

# **Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church**



**December 23, 2018 – 11:00 a.m.**

**4<sup>th</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**

Mary Kay Schroeter

**Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Jason N. Cashing

**Sharing of Joys/Concerns**

## **Call to Worship**

Choral Call to Worship: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

*Candle Lighter: We light these candles remembering the true Light which comes into our world, bringing with him hope, peace, joy, and love for all the world to know.*

**\*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 – Jr. Sermon**

Valerie Harsh

Youth are invited to use the "Worship Boards" on the front right pew.

## **Choral Presentation** "The Gospel in Music"

"My Christmas Prayer"

Reading: Psalm 23:1-4

"Look Again"

Reading: Matthew 1:18-21

"If This Child Were Born Today"

Reading: Matthew 1:21-25

Congregational Hymn: #113 – "Angels We Have Heard On High"

Reading: Matthew 2:1

"The Wise Men"

"Birthday of a King/Hallelujah Chorus"

## **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 with God in the beginning. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was the 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]*

Choral Affirmation: "The Light of Christmas"

### **Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer**

One: Lord, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayers.**

**\*Departing Hymn #347 – "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"**

### **\*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 "Joy to the World"**

## 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!

Please use the enclosed offering envelope for the **Christmas Joy Offering**.

A **Fellowship Chili & Soup Lunch** will be held today after worship in the Fellowship Hall at 12 p.m. We hope you will join us!

**Our guest preacher next Sunday** is the Rev. Dr. Peter Smith.

### 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)

**12/23 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY**

S	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship 11a 5 Cents A Meal Offering 11a Xmas Joy Offering 12p Fellowship Chili & Soup Luncheon, Fellowship Hall	23	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Xmas</b> 9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship 11a Local Emergency Aid Offering  Guest preacher: Rev. Dr. Peter Smith	30
M	<b>6:30p</b> Xmas Eve Family Service (no communion) <b>11:00p</b> Xmas Eve Service & Holy Communion	24		31
T	<i>Christmas Day</i>	25	<i>New Year's Day</i> 9a Church Office open 6p GS Tr5000	1
W	9a Church Office open	26	8:30a Presch. begins Spring semester 9a Church Office open 7p Choir practice	2
T	9a Church Office open 2p Newsletter out 2p Church cleaning	27	9a Church Office open 2p Church cleaning	3
F	9a Church Office open	28		4
S		29		5

**SUNDAY SERVANTS**

🗝️ GATEKEEPER: Charles Smyth

	<b>December 23, 2018</b>	<b>December 30, 2018</b>
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
NURSERY	Pat Hunter Patsy Johnson	Mary Webber Donald Hunter
COUNTING	Donald Hunter Susan Shockley	David Johnson Blake Bishop

\*5 Cents A Meal Offering

**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	no hurch:snow
Mo. Budget needs	\$ 12,128	Diff.	( \$19,921.28)	12/16	\$3,954.55
Wk. budget needs	\$ 2,799			12/23	\$
				12/30	\$

**ATTENDANCE**

	Worship	Sun. School	Children	Youth
December 16, 2018	53	9		

## 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  
Family/friends of Michael Preston (family friend of Shirley MacNeill)  
Otto Eickmeyer