



Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 182 — 6300 Courthouse Road

Prince George, VA 23875



Fourth Sunday in the Season of Lent

Sunday, March 18, 2012 11:00 am

*Be still and know that I am God.
(Psalm 46:10)*

*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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pat Hunter

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Mark Sprowl

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Psalmist wrote, "I was glad when they said to me,
`Let us go to the house of the Lord.'" For it is...

People: A house of prayer for those seeking help.

Leader: A sanctuary for ones in need of rest and renewal.

People: A loving Body for those searching for a place to belong.

Leader: A dwelling where God lives within the hearts
of those who entrust their lives to God.

**People: Gathered here in such a place of life and love,
with joy and thanksgiving,
let us worship God!**

*HYMN #80

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

*Congregational please stand, if able; **bold** type read aloud

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Jesus, we fell short this week...
too many times putting ourselves first,
too often putting You last,
too frequently offering criticism
when words of encouragement
would have been a welcome gift,
Forgive us and change us
that we may be mirrors of your love
and reflectors of your healing light. Amen.**

(An opportunity for personal confession in silence.)

PROMISE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Leader: ...Amen. Through Christ, Life has been given to us
as a new gift for today.

People: We are a new and different people from this moment on!

Leader: Arise then! And walk in the Light of Christ!

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*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymn #734, *Gloria Patri*)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.**

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES, GIFTS AND SELVES TO GOD

OFFERTORY *When the Poor Ones* (Hymn #624)

*When the poor ones who have nothing share with strangers,
when the thirsty water give unto us all,
when the wounded in their weakness strengthen others,
then we know that God still goes that road with us,*

[Continued on next page]

*When at last all those who suffer find their comfort,
when they hope though even hope seems hopelessness,
when we love though hate at times seems all around us,
then we know that God still goes that road with us.*

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#34 *Doxology*)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

RECOGNITION OF GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESCHOOL

Dianne Overstreet
Susie McAllister

SPECIAL MUSIC

Gregory Memorial Preschool Children

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Pat Hunter

(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.)

BIBLE READING

Luke 10:25-37

The "Good" Samaritan

MESSAGE

How to Love Your Neighbor

Rev. Mark Sprowl

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN #587

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

*WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH

**We are a sign of the New World.
We are the sisters and brothers of Jesus.**

[Continued on next page]

We believe in God.

**We believe in the goodness of God,
the presence of God in human history,
and the nearness of God's love.**

We believe in Christ.

**We believe that God was and is revealed in human life,
that out of human suffering may come rescue and healing,
that out of death comes new life.**

**We believe in the Eternal Spirit, who moves among God's people
and invites the world into God's reign.**

**We believe that the world can change,
that peace and wholeness can come,
and that the New World can arrive.**

We are the people of God.

We are the sign of the New World.

We are the brothers and sisters of Jesus. Amen.

LITURGY SOURCE - Today's "Affirmation of Faith" was reprinted by permission from *Flames of the Spirit* by Ruth C. Duck, The Pilgrim Press, 1985. (8/97)

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power

and the glory, forever. Amen.

*HYMN #712

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

*BLESSING (Romans 15:13)

Leader: May the God of hope fill us all with JOY and PEACE
that as we put our trust in God...

**People: We may overflow with HOPE
by the power of the Holy Spirit! Amen.**

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

WELCOME!

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. Both visitors and "regulars" may use the cards to let us know of prayer requests or special needs.

WE WELCOME... Our Gregory Memorial Preschool students, staff and parents today as we celebrate this special ministry within the life of our church!

SEASON OF LENT - We continue our journey into the season of Lent which is celebrated during the six weeks before Easter. Lent provides us an opportunity to reflect personally upon God's deep love for us despite our spiritual failures. It is marked by the color purple suggesting the somber mystery of the Cross.

LENTEN WORSHIP & LUNCHEONS - There is no Lenten event this week but next week, Thursday, March 29, Bethlehem Congregational Church, 10501 Pole Run Road, Disputanta, will host at noon.

PRE-WORSHIP MUSIC - We continue our experiment during March to provide music before the service in an effort to enhance the worship atmosphere. Let us know whether you find it helpful or not!

BOOK STUDY - Pastor Mark continues his discussion on *Love Wins: A Book about Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived*. Join the discussion as author Rob Bell challenges some of the conventional understandings of divine judgment and punishment in this best-seller. Class meets in the parlor at 9:45 am through Sunday, April 1. You do not need a copy of the book to participate but you may order one for \$12.00 at class or through e-mail.

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

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 March 4	\$2966.00
Offering March 11	\$1613.30

Attendance March 11

Sunday School - 14 Worship - 73

This Week at Gregory March 18 - March 25

Today	9:45 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship Service
		Preschool Sunday
Monday	2:00 pm	Line Dancing
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Session Meeting
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Choir
Sunday	9:45 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship Service
		5-Cents-A-Meal

Sunday Servants

Today

March 25

USHERS	Sheila Fields	Valerie Harsh
	Janet Swinton	Pamela Harsh
	Rose Scott	Jerry Bond
	Wayne Powers	Debbie Smith
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Pat Hunter	Mary Kay Schroeter
NURSERY	Ruby Spain	Robbi Foster
JUNIOR SERMON	Pat Hunter	Mary Kay Schroeter
JUNIOR CHURCH	Rose Scott	Josh Ingram
	Madison Foster	Morgan Ingram
COUNTING	Verne Smith	Morgan Ingram
	Rose Scott	David Johnson

Prayer Concerns

Ruby Hasky	Ed Smiley (<i>Friend of Doug Holc</i>)
Christine Belsches	Katherine Tompkins
Aida Faries	Mary Chadwick (<i>Dink Armstrong's sister</i>)
June Hawks	Virginia Mika (<i>sister of Grace and Helen Cibula</i>)
Marian McDonald	Matt Mauger
Helen Cibula	Amy Harte (<i>David Johnson's cousin</i>)
Harry Johns	The family of Maurice Zachman (<i>Debra Bailey's father</i>)



We Welcome All Who Worship with Us this Morning!

If you are not active in a church home in this community, we invite you to consider joining our fellowship and sharing in this ministry of Christ here.

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.

SESSION COMMITTEE MODERATORS

<i>Christian Education</i>	Valerie Harsh	452-2548
<i>Congregational Care</i>	Evelyn Lichvar	861-6417
<i>Facilities</i>	Bobby Allen	691-3337
<i>Missions</i>	Dianne Overstreet	862-4674
<i>Outreach</i>	Donald Hunter	733-8414
<i>Personnel</i>	Dianne Overstreet	862-4674
<i>Stewardship & Finance</i>	Morgan Ingram	691-1032
<i>Worship</i>	Mary Holc	541-2565

PRIMARY CHURCH CONTACTS

Church Phone: 804-732-1081 **Website:** www.gregorymemorial.org

Church Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Interim Pastor: Mark Sprowl, mobile 804-512-9197, mesjlh@aol.com

Secretary: Julie Jacobs, 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



Luke 10:25-37

The “Good” Samaritan

²⁵Just then a religion scholar stood up with a question to test Jesus. “Teacher, what do I need to do to get eternal life?” ²⁶Jesus answered, “What’s written in God’s Law? How do you interpret it?” ²⁷The man said, “That you love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and muscle and intelligence — and that you love your neighbor as well as you do yourself.” ²⁸“Good answer!” said Jesus. “Do it and you’ll live.”

²⁹Looking for a loophole, he asked, “And just how would you define ‘neighbor’?”

³⁰Jesus answered by telling a story. “There was once a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes, beat him up, and went off leaving him half-dead. ³¹Luckily, a priest was on his way down the same road, but when he saw him he angled across to the other side. ³²Then a Levite religious man showed up; he also avoided the injured man.

³³“A Samaritan traveling the road came on him. When he saw the man’s condition, his heart went out to him. ³⁴He gave him first aid, disinfecting and bandaging his wounds. Then he lifted him onto his donkey, led him to an inn, and made him comfortable. ³⁵In the morning he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on my bill—I’ll pay you on my way back.’

³⁶“What do you think? Which of the three became a neighbor to the man attacked by robbers?” ³⁷“The one who treated him kindly,” the religion scholar responded. Jesus said, “Go and do the same.”



JOIN US!

Sundays, April 1 – 8

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 1 - 11:00 am - Once again on this holy day we observe the contrasts of Jesus' triumphal procession into Jerusalem and his rejection by his people at the Cross. We will have our own procession and waving of palm fronds and invite you to join us!

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 5 - 7:00 pm - This year in addition to celebrating the Lord's Supper in intimate fashion at the front of the sanctuary, the service will also be one of "tenebrae" (Latin for "shadows") where we will extinguish candles and lights with the reading of Scripture to suggest the fading of Jesus' light from the world.

EASTER SUNDAY SUNRISE, APRIL 8 - 7:30 am - What better way to travel back in time to the disciple's surprising discovery of the empty tomb than to worship outdoors in the Temple parking lot on Easter morning! During this shortened service, we'll sing the familiar songs of Easter and rejoice in the good news that "He is risen indeed!" The service will be followed by our usual delicious Gregory **Easter breakfast** in the Fellowship Hall! (In the event of inclement weather, the service will be held in the sanctuary.)



EASTER SUNDAY FESTIVAL WORSHIP, APRIL 8 - Bring a flower from your garden or use one of ours to "flower" the Cross as evidence of new life in Christ! Flowers, soaring choruses, an inspirational message... and you! That's what it will take for our worship to become truly festive. It's always a wonderful time to invite guests and family members to join you.