

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



"4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT"

December 22, 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

Rose Scott

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Dr. Jason N. Cashing

Sharing of Joys/Concerns

Call to Worship

One: My soul magnifies the Lord;

All: My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

One: The Mighty One has done great things!

All: Holy is God's name!

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 #82 – "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God our Savior, we ask for your mercy. Though we have heard the joyous 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

Choral Anthem – "If This Child Were Born Today"

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	Psalm 113:1-9	p491
2 nd Reading	Luke 1:5-25, 57-80	p831, 832

Sermon "A Song of Praise" Dr. Jason N. Cashing

Reflective Hymn #110 – "Love Has Come"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. Amen.

[from The Nicene Creed]

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**

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!

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of/in memory of persons as indicated on the enclosed Poinsettia Dedication.

Christmas Joy Offering will be received today. Please use the enclosed offering envelope.

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*)

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)

12/22 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

S	9:45a Sunday School 22 11a Worship <i>5 Cents A Meal Offering</i> <i>Christmas Joy Offering</i> <i>Poinsettia display</i>	9:45a Sunday School 29 11a Worship
M	9a-2p Church office open 23	30
T	Christmas Eve 24 Church office closed 6:30p Christmas Eve family service 11p Christmas Eve communion service	9a-2p Church office open 31
W	Christmas Day 25 Church office closed	New Year's Day JAN 1 9a-2p Church office open
T	9a-2p Church office open 26 2p Newsletter out	9a-2p Church office open 2
F	9a-2p Church office open 27	3
S	28	4

SUNDAY SERVANTS

 GATEKEEPER: Bobby Allen

	Dec. 22*	Dec. 29
USHERS	Wayne Powers Brenda Bond Glenda Mayhew Les Mayhew	Sheila Fields Marguerite Bishop Valerie Harsh
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Rose Scott	
NURSERY		
COUNTING	Donald Hunter Susan Shockley	David Johnson Blake Bishop

* 5 Cents a Meal Offering

FACTS & FIGURES

		YTD	Thru 11/30/19	Offrg.	Rec'd.
Pledged/proj. incr.	\$137,530	Inc.	\$118,218.09	12/1	\$1,674.00
Ann. Budget exp.	\$145,537	Exp.	(\$125,715.76)	12/8	\$2,680.60
Mo. Budget needs	\$ 12,128	Diff.	(\$ 7,497.67)	12/15	\$1,725.00
				12/22	\$
				12/29	

ATTENDANCE

	Worship	Sun. School	Children	Youth
Dec. 15, 2019	45/104*	9		

* Christmas Cantata

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 Entwistle, Barbara Taliaferro's friend
Peggy Allen
Eddie Frankenstein
Grace Cibula
Jerry Hasky (health issue)
Doris Harmison (The Crossings at Ironbridge, Chester, Va.)
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)
Adele Linkenhoker, Barbara Taliaferro's friend (health concerns)
Jackie Woodruff (health issues)
Jane & Bob Jones (health issues)
Junie "Bug" Treaster (recovering from brain surgery)
Mark Cheriton, Janet Swinton Shill's son-in-law (hospice care; home)
Lee Harsh, Valerie Harsh's brother-in-law (triple bypass)
Batty Arthur, Mary Lykins' son-in-law's mother
Family/friends of Leonard "Buck" Nunnally, Sr. (d. 12/13)
Family/friends of Larry Campbell (d. 12/11)
Family/friends of Yolanda McLaughlin (d. 12/11)

Christmas Poinsettias - 2019

The beautiful poinsettia plants in our Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by the following persons and may be taken home Christmas Eve.

Jason & Megan Cashing (1W) – In memory of our grandparents.

Grace Cibula (2R) – In memory of H. F. & Elizabeth Scott.

Kevin, Tara, Kevin II & Madison, The Fosters (2R & 2W) - In honor of Evelyn Foster, Sarah Solesbee & Frank Jr., and Grace Cibula; In memory of Garland Foster, Frank Solesbee, Helen Cibula and Jean & Irving Waymack.

The Hunter Family (2R) – In memory of Henry & Pearle Livesay. Robert & Wilma Hunter, and Cliff & Edith Mayerhoefer.

Larry & Linda Johnson (2R) - In honor of our grandchildren, Corinne, Jack, Owen & Natalie; In memory of our parents, Homer & Mae Elkins and Clarence & Ima Johnson.

Mary Lykins (1R) – In honor of David Lykins.

Shirley MacNeill (1R) – In memory of Jim MacNeill, Aida Faries, and Trudy McClenny.

Ron & Judy Recher (1R) – In honor of our parents, Bill & Alice Recher and Carl & Alice Aufdermarsh.

Howard Scott & Cory Scott (1R) - In memory of Clifford W. Scott, Jr.

Wayne Powers & Rose Scott (1R) - In memory of Peg Ward, Roland Wiseman, and Jimmy Wiseman.

Susan Shockley (1R) – In honor of my parents, Janet & Harold Shockley, Aunt "Sis" & children & grands!

Smyth Family (2R) – In honor of a wonderful family.

Janet Swinton (1R) – In memory of Raymond Swinton.

Barbara Taliaferro (2R) - In memory of husband, Tommie L. Taliaferro, and parents, Lindsey & Vida Cordell.