

Dear Saints and Friends of Gregory Memorial,



*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!*  
~ 2 Corinthians 5:17

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.*  
~ Isaiah 43:19

The as-yet-unnamed Lemhi Pass was before them. After long months of travel and exploration, Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery faced an unexpected challenge, one they had not anticipated nor prepared for: the waterways they had been following, attempting to chart a water course from the Atlantic to the Pacific, had come to an end and what was before them now was not the Western coast, but rather the imposing spires of the Rocky Mountains. It was a defining moment, and a critical choice needed to be made: would they give up and return home, proclaiming that a water course did not exist? Or would they continue forward, not as river guides but as explorers in unknown land, changing and adapting to achieve a newly reformed goal?

We know what they chose, and we can be grateful for their spirit of exploration and discovery, their willingness to embrace the unknown and uncomfortable to achieve a greater goal, to adapt and change their skill sets and practices in order to find a way to the Pacific Coast. And in the life of the Church, we, too, are facing our own version of the Lemhi Pass; we, too, are facing such a choice as to how we go forward, and in what manner.

Certainly, with a pandemic facing the country and the world right now, we are standing on the precipice of our 'Lemhi Pass' and surveying the landscape in front of us, wondering what we are to do, how we are to proceed, and what impact all of this has on our ultimate goal. In the metaphor of being a guide, seminary certainly never prepared me for this kind of situation! While we face this unknown expedition in this immediate sense, those who have been scanning the horizon of how the Church lives out its calling in the world have seen signs of this moment coming, as well. In more ways than one, the church (particular to its local community) and the Church (the global community of Christ) has been coming to this Pass for some time, and many have wondered what will be on

the other side of it. How will the Church look and operate? What will be different? What will be the same? What will be left behind in order to move forward in ever more faithful ways? And if there's any silver-lining of a world disrupted from its daily status quo, it is the opportunity to be adventurous in how we live out and proclaim our faith; we are all placed into a state where we must experiment and adapt, as well as determine what is at our non-negotiable core vs. what can be changed or even left where it is.

It is still not easy. Such change and adaptation never is; in fact, it is quite difficult and can even be quite painful. But we now find ourselves, forced in some cases, to ask, "How do we most faithfully live into who we are called to be, proclaiming the Good News we have received, in this evolving and changing landscape?" Truly, that is the only question that matters at this moment.

Lewis and Clark, reaching the end of their map, gave up who they thought they were as river guides and took on a whole new identity of mountain explorers as they continued on in their overarching mission. The way they kept to their mission changed, but not the mission itself, nor their commitment to it. The same opportunity is before us as the Church, and as GMPC, today; when all of this has cleared up, it will not be enough to simply return to how we've always done things. Rather, we will be in a position to bring back some of what we have missed while at the same time incorporating what we've adapted. Let us be faithful explorers together in this new landscape!



With you on the journey,  
Pastor Jason

## WORSHIP INFORMATION FOR APRIL, 2020

### Sunday, 5 April 2020

“Palm Sunday” - Liturgical Color: Purple

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Psalm 118:25-29 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Mark 11:1-11  
Sermon Title: "Blessed is the One"

### Sunday, 12 April 2020

“Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Sunday” - Liturgical Color: White

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Psalm 118:21-27 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Mark 16:1-8  
Sermon Title: "Consternation"

### Sunday, 19 April 2020

“1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Easter” - Liturgical Color: White

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 1:1-14 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Mark 6:7-13  
Sermon Title: "In the Spirit's Wake"

### Sunday, 26 April 2020

“2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter” - Liturgical Color: White

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 3:1-10 \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Mark 6:53-56  
Sermon Title: "More Than Expected"



**OUR PRAYER IN TIMES OF JOY AND CONCERN...** One of our great joys and responsibilities to each other and to God here at Gregory Memorial is the regular practice of praying for each other and our community.

Amy Townson, Josh Ingram's sister  
Mary Chadwick & Adelaide "Shorty" Smith, "Dink" Armstrong's sisters (health issues)  
Evelyn Lichvar, her brother, Martin, and 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  
Steve "Dee" Shortt, Kim Helmer Shortt's husband (health issue)  
Verne & Clara Smith  
Peggy Allen  
Eddie Frankenstein  
Grace Cibula  
Etta Holc  
Jerry Hasky (health issue)  
Doris Harmison (The Crossings at Ironbridge, Chester, Va.)  
Kay Recher, daughter-in-law of Ron and Judy Recher (head-on crash in Oklahoma)  
Melvin Huff, Marguerite Bishop's friend (health issues)  
Pam Henry, Mary Holc's family member

Sandra Elder, Kelly Knupp's mother (health issues)  
Velma Allen (health issues)  
Adele Linkenhoker, Barbara Taliaferro's friend (health concerns)  
Jane & Bob Jones (health issues)  
Junie "Bug" Treaster (recovering from surgery)  
Lee Harsh, Valerie Harsh's brother-in-law (health issue)  
Rev. Paul Luthman, previously our pastor (recovering from surgery)  
Sharon Reed and family, Susan Shockley's co-worker (health issue)  
Jennifer Caldwell, friend of Grace Cibula (health issue)  
Reese Etheridge, Wayne Powers' uncle (health issue)  
Randy Warthan (health issue)  
David Minor (health issue)  
Chris Harvey (MCV, burns accident)  
Inez Paul, Mary Holc's mother (health issue, rehab)  
Ron Recher (recov. from surgery)  
Floyd Brown, Sr. (SRMC, health issues)  
Pam Landrum, Doris Harmison's daughter (orthopedic issue)  
Trevor Fine, Susan Shockley's neighbor's son (health issue)  
Traci Wells, Glenda Mayhew's friend (health issue)

"Let all that you do be done in love." ~ 1 Corinthians 16:14

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jason is working together with the Worship Committee and Session on the best way to fully experience the Easter season. My initial thought is to continue through our liturgical readings as we come to them, but to dedicate our first Sunday back together (whenever that will be) as "Resurrection Sunday!" During this service we will engage some of our more regular Easter Sunday practices, and will celebrate the fullness of joy together as we celebrate the new life all around us, and the Resurrected Life of our Lord.

### **Worship Options/Access And Tips**

Though it looks vastly different, we will continue to gather our hearts for worship on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. There are now multiple ways to join together in this time (from afar):

- Join us on the GMPC FaceBook page for the live-stream worship;
- Join us on Zoom (www.zoom.us) for the same live-stream worship:  
Meeting ID# 756-330-772
- If you have unreliable internet, you can join us by telephone by dialing  
1-253-215-8782 and entering Meeting ID# 756-330-772

### **A Few Tips To Enhance Your Virtual Worship Experience**

- Turn off all other electronics and devices;
- Have your Bible ready to read along with the morning's scripture;
- Light a candle to represent Christ's Light during the service.

During this period of social distancing and while large groups are discouraged, Jason's daily schedule will be as follows: 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the church, 11:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m. home as a parent, and then working from home from 1:30 p.m. on. Should the governor issue a state lockdown, the hours will remain the same but all work will be done from home.

The security alarm company that serves Gregory Memorial has requested we update our building alarm passcode listing. While the process is nearing completion, there are a few (9) passcodes that still have no names assigned to them. Each passcode also was assigned a numbered door key. We need these names and their door key numbers. If you have a key and passcode and have not contacted the church office to provide this information, please call Nancy at 732-1081 by April 10 and provide her with the number on your door key and alarm passcode. After April 10, the unidentified passcodes will be deleted from our listing by the alarm company. As it stands now, those passcodes have been dormant for quite some time, but after April 10, they will not work on our alarm system, and anyone using them will activate the alarm.


Due to the precautionary efforts brought about by the COVIC-19 pandemic, including suspension of worship services and other gatherings in the interim and "social distancing", the Easter Lilies will not be ordered for this Easter's services. Be assured that refunds will be issued.

**FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY**

APRIL 5	
APRIL 12	Easter Lilies - Cancelled
APRIL 19	
APRIL 26	

For assistance with the sign-up, please call Church office at 732-1081 (9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday).

**THOSE WHO SERVE – APRIL, 2020**

 <b>GATEKEEPER:</b> Bobby Allen	APR. 5 + Palm Sunday	APR. 12 Easter	APR. 19 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun. of Easter	APR. 26 ** 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun. of Easter
<b>Ushers</b>	Charles Smyth Austin Smyth Morgan Ingram Josh Ingram	Bobby Allen Donna Allen Larry Johnson	Wayne Powers Brenda Bond Glenda Mayhew Les Mayhew	Sheila Fields Marguerite Bishop Valerie Harsh
<b>Announcements</b>	Mary Kay Schroeter	Larry Johnson	Rose Scott	Larry Johnson
<b>Nursery</b>	Valerie Harsh Sandy Hunter*	Pat Hunter Mary Lykins*	Donna Allen Mary Holc*	Rose Scott Susan Shockley*
<b>Counting</b>	Morgan Ingram Ron Recher	Donald Hunter Susan Walker	David Johnson Blake Bishop	Sandy Hunter Megan Cashing

\* Choir member assists in Nursery after Choral anthem

\*\* 5 Cents A Meal Offering

+ Communion Sunday

**TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY**

**A Prayer for Easter Sunday**

Young Ernie and his family were invited to have Easter Sunday lunch at his grandmother's house in Monkey's Eyebrow, Arizona, USA. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Ernie received his plate, he started eating straight away.

"Ernie, wait until we say grace," his father quickly admonished him.

"I don't have to!" the five-year-old replied.

"Of course you do, Ernest," his mother insisted rather forcefully. "We always say a prayer before eating at our house."

His mouth stuffed full, Ernie mumbled, "But Grandma can really cook!"

**Of Chocolate & Easter**

"There's nothing better than a good friend, unless it's a good friend with

*CHOCOLATE.*" [Linda Grayson, "The Pickwick Papers"]

"All I really need is love, *but a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt!*" [Lucy Van Pelt, "Peanuts"]

Good Idea: Finding Easter eggs on Easter Sunday.

Bad Idea: Finding Easter eggs at Thanksgiving.

**10 Rules of Chocolate Eggs & Bunnies**

- If you get melted chocolate all over your hands, *you're eating it too slowly.*
- Chocolate covered raisins, cherries, orange slices, and strawberries all count as fruit, *so eat as many as you want.*
- Diet tip: Eat an Easter egg before each meal. *It'll take the edge off your appetite, and that way you'll eat less.*

- If you can't eat all your chocolate, it will keep in the freezer. *But if you can't eat all your chocolate, what's wrong with you?*
- If calories are an issue, store your chocolate on top of the fridge *because calories are afraid of heights, and they will jump out of the chocolate to protect themselves.*
- Money talks, *but chocolate sings.*
- Chocolate contains preservatives. *Preservatives make you look younger.*
- The problem: How to get two pounds of chocolate eggs home from the store in a hot car?  
The solution: Eat the eggs in the car.
- Why is there no such organization as Chocoholics Anonymous?  
*Because no one wants to quit!*



GATEKEEPER: Bobby Allen

# APRIL, 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b><u>TO BE RECHEDULED</u></b>  <i>Workcamp plan mtg,            Spaghetti Dinner</i></p>			1	2 2p Church Cleaning	3	4
<p><b>5 Palm Sunday</b>  <b>(Begin Holy Week)</b>            9:45a Sunday Sch.            11a Worship serv.            11a Holy Communion            11a One Great Hour            Of Sharing Offering  <del>6:30p Workcamp            —Plan Mtg</del></p>	6 1p Worship Com.	7 1p Circle (Host: TBA) 6p Cong. Care Com. 6p GSA Tr5000 7p Christian Ed Com.	8 7p Choir practice	9 <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 2p Church Cleaning 7p MaundyThurs. service	10 <b>Good Friday</b>	11 <b>Holy Saturday</b>
<p><b>12 Easter Sunday</b>            7p Sunrise Service            &amp; Breakfast            9:45a Sunday Sch.            11a Worship serv.</p>	13 6p Crater BSA Karakona Chapter meeting (Preparation for Conclave)	14 7p Missions Com.	15 7p Choir practice	16 2p Church Cleaning 2p News articles due in office 7p Stewardship & Finance Com.	17	18
<p>19 9:45a Sunday Sch.            11a Worship serv.            12:30p Session            Workshop Mtg.</p>	20	21 6p GS Tr5000	22 7p Choir practice	23 2p Newsletter out 2p Church Cleaning	24	25 5:30p Spaghetti Dinner (Wkcamp Fundraiser)
<p>26 9:45a Sunday Sch.            11a Worship serv.            11a 5 Cents-a-Meal            Offering</p>	27	28	29 7p Choir practice	30 2p Committee reports due in office 2p Church Cleaning		

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Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church  
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***APRIL NEWSLETTER***



**COME AND JOIN US!**  
Sunday School 9:45 A.M.  
[WWW.GREGORYMEMORIAL.ORG](http://WWW.GREGORYMEMORIAL.ORG)

*We're on: [Facebook.com/gmpcva](https://www.facebook.com/gmpcva)  
Worship 11:00 A.M.*