

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

March 6, 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 God's presence!

Choral Prelude

Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Rollings, Pianist

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome & Announcements

Larry Johnson

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Beverly Sherrill Bullock

Sharing of Joys/Concerns

Call to Worship [Psalm 46¹]

One: God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble.

All: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change...

One: Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with tumult...

All: God's love endures forever.

* **Opening Hymn** #634 "To God Be the Glory"²

Call to Confession (Pastor)

The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Christ rose for us. Christ reigns in power for us, Christ even prays for us. With such assurance, we need not fear confession, but simply draw near to our maker in candor.³

Prayer of Confession (Congregation in unison) [from Psalm 51¹]

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, blot out my offenses. Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sins. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight. Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure. Wash me, and I shall be clean indeed. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.³ Amen.

(A time for silent prayer of confession.)

Assurance of Pardon (Pastor)

The saying is true and worthy of full acceptance that Christ died to save sinners. Brothers and sisters, believe the promise of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.³

***Congregational Response Hymn #581 "Glory Be to the Father"²**

Prayer for Illumination (Pastor)

O God, as we begin the journey of Lent, open our hearts and our minds to hear your Word to us in the wilderness, as we walk that journey with Christ.³

Scriptural Readings

Old Testament: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11¹ p. 158-159

New Testament: Luke 4: 1-13¹ p. 835

Sermon "Whoa Is Me!" Rev. Beverly Sherrill Bullock

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.⁴

Call for the Offering (Pastor) [*from Deuteronomy 26*]

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance, you shall take some the first of all the fruit of the ground and you shall put it in a basket and you shall set it down before the Lord your God, and together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among, you shall celebrate with all the bounty the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.¹

Offering, Offertory

* **Doxology** Hymn #606 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"²

Prayer of Dedication (Pastor)

Holy God, we present our offerings as did our ancestors of old, giving the first fruits of our labors. May they bring blessing to those with whom we travel the wilderness journey — to the widow, the orphan, the alien, the outsider, who your Son calls us to love and to care for. Amen.³

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer (In unison)

Gracious God, because we are not strong enough to pray as we should, you provide Christ Jesus and the Holy Spirit to intercede for us in power. In this confidence, we ask you to accept our prayers. We pray today for your creation. You entrusted the earth to the human race, yet we disrupt its wholeness with violence and corrupt its purity with our greed. Prevent us from destroying what you have made and called good, so that our children's children may inherit lands and seas brimming with life and beauty.

We pray today for the people of the world. Preserve the people of every nation from tyrants. Heal them of disease. Protect them in disaster and war and famine. Help all women, men, and children walk in the ways that lead to peace. We pray today for our town. Heal the rifts and fear caused by violence and racism in our streets and schools. Protect all of our children and give them lives of safety, hope, and joy. We pray today for our country. Give wisdom to those who lead us and judge us. Keep safe those who protect us from danger, and form us as a nation where justice and mercy flows like life-giving water.

We pray today for this church. Strengthen its leaders— sustain them and give them the energy of your Holy Spirit so that they may give others new life and hope. Be close to those in our community who are sick and those who grieve. Eternal God, your love is stronger than death. We rejoice in the lives of those who have died in faith. Keep us

in joyful communion with them until we join the saints of every nation gathered before your throne in ceaseless praise. We pray these things through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the mystery of the Holy Spirit, in the name of the Triune God. "Our Father ..."³

***Departing Hymn #630 "Fairest Lord Jesus"²**

***Charge & Benediction**

Travel the wilderness road and return to the Lord your God. For God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast mercy.

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and may God---Father, Son, and Holy Spirit---remain with you always. Amen.³

***Postlude**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome Rev. Beverly Sherrill Bullock to our pulpit today!

Our guest pastor line-up for March:

March 13: Rev. Dr. Clay Macaulay

March 20: Rev. Sylvester H. Bullock

March 27: Rev. Dr. Shelly Barrick Parsons

Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 8 at 1:00 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall Meeting/Dining Room.

¹ Resource: THE HOLY BIBLE, (NRSV) © 1989 by Div. of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, All rights reserved. Published by Zondervan.

² Resource: Hymns from GLORY TO GOD, THE PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL, 2013 Westminster John Knox Press; public domain.

³ Resource: Liturgy written by Barbara Chaapel and provided for free distribution; © *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2022.

⁴ Resource: "Apostles' Creed", BOOK OF ORDER, PC (USA)

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

3/6 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	<u>1ST SUNDAY IN LENT</u>	6	<u>2ND SUNDAY IN LENT</u>	13
S	9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship *Guest preacher: Rev. Beverly Sherrill Bullock		2a Daylight Saving Time starts 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship *Guest preacher: Rev. Dr. Clay Macaulay	
M	1p Worship Com.	7		14
T	1p Circle (Fellowship Hall Kitchen, Meeting/ Dining Rm.) 7p Christian Ed. Com. 7p Missions–Outreach Com.	8	6p GSA Tr. 5000, (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/ Dining Rm.)	15
W		9		16
T	6a Church cleaning	10	<u>St. Patrick's Day</u> 6a Church cleaning 2p News articles due 7p Stewardship & Finan.Com.	17
F		11		18
S		12		19

ATTENDANCE:

WORSHIP

SUNDAY SCHOOL

	M	V	M	V
Feb. 6, 2022	23	6	5	1
Feb. 13, 2022	21	3	7	
Feb. 20, 2022	19	4	6	
Feb. 27, 2022	21	6	6	

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
Renee' Renier, Diana Flaherty's long-time friend (health issue)

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church
Hymns for Worship Service – March 6, 2022

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

Hymn #634 – "To God Be the Glory"

- 1) To God be the glory; great things he has done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the lifegate that all may go in. *Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory: great things he has done!*
- 2) Great things he has taught us; great things he has gone, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; but purer and higher and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. *Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory: great things he has done!*

TEXT: Fanny Jane Crosby; 1875; public domain.
MUSIC: William Howard Doane, 1875; public domain.

Hymn #630 – "Fairest Lord Jesus"

- 1) Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God to earth come down, thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.
- 2) Fairest are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring. Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.
- 3) Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling, starry host. Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.
- 4) Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

TEXT: Munster *Gesangbuch*, 1677; stanzas 1-3, trans. *Church Chorals and Choir Studies*, 1850, alt.; stanza 4, trans. Joseph August Seiss, 1873, alt.; public domain.
MUSIC: Silesian folk melody; *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842; public domain.

Old Testament: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

When you have entered the land the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the Lord your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name and say to the priest in office at the time, “I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come to the land the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.” The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the Lord your God. Then you shall declare before the Lord your God: “My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, subjecting us to harsh labor. Then we cried out to the Lord, the God of our ancestors, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. So the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with signs and wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; and now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, Lord, have given me.” Place the basket before the Lord your God and bow down before him. Then you and the Levites and the foreigners residing among you shall rejoice in all the good things the Lord your God has given to you and your household.

New Testament: Luke 4: 1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.” Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’” The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, “I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. If you worship me, it will all be yours.”

Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’” The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here. For it is written:

“‘He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully;
they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’”

Jesus answered, “It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.