Secretary: Nancy Adams (office@gregorymemorial.org)
Organist: Sandra Perkins
Treasurer: Kevin Foster
Financial Sec.: Sandy Hunter

Session Members

Mary Holc (2017); Susan Walker (2017); Robert Hartsell (2017) Blake Bishop (2018); Valerie Harsh (2018); _____(2018) Sandy Hunter (2019), Patsy Johnson (2019); (2019) Charles Smyth (2019) Donald Hunter (Clerk of Session)

Trusteees

Gregg Webber (2017); Mary Kay Schroeter (2018); Morgan Ingram (2019)

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

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	1st Sunday of Advent	3	2 nd Sunday of Advent	10
	9:45a Sunday School		9:45a Sunday School	
	11a Worship		11a Worship	
S	11a Holy Communion\			
	11a Angel Tree gifts due		Flowers by Rose Scott	
	6p 2018 Workcamp plan			
	meeting			
M	11a PG Churches Outreach	4	2p Poinsettias delivery	11
	/Foodbank Xmas meeting			
T	12:30p Circle	5	6p GS Tr. 553	12
	6p GS Tr. 5000			
	6p Congregational Care			
W		6	1-9p BS Tr 900 Xmas meeting	13
	7p Choir practice		7p Choir practice	
T	2p Church cleaning	7	9:30a Preschool Xmas field trip to	14
			Swift Creek Mill Playhouse	
			2p Church cleaning	
			2p News articles due	
F		8		15
S	9a-9p Fellowship Hall reserved	9		16

SUNDAY SERVANTS

0	GATEKEEPER:	Charles	Smvth

	December 3, 2017	December 10, 2017	
USHERS	Jerry Hasky Brenda Bond Glenda Mayhew	Sheila Fields Janet Swinton Marguerite Bishop Valerie Harsh	
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Les Mayhew Rose Scott	Dianne Overstreet	
JUNIOR SERMON	Megan Cashing	Minister	
JUNIOR CHURCH	Patsy Johnson	Tara Foster	
COUNTING	David Johnson Rose Scott	Sandy Hunter Glenda Mayhew	

Facts & Figures		YTD	Thru 9/30/17	Offrg.	Rec'd.
Pledged/proj. incr.	\$137,530	Inc.	\$101,321.80	11/5	\$2,728.80
Ann. budget exp.	\$145,537	Exp.	\$101,688.87	11/12	\$2,270.25
Mo. budget needs	\$ 12,128	Diff.	(\$ 367.07)	11/19	\$1,410.00
Wk. budget needs	\$ 2,799			11/26	\$1,979.00

ATTENDANCE: November 26, 2017

Worship: 43	Sunday School:	13	
	Spiritual Enrichment:	8	Children:
	Fellowship:	5	Youth:

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Those affected by Las Vegas tragedy & the emergency responders Those affected by recent hurricanes & the emergency responders

Members of Franklinville Presbyterian Church, Franklinville, NY

James Hartsell, Robert Hartsell's brother

Amy Townson, Josh Ingram's sister

Doris Karnowski, Josh Ingram's grandmother

Maryland Blanchard, Grace and Helen Cibula's friend

Mary Chadwick, Dink Armstrong's sister

Evelyn Lichvar, her son, Rick, and her brother, Martin (health issues)

Becky Smith

Russell Heiser, Ingrid Phoenix's grandson (health issues)

Helen & Grace Cibula

Elizabeth & H. F. Scott, Jr.

Kenneth & Sue Andrews, Childress family's friends

Jimmy Clark

Elisha Beverly, Valerie Harsh's daughter (health issue recurrence)

Peggy Allen

Eleanor Jones

Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew's brother

Teresa Knott, PG County employee (health issue)

Michelle Coleman (health issues & recov.)

Ralph Summerson

Courtney Stewart, friend of the Hunters (Duke Hospital)

Adrienne Wallace, member of Hopewell News staff

Jane & Ralph Archart, Glenda Mayhew's friends (health issues)

Gene Vasek (health issue)

Gladys Wiseman

Eddie Frankenstein, former PGPD Chief (health issues)

Steve "Dee" Shortt, Kim Helmer Shortt's husband (health issue)

Shirley MacNeil (health issues)

Perry Lewis (health issue)

Debbie Hudson, Susan Walker's friend (recov. surgery)

Janet Shockley, Susan Walker's mom (surgery on 10/8)

Dink Armstrong (recov. surgery)

Verne & Clara Smith

Kenny Overstreet (health issue)

Brenda Wahl, Keith Spain's mother (health issues)

Richard Harsh (recov. from surgery)

Leigh Primmer, PG County Finance Dept. (health issue)

Scott Gelcher, friend of Larry Johnson (health issues)

Carole Kreiger, friend of Dianne Overstreet (health issues)

Carol Knight, friend of Rose Scott (health issues)

Lauren O'Steen, Breeana & Owen Hunter's g'mother (health issues)

Les Mayhew (upcoming surgery)

Family/friends of Bill Langston, David Johnson's friend (d. 11/20)