

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



"2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT"

December 8, 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

Mary Kay Schroeter

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Dr. 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 peace 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

Choral Anthem – "Prepare Ye the Way"

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

1 st Reading	Isaiah 40:1-11	p581
2 nd Reading	Mark 1:1-4	p812

Sermon "A Call to Prepare" Dr. Jason N. Cashing

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

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 #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!

Today's Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Gladys Wiseman's birthday by the family.

Angel Tree – Gregory Memorial is "adopting" a Christmas family from the Dept. of Social Services for our Angel Tree in the Narthex. **Angel Tree gift deadline is Fri., Dec. 20.**

Christmas Cantata – Sun., Dec. 15 at 3:00 p.m. *YOU'RE INVITED!*

Congregation's Christmas Card Box - The Congregation's Christmas card box will be available again in the Narthex from Dec. 1 until Dec. 15.

"Darkest Night" service – Sat., Dec. 21, 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve services – Tues., Dec. 24: 6:30 p.m. & 11 p.m. (communion)

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)

Christmas at Camp Hanover, Fri. & Sat., Dec. 13 & 14, 6-9 p.m.

Open to public, ages & physical abilities, interactive re-enactments during leisurely stroll on candlelit path. Refreshments entertainment follow. To register, .call (804) 779-2811 or visit www.CampHanover.org

Winter Camp at Camp Hanover (Dec. 28-30) is for current 5th – 12th graders & filled with fun, faith, and fellowship. To register, visit www.camphanover.org/winter-camp

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)

12/8 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

		DEC 8	15
S	9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship		9:45a Sunday School 11a Worship 3p Christmas Cantata <i>Poinsettia display</i>
M	5:30p Crater BS Karakona Ch. Xmas party, Fellowship Hall (set-up 1p)	9	16
T		10	6p GS Tr5000 17
W	7p Choir practice	11	5:30p BS Tr900 Honor Ct. & Xmas party, Fellowship Hall (set-up 1p) 18 7p Choir practice
T	2p Church cleaning	12	2p Church cleaning 19 2p News articles due in office 7p Stewardship & Fin. Com.
F		13	20
S		14	6:30p "Darkest Night" service 21

SUNDAY SERVANTS

 GATEKEEPER: Bobby Allen

	Dec. 8	Dec. 15
USHERS	Charles Smyth Austin Smyth Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram	Bobby Allen Donna Allen Velma Allen Larry Johnson
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Mary Kay Schroeter	Larry Johnson
NURSERY		
COUNTING	Sandy Hunter Glenda Mayhew	Morgan Ingram Ron Recher

* 5 Cents a Meal Offering

FACTS & FIGURES

		YTD	Thru 10/31/19	Offrg.	Rec'd.
Pledged/proj. incr.	\$137,530	Inc.	\$110,661.63	12/1	\$1,674.00
Ann. Budget exp.	\$145,537	Exp.	(\$116,229.40)	12/8	\$
Mo. Budget needs	\$ 12,128	Diff.	(\$ 5,567.77)	12/15	\$
				12/22	\$
				12/29	

ATTENDANCE

	Worship	Sun. School	Children	Youth
Dec. 1, 2019	36	8		

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)