

# **Gregory Memorial presbyterian Church**



**December 16, 2018 – 11:00 a.m.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

Valerie Harsh

**Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Jason N. Cashing

**Sharing of Joys/Concerns**

## **Call to Worship**

One: In the busyness of this world, we wait, still, with bated breath.

**All: We know that our Savior draws closer, and our hearts begin to leap with joy!**

One: When Christ returns in power and glory, people will faint with fear.

**All: But when you see these things, lift up your heads: our redemption is drawing near!**

*Candle Lighter: We light this candle as a symbol of God's love for us and our love for one another.*

**All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

**\*Opening Hymn #93 – "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"**

## **Prayer of Confession (in unison)**

The Lord is near. In your presence, Holy God, we confess that we need repentance. We have broken your commands against idolatry. We do not live in peace with your creation or your people. We have not trusted your word, and we are afraid. Forgive us, restore us, and turn our shame into praise, for the sake of the One who proclaims the good news, and for the sake of all of the world. 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**

Susan Shockley

Youth are invited to use the "Worship Boards" on 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**     1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9                             p584  
                      2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Matthew 12:15-21                         p793

**Sermon**        "The Invitation to Abundance"     Rev. Jason N. Cashing

**\*Reflective Hymn** #87 – "Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**Affirmation of Faith**

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.**

**\*Departing Hymn** #88, vs.1, 5-7 – 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**

## 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 today.

Today is the last day for Christmas **Cards to Soldiers at Walter Reed Medical Center.** It's fine if you've brought a card from home, or you may use one of the cards provided in the Narthex. Cards are being collected in the Narthex. *Messages are especially appreciated!*

**"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 wrapping? For a fee of \$25 per child and \$20 for each additional sibling (cash or check), parents may drop off their children ages K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade for a morning of entertainment with supervision by Boy Scouts and adult Scout leaders in Gregory Memorial's Fellowship Hall. Activities include pancake breakfast, holiday craft and movie. Children must be dropped off by 9 a.m. and be picked up by 12 noon. Registration is required by emailing Julie Stoke: [jce19@yahoo.com](mailto:jce19@yahoo.com)

An informational brochure on the **Christmas Joy Offering collection for next Sunday, Dec. 23**, is enclosed. Offering envelopes will be included in next Sunday's bulletin.

**A Fellowship Chili & Soup Lunch** will be held after worship on Sunday, Dec. 23, 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)

## 12/16 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

S	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> <b>9:45a</b> Sunday School <b>11a</b> Worship <b>12p</b> Congregational Meeting	16	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> <b>9:45a</b> Sunday School <b>11a</b> Worship <b>11a</b> 5 Cents A Meal Offering <b>11a</b> Xmas Joy Offering <b>12p</b> Fellowship Chili & Soup Luncheon, Fellowship Hall	23
M		17	<b>6:30p</b> Xmas Eve Service <b>11:00p</b> Xmas Eve Service & Holy Communion	24
T	<b>6p</b> GS Tr5000, Fellowship Hall	18	<i>Christmas Day</i>	25
W	<b>12p</b> Presch. Xmas program <b>6p</b> BS 900 Hon. Ct. dinner <b>7p</b> Choir practice	19	<b>9a</b> Church Office open	26
T	<b>2p</b> Presch. Xmas break 12/20-31 <b>2p</b> Church cleaning <b>2p</b> News articles due <b>7p</b> Stewardship & Fin.	20	<b>9a</b> Church Office open <b>2p</b> Newsletter out <b>2p</b> Church cleaning	27
F	<b>6p</b> Set-up for 12/22 event <b>7p</b> Darkest Night service	21	<b>9a</b> Church Office open	28
S	<b>9a</b> "Parents' Morning Out" (BS fund-raiser)	22		29

### SUNDAY SERVANTS

🗝️ GATEKEEPER: Charles Smyth

	December 16, 2018	December 23, 2018
USHERS	John Carl Allen Dianne Overstreet Rose Scott Wayne Powers	Charles Smyth Jared Smyth Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Valerie Harsh	Mary Kay Schroeter
JUNIOR SERMON	Susan Shockley	Valerie Harsh*
NURSERY	Jennifer Smyth Charlie Smyth	Pat Hunter Patsy Johnson
COUNTING	Morgan Ingram Ron Recher	Donald Hunter Susan Shockley

### FACTS & FIGURES

		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	\$ N/A
Mo. Budget needs	\$ 12,128	Diff.	( \$19,921.28)	12/16	\$
Wk. budget needs	\$ 2,799			12/23	\$
				12/30	\$

### ATTENDANCE

	Worship	Sun. School	Children	Youth
December 9, 2018	<i>No church-snow</i>	<i>No church-snow</i>		

## 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 Entwistle (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 Entwistle'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