Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



"1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT"

December 1, 2019 – 11:00 a.m.

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

Choral Prelude

Sandra Perkins & Gail Rollings

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome & Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Dr. Jason N. Cashing

Sharing of Joys/Concerns

Call to Worship

One: The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill my promise to my people.

All: Justice and righteousness will fill the land and all will live in peace and safety.

One: Today, the season of Advent begins, the season of longing and waiting, of hope and anticipation.

All: We are invited to prepare our hearts, our minds, our lives, our world for the arrival of our Lord.

<u>Candle Lighter</u>: We light this candle as a symbol of the hope we have in the promise of the Lord's coming.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

*Opening Hymn #106 – "Prepare the Way, O Zion"

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. 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

Choral Anthem – "Bring Us Hope"

Prayer for Illumination

Holy One, through your Holy Spirit instruct us by the light of your prophets. Illumine our hearts, that we may hear your call to become your path into the world. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Scriptural Readings

 1st Reading
 Jeremiah 33:14-18
 p645

 2nd Reading
 Mark 8:27-29
 p820

Sermon "The Days Are Surely Dr. Jason N. Cashing Coming"

Reflective Hymn #357 – "The Days Are Surely Coming"

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, verses 1-4 – "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!

Christmas "Cookies 'n' Cocoa" Open House - The PG Christmas Parade is at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7, and Gregory will again host an Open House following the Parade. We are asking for your support by baking 3 dozen cookies. Hot chocolate will also be served. Cookies can be brought to church from 2-4 p.m. on Friday. or at noon on Saturday, the day of Parade. A cookie sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall. Your participation will be greatly appreciated! [Missions-Outreach Committee]

<u>Angel Tree</u> – Gregory Memorial is "adopting" a Christmas family from the Dept. of Social Services for our Angel Tree in the Narthex. <u>Angel Tree gift deadline: Dec. 20.</u> [Missions-Outreach Committee]

Christmas Cantata - Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3:00 p.m. YOU'RE INVITED!

<u>Congregation's Christmas Card Box</u> - The Congregation's Christmas card box will be available again in the Narthex from Dec. 1 until Dec. 15. [Congregational Care Committee]

<u>Today's the Last Day to Order Christmas Poinsettias!</u> – Cost is \$13 (includes \$1 delivery fee). Please make check payable to: Gregory Memorial Church. Choose either red or white plants.

Church office Hours, during upcoming holidays:

Christmas Week: Mon., Thurs., Fri., 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (no Tues & Wed.) 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 Pianist: Gail Rollings
Treasurer: Kevin Foster Financial Sec.: Sandy Hunter

Session Members

Sandy Hunter (2019); Patsy Johnson (2019); Charles Smyth (2019)
Pat Hunter (2020); Susan Shockley (2020); ______ (2020)
Blake Bishop (2021); ______ (2021); ______ (2021)
Donald Hunter (Clerk of Session)

Trustees

Morgan Ingram (2019); Donald Hunter (2020); John Carl Allen (2021)

12/1 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

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S	9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship & Holy Communion	1	9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship	8
	6:30p WorkCamp plan Meeting; Fellowship Hall Last day to Order Xmas Poinsettias			
M	1p Worship Com.	2	5:30p Crater BS Karakona Ch. Xmas party, Fellowship Hall (set-up 1p)	9
Т	11a Poinsettia order to florist 1p Circle meeting (Host TBA) 6p Congregational. Care om. 6p GS Tr5000 7p Facilities Com.	3		10
W	7p Choir practice	4	7p Choir practice	11
Т	2p Church cleaning7p Christian Ed. Com.	5	2p Church cleaning	12
F		6		13
S	3p PG Xmas Parade; GMPC Open House "Cookies 'n' Cocoa" in, Fellowship Hall	7		14

SUNDAY SERVANTS

0 1	GATEKEEPER: Bobby	Allen

	Dec. 1	Dec. 8		
USHERS	John Carl Allen Rose Scott Wayne Powers	Charles Smyth Austin Smyth Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram		
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Valerie Harsh	Mary Kay Schroeter		
NURSERY				
COUNTING	David Johnson (Sub.)	Sandy Hunter Glenda Mayhew		

^{* 5} Cents a Meal Offering

FACTS & FIGURES

		YTD	Thru 10/31/19	Offrg.	Rec'd.
Pledged/proj. incr.	\$137,530	Inc.	\$110,661.63	11/3	\$2,198.00
Ann. Budget exp.	\$145,537	Exp.	(\$116,229.40)	11/10	\$1,536.55
Mo. Budget needs	\$ 12,128	Diff.	(\$ 5,567.77)	11/17	\$1,409.00
				11/24	\$2,412.00

ATTENDANCE

	Worship	Sun. School	Children	Youth
Nov. 24, 2019	46	13		

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Amy Townson, Josh Ingram's sister

Mary Chadwick & Adelaide "Shorty" Smith, "Dink" Armstrong's sisters (health issues)

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

Becky Scott Smith

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

Kenneth Andrews, Childress family's friend

Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew's brother

Gladys Wiseman

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

Verne & Clara Smith

Sharon Entwhistle, Barbara Taliaferro's friend

Peggy Allen

Eddie Frankenstein

Grace Cibula

Jerry Hasky (health issue)

Larry Hicks, Doreen Hicks's husband (health concerns)

Donna Wilson, Doreen Hicks's daughter

Cathy Rackley, friend of Doreen Hicks (heart catheterization)

Ed Seldon, future son-in-law of Doreen Hicks (upcoming heart catheterization)

Doris Harmison (The Crossings at Ironbridge, Chester, Va.)

Duane Callis, grandson of Larry Hicks (health issue)
Mark Cheriton, Janet Swinton's son-in-law (returned health issues)

Randy & Kay Recher, son & daughter-in-law of Ron & Judy Recher (head-on crash in Oklahoma)

Corey Whelan, Pat Hunter's grandson (health issues)

Melvin Huff, Marguerite Bishop's friend (health issues)

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

Sandra Elder, Kelly Knupp's mother (health issues)

Velma Allen (severe arthritis)

Etta Holc (broken foot; home)

Buck Nunnally (health issues)

Jim & Adele Linkenhoker, Barb Taliaferro's friends (health concerns)

Jackie Woodruff (health issues)

Shirley MacNeill (heart attack; recovering at home)

Jane & Bob Jones (health issues)

Junie ("Bug") Treaster (recovering from brain surgery)