

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



December 24, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.

“Fourth Sunday of Advent/Christmas Eve”

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

Valerie Harsh

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Jason N. Cashing

Sharing of Joys/Concerns

Call to Worship

One: My soul magnifies the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

All: The Mighty One has done great things; holy is God's name!

Candle Lighter: We light this candle as a symbol of the joy to be found in your kingdom on earth.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

***Opening Hymn #82 –“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”**

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God our Savior, we ask for your mercy. Though we have heard Mary's song, we still seek security in pride and power and possessions. Though we know your story, we resist the costs of following you. We pass by those considered lowly in this world. We turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for the justice you intend. Make us messengers of the peace you bring. As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. 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

Patsy Johnson

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 – “Who Would Imagine A King”

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: Psalm 130:5-8 p500
 2nd Reading: John 1:1-18 p862

Sermon “Grace Upon Grace” Rev. Jason N. Cashing

***Reflective Hymn #347** – “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. Amen.

[from The Nicene Creed]

Prayers of the People & Lord’s Prayer

One: Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayers.

***Departing Hymn #113** – “Angels We Have Heard on High”

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)

The lovely Christmas poinsettia plants are displayed in our Sanctuary in honor of or in memory of those listed in the Christmas Poinsettia insert. Please remember to take home your poinsettia(s) after tonight's service at 7:00 p.m.

Today we will receive our Christmas Joy Offering. An envelope is enclosed for your use.

Please join us at **7:00 p.m. tonight as we celebrate Christmas Eve** at a service for the entire family!

A Tri-Cities WorkCamp meeting will be held on Sunday, January 14, 6:00 p.m.

Don't forget:

- For those interested in attending the **Ft. Lee Playhouse production of Driving Miss Daisy**, we will be attending as a group on February 11 for the 3pm matinee. Cost of a ticket is \$13. If more than ten go, price drops to \$11. Please get your payment to me by January 14 so that names can be turned in to Ft. Lee for easy access to the Post on that day. If attendance exceeds ten, a refund will be forwarded to you. If any questions, call Judy Recher.
- Church office Hours, during upcoming holiday:
New Year's Weeks: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m.-2 p.m.



GMPC Information

www.gregorymemorial.org www.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 Accompanist: Gail Rollings
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)

Trustees

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

/24 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

S	4th Sunday of Advent 24 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship 11a 5 Cents a Meal Offering 11a Christmas Joy Offering 7p Christmas Eve service & Holy Communion	4th Sunday of Advent 31 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship 11a Local Emergency Aid Offering 2p Committee reports due
M	Christmas Day 25	New Year's Day 1
T	<u>Church office open</u> 26	9:30a Preschool begins 2 nd semester 6p GS Tr. 5000 2
W	<u>Church office open</u> 27 7p Choir practice	7p Choir practice 3
T	<u>Church office open</u> 28 2p Church cleaning 2p Newsletter out	2p Session agenda out 4 2p Church cleaning 7p Christian Ed
F		5
S		6

SUNDAY SERVANTS



GATEKEEPER: Charles Smyth

	December 24, 2017	December 31, 2017
USHERS	Charles Smyth Jared Smyth Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram	Bobby Allen Donna Allen Velma Allen Larry Johnson
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Mary Kay Schroeter	Larry Johnson
JUNIOR SERMON	Valerie Harsh	Patsy Johnson
JUNIOR CHURCH	Patsy Johnson	Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram
COUNTING	Donald Hunter Mary Kay Schroeter	David Johnson Blake Bishop

Facts & Figures		YTD	Thru 11/30/17	Offrg.	Rec'd.
Pledged/proj. incr.	\$137,530	Inc.	\$121,031.90	12/3	\$2,393.25
Ann. budget exp.	\$145,537	Exp.	\$122,348.59	12/10	\$1,623.30
Mo. budget needs	\$ 12,128	Diff.	(\$ 1,316.69)	12/17	\$3,880.00
Wk. budget needs	\$ 2,799			12/24	\$
				12/31	\$

ATTENDANCE: December 17, 2017

Worship: 97	Sunday School: 12	
	Spiritual Enrichment: 9	Children:
	Fellowship: 3	Youth:

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

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 Arehart, 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)
Les Mayhew (upcoming surgery)
Karen Titmus & family, friends of the Wiseman/Scott families
(health concerns)
Donna Fields-Duvall, Sheila Fields' daughter (health issues)
Our joy for the birth: Jason Holc, Jr., Doug & Mary's grandson
Family/friends of William N. Nall, Sr. (d. 12/7)
Family/friends of Lauren ("Lin") O'Steen (d.12/15)

Christmas Poinsettias - 2017

The beautiful poinsettia plants in our Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by the following persons and may be taken home Christmas Eve.

Jason & Megan Cashing - In memory of our grandparents.

Grace & Helen Cibula (2) – Given to the glory of God.

Kevin, Tara, Kevin II & Madison Foster (6) - In honor of Evelyn Foster, Sarah Solesbee, and Grace & Helen Cibula; In memory of Jean & Irvin Waymack, Garland R. Foster, Sr., Franklin E. Solesbee, Sr., and Katherine Lee.

Doris Harmison – In honor of my six grandchildren, Jeff, Angie, Carrie, Ben, Della & Chris.

The Hunters (2) - In memory of Pearle & Henry Livesay, Wilma & Duck Hunter, and Edith & Cliff Mayerhoefer.

Linda & Larry Johnson (2) - In honor of our beautiful grandchildren, Corinne, Jack, Owen & Natalie; In memory of our dear parents.

Shirley MacNeill – In memory of James MacNeil, Trudy McClenny and Aida Faries.

Dianne Overstreet (2) – In honor of Kenny Overstreet; In memory of JoAnn Overstreet

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

Judy & Ron Recher – In memory of our parents, Carl & Alice Aufdemarsh and Bill & Alice Recher.

Howard Scott & Cory Scott - In memory of Clifford W. Scott, Jr.

Janet Shill – In memory of my parents, Harry & Eunice Peterson.

Barbara Taliaferro - In memory of Tommie Taliaferro.

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