

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



"2nd SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS"
January 2, 2022 – 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!

Choral Prelude

Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Rollings, Pianist

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome & Announcements

Rose Scott

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Dr. Erroll G. Rohr

Sharing of Joys/Concerns

Call to Worship

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Let us worship God.

* **Opening Hymn #321 "The Church's One Foundation"**¹

Call to Confession (Pastor)

Let us be honest with God and go before God's throne of grace and offer our prayers of confession.

Prayer of Confession (Congregation in unison)

Holy God, we confess that our priorities are often misplaced and our busy lives find us spending more time preparing for things than preparing for You. Draw us back to the center which is You. Remind us that our hearts and souls have work to do in Your kingdom. Enable us to let go of that which does not matter, and to prioritize that which matters for eternity. Amen.

(A Moment of Silent Confession)

Assurance of Pardon (Pastor)

God's mercy and forgiveness is from everlasting to everlasting. He will never leave us nor forsake us. In Jesus Christ our Lord, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

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 "Glory Be to the Father"¹

Scriptural Readings

1st Reading: Luke 2:42-52 pp. 833-834

2nd Reading: Philippians 2:5-11 p. 954

Sermon "The Church's One Foundation" Rev. Dr. Erroll G. Rohr

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer (Led by Pastor)

Offering, Offertory Doxology

*Congregational Response Hymn #606 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"¹

Affirmation of Faith (in unison)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father

Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

[from The PC(USA) Book of Order, F-1.01a]

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION [Insert]

***Departing Hymn #318 "In Christ There is no East or West"¹**

***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**

¹ Resource: Hymns from GLORY TO GOD, THE PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL, 2013 Westminster John Knox Press; public domain.

1/2 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

S	2nd SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship & Holy Communion Guest preacher: Rev/ Dr. Erroll G. Rohr	2	BAPTISM OF THE LORD 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Guest preacher: Rev. Dr. Clay Macaulay	9
M	1p Worship Com. <i>* removal of Advent/ Christmas decorations</i>	3	6p BSA Order of Arrow Karakona Ch. 13 dinner meeting (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen & Dining Rm)	10
T	1p Circle 4p Called Session Meeting (meet w/ Dr. Holbrook, PoJ Interim Presbyter) 6p GSA Tr 5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen & Dining Rm) 7p Cong. Care Com. 7p Christian Ed. Com. 7p Facilities Com. 7:30p Called Session Meeting (Re: GMPC transitioning forward; Guest: /Dr. Fred Holbrook, Stated Clerk & Interim Presbyter, PoJ)	4	7p Missions Com. 7p Outreach Com.	11
W		5		12
T	EPIPHANY	6		13
F	10a Church cleaning	7	10a Church cleaning	14
S		8		15

ATTENDANCE:
WORSHIP
SUNDAY SCHOOL

	M	V	M	V
December 5, 2021	24	6	5	
December 12, 2021	29	4	5	
December 19, 2021	28	7	4	
December 24, 2021*	45			
December 26, 2021	18	7		

M=Members

V=Visitors

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Amy Townson, Josh Ingram's sister
Becky Scott Smith
Russell Heiser, Ingrid Phoenix's grandson (health issues)
Butch Meade, Glenda Mayhew's brother
Verne & Clara Smith
Peggy Allen
Eddie Frankenstein
Grace Cibula
Etta Holc
Jerry Hasky (health issue)
Pam Henry, Mary Holc's family member
Lee Harsh, Valerie Harsh's brother-in-law (health issue)
Sandra Elder, Kelly Knupp's mother (health issues)
Jennifer Caldwell, friend of Grace Cibula (health issue)
Reese Etheridge, Wayne Powers' uncle (health issue)
Dana Etheridge, Wayne Powers' cousin (health issue)
Randy Warthan (health issue)
Inez Paul, Mary Holc's mother (health issue, rehab)
Floyd M. Brown, Sr. (health issues)
Traci Wells, Glenda Mayhew's friend (health issue)
Larry Brown of Chesterfield, Larry Johnson's friend (health issue)
Billy Hudson, friend of Dianna Starr Lykins Flaherty,
Mary Lykins' daughter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. Dr. Erroll G. Rohr to our pulpit this morning!

Dr. Rohr, an ordained Presbyterian (PCUSA) minister, recently retired from 30 years at King University in Bristol, TN/VA where he was Senior VP for Global Development; Chaplain, Prof., Philosophy and Founding Dir., Italy Study Program; married 56 years to Dr. Karen Gegner Rohr (retired Prof., Psychology at King University). Volunteer tutor at George Mason Elem. School; member of the downtown Richmond Kiwanis Club, reader for 2nd graders (Carver Elementary School, Cary Elementary School, and for Pre-K students (Scott Elementary School); member of the Presbytery of the James; attends 1st Presbyterian Church, Richmond. Hobbies: cooking, coffee roasting, bread baking, golf, reading, exercise at the JCC, and spending time with his 3 beautiful granddaughters.

Called Session Meeting – Tuesday, Jan. 4: Session will meet with Dr. Fred Holbrook, Stated Clerk & Interim Presbyter, PoJ Re: GMPC transitioning forward.

Guest preacher – Sunday, Jan. 9: Rev. Dr. Clay Macaulay.

Called Congregational Meeting – Sunday, Jan. 9: After worship service to approve the Annual Statistical Report for 2021; Dr. Clay Macaulay will serve as Moderator.

Annual Congregational Meeting for 2021 – Sunday, Jan 30:
Moderator: Rev. Dr. Shelly Barrick Parsons.

Church Newsletter – We are pleased to announce that the congregation's response to our "call" for news articles has been well-received! Many thanks to those who have contributed such interesting items. We'd like to get more, so please continue to send your articles to office@gregorymemorial.org and look for them in future newsletters!

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6300 Courthouse Rd. / P. O. Box 182, Prince George, VA 23875

www.gregorymemorial.org www.facebook.com/gmpcva

Telephone: 804.732.1081 - Office Hours: Tues.-Thurs., 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Pastor: As announced

Secretary: Nancy Adams (office@gregorymemorial.org)

Organist: Sandra Perkins Pianist: Gail Rollings

Treasurer: Kevin Foster Financial Sec.: Sandy Hunter

Session Members

*(Term = 3 yrs.; * indicates individual serves a partial term)*

Mary Holc (2022); Sandy Hunter (2022); Charles Smyth (2022)

Lisa Brown (2023); Donald Hunter (2023); William Shill (2023*)

Rose Scott (2024); David L. Johnson (2024*); Susan Shockley (2024)

Donald Hunter (Clerk of Session - 2022)

Trustees

Ron Recher (2022); Gail Rollings (2023); Donald Hunter (2024)

Hymn #321 "The Church's One Foundation"

1) The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord. She is his new creation by water and the word. From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride. With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

2) Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth, her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

3) Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed, by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed, yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How Long?" And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

4) Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war, she waits the consummation of peace forevermore: till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest, and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

5) Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One, and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won: O happy ones and holy! Lord, give use grace that we, like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

TEXT: Samuel John Stone, 1866, alt.; public domain.

MUSIC: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864; public domain.

Hymn #313 "Lord, Make Us More Holy"

1) Lord, make us more holy; Lord, make us more holy; Lord, make us more holy, until we meet again: holy, holy, holy, until we meet again.

2) Lord, make us more loving; Lord, make us more loving; Lord make us more loving, until we meet again: loving, loving, loving, until we meet again.

3) Lord, make us more patient; Lord, make us more patient; Lord, make us more patient, until we meet again: patient, patient, patient, until we meet again.

4) Lord, make us more faithful; Lord, make us more faithful; Lord, make us more faithful, until we meet again: faithful, faithful, faithful, until we meet again.

TEXT and MUSIC: African American spiritual; public domain.

1st Reading: Luke 2:41-52

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 5-11

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:
Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray:

All: Loving God, through your goodness, we have this bread and cup to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. May we know your presence in the sharing of this bread, so that we know your touch in all bread, all matter. We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared among his community through the centuries, and shares with us now. Made one in Christ and one with each other, we offer these gifts, and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Amen.

One: Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread ... [*Minister continues ...*] The gifts of God for the people of God.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE [From pews]

One: Let us give thanks together:

All: We offer you praise, dear God, and hearts lifted high, for in the communion of your love Christ comes close to us, and we come close to Christ. Therefore, with the whole realm of nature around us, with earth, sea and sky, we sing to you. And with our loved ones, on earth and in your heavenly host, with brothers and sisters around the world, we join in the song of your unending greatness. Amen.

Adapted from the Iona Abbey Community, Scotland