Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



December 9, 2018 – 11:00 a.m.

2nd Sunday in 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

Dianne Overstreet

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Jason N. Cashing

Sharing of Joys/Concerns

Call to Worship

One: The season of Advent continues, as we continue to watch for our Lord

All: We continue to guard our hearts and minds against idleness and distraction.

One: The Lord is coming to his temple.

All: We watch and wait for his coming.

Candle Lighter: We light this candle as a symbol of the purity of heart only God can bring.

All: Come, Lord Jesus. come!

*Opening Hymn #104 – "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best, or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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 – Jr. Sermon Rev. Jason N. Cashing Youth are invited to use the "Worship Boards" the front right pew.

Choral Anthem – "Do You Hear What I Hear?"

Prayer for Illumination

Almighty God, send your Spirit to open our hearts and minds as we listen to your word, hearing again of your holy mysteries and invitations to life, for the glory of your Kingdom. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Scripture 1st Reading: Esther 4:1-17 p388

2nd Reading: Matthew 5:13-16 p786

"The Gift of an Invitation" Rev. Jason N. Cashing

*Reflective Hymn #96 – "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

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 & The Lord's Prayer

One: Lord, in your mercy, **All: Hear our prayers.**

*Departing Hymn #362 – "Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers"

*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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parents of Little Ones: We want worship to be a nurturing experience for your whole family. As such, Nursery services are available for your benefit and the enjoyment of your child. Let one of our greeters know and they'll help you get set up!

A Congregational meeting to elect officers for 2019 will be held immediately after worship on Sunday, Dec. 16.

Christmas **Cards to Soldiers at Walter Reed Medical Center** - Missions will be sending Christmas cards to Recovering American Soldiers at Walter Reed Medical Center. There will be cards in the Narthex for you to sign along with a greeting, or you may use a card from home. Place cards in the Narthex by Dec. 16. *Messages are especially appreciated!*

"Parents' Night Out" (Friday, Dec. 14) & "Parents" Morning Out" (Saturday, Dec. 22): Boy Scout Troop 900 Sea Base Crew fund-raiser. Why not let the Scouts watch your kids while you do some last-minute shopping or packing? For a fee of \$25 per child and \$20 for each additional sibling (cash or check), parents may drop off their children ages K-5th Grade for an evening or morning of entertainment with supervision by Boy Scouts and adult Scout leaders in Gregory Memorial's Fellowship Hall. Friday activities include pizza dinner, holiday craft, movie with cookies and cocoa. Saturday activities include pancake breakfast, holiday craft and movie with cocoa. Children must be dropped off Friday by 6 p.m. and picked up by 9 p.m. On Saturday it's 9 a.m. for drop-off and 12 noon for pick-up. Registration is required by emailing Julie Stoke: jce19@yahoo.com

A **Fellowship Chili & Soup Luncheon** will be held after worship <u>on Sunday, Dec. 23</u>, in the Fellowship Hall at 12 p.m. We hope you will join us!

Church office Hours, during upcoming holidays:

Christmas Week: Wed. - Fri, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (no Tues. hours) New Year's Week: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (regular schedule)

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

Blake Bishop (2018); Valerie Harsh (2018); Dianne Overstreet (2018) Sandy Hunter (2019); Patsy Johnson (2019); Charles Smyth (2019) Pat Hunter (2020); Susan Shockley (2020); ______ (2020) Donald Hunter (Clerk of Session)

Trustees

Mary Kay Schroeter (2018); Morgan Ingram (2019); Donald Hunter (2020)

12/9 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

12/	12/9 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY								
	2 nd Sunday in Advent	9	3 rd Sunday in Advent	16					
s	9:45a Sunday School		9:45a Sunday School						
	11a Worship		11a Worship						
	_		12p Congregational Meeting						
M	8a PG Fire & EMS meeting	10		17					
	6p Crater District Order of								
	Arrow dinner (set-up 2p-5p)								
	Fellowship Hall								
T		11	6p GS Tr5000, Fellowship Hall	18					
W	7p Choir practice	12	12p Presch. Xmas program	19					
			6p BS 900 Hon. Ct. dinner						
			(set-up 2p-5p), Fellowship						
			Hall						
			7p Choir practice						
T	2p Church cleaning	13	2p Presch .Xmas break 12/20-31	20					
	6p Set-up for 12/14 event		2p Church cleaning						
			2p News articles due in office						
			7p Stewardship & Fin. Com.						
F	6p "Parents' Night Out" (BS	14	6p Set-up for 12/22 event	21					
	supervised child-care fund-		7p Darkest Night Service						
	raiser); Fellowship Hall								
S		15	9a "Parents' Morning Out" (BS	22					
			supervised child-care fund-raiser);						
			Fellowship Hall						

SUNDAY SERVANTS

y					
	December 9, 2018	December 16, 2018			
	Sheila Fields	John Carl Allen			
USHERS	Janet Shill	Dianne Overstreet			
USHEKS	Marguerite Bishop	Rose Scott			
	Valerie Harsh	Wayne Powers			
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Dianne Overstreet	Valerie Harsh			
JUNIOR SERMON	Minister	Susan Shockley			
MUDCEDV	Diane Overstreet	Jennifer Smyth			
NURSERY	Mary Kay Schroeter	Charlie Smyth			
COUNTING	Sandy Hunter	Morgan Ingram			
COUNTING	Glenda Mavhew	Ron Recher			

FACTS & FIGURES

THE IS WITH CHES						
		YTD	Thru 10/31/18	Offrg	Rec'd.	
Pledged/proj. incr.	\$137,530	Inc.	\$97,595.16	12/2	\$4,049.00	
Ann. Budget exp.	\$145,537	Exp.	(\$117,516.44)	12/9	\$	
Mo. Budget needs	\$ 12,128	Diff.	(\$19,921.28)	12/16	\$	
Wk. budget needs	\$ 2,799			12/23	\$	

ATTENDANCE

	Worship	Sun. School	Children	Youth
December 2, 2018	52	10		

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Amy Townson, Josh Ingram's sister

Doris Karnowski, Josh Ingram's grandmother

Mary Chadwick, Dink Armstrong's sister

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

Becky Smith

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

Kenneth & Sue Andrews, Childress family's friends

Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew's brother

Courtney Stewart, friend of the Hunters (Duke Hospital)

Jane Arehart, Glenda Mayhew's friend (health issues)

Gladys Wiseman

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

Verne & Clara Smith

Scott Guelcher, friend of Larry Johnson (health issues)

Carol Knight, friend of Rose Scott (health issues)

Karen Titmus & family, friends of the Wiseman/Scott families (health concerns)

Sharon Entwhistle (friend of Barb Taliaferro)

Elizabeth Scott

Peggy Allen

Dink Armstrong's sister, "Shorty" (health issue)

Eddie Frankenstein

Erle Potter, good family friend of Haskys (in treatment for health issue)

Grace Cibula

Richard Harsh

Nancy Willis, grandmother of Corey Whelan, who's also Pat Hunter's grandson (terminal diagnosis)

Carol Bowman, Sharon Entwhistle's mother (health issue)

Debbie Hudson, Susan Shockley's friend (health concerns)

Michelle Daschner, PG Fire & EMS office intern (health issue)

Pam Henry, Mary Holc's family member (health issue)

Dennis Allen (recovering from hip replacement surgery)

Larry Hicks, husband of Doreen Hicks (health concerns)

Donna Wilson (daughter of Doreen Hicks)

Alex Titmus (recov. back surgery)

For the Krenicky family