

# Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

March 20, 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**

Rose Scott

**Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Sylvester H. Bullock

**Sharing of Joys/Concerns**

**Call to worship – Led by Pastor** (From Isaiah 55:1-3)<sup>1</sup>

One: Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!

**All: Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.**

One: Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

**\* Opening Hymn #462 "I Love to Tell the Story"**<sup>2</sup>

**Call to Confession [Pastor]**<sup>3</sup>

Let us humbly approach God's throne of grace to confess our sins and present ourselves honestly before our Savior.

### **Prayer of Confession [Congregation in unison]<sup>3</sup>**

Merciful God, you give us chance after chance to do right and bear good fruit. But we continue to stray from your path of righteousness, losing ourselves in the wilderness of sin. Gracious God, return us to you this Lent. Receive us. Redeem us. Transform us into the disciples you deserve. Amen.

*(A time for silent prayer of confession.)*

### **Assurance of Pardon [Pastor]<sup>3</sup>**

Our God is a loving God, full of mercy. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Believe in this forgiveness, be at peace, and share the love you have graciously received. Amen.

**\*Congregational Response** Hymn #581 "Glory Be to the Father"<sup>2</sup>

### **Prayer for Illumination [Pastor]<sup>3</sup>**

Holy God, humble us and open us to your life-giving Word. As we hear your Word read and proclaimed today, may our hearts and minds be open to the Spirit's moving and Jesus' teaching. Amen.

### **Scriptural Readings**

1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Isaiah 55: 1-9<sup>1</sup> p. 598

2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson: Luke 13: 1-9<sup>1</sup> p. 848

**Sermon** "Spiritual Refreshment" Rev. Sylvester H. 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.<sup>4</sup>

### **Call for the Offering [Pastor]**

God calls us to lives of grateful generosity. Let us praise the giver of all good gifts through our offering today.<sup>3</sup>

### **Offering, Offertory**

**\* Doxology** Hymn #606 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"<sup>2</sup>

### **Prayer of Dedication [*Pastor*]<sup>3</sup>**

We have been called to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Let us return a portion of the gifts we have been given to Christ's ministry and those most in need.

### **Prayers of the People<sup>3</sup> & Lord's Prayer<sup>1</sup>**

One: Eternal God, through Jesus Christ you promise to hear us when we pray to you in his name. Confident in your love and mercy we offer our prayers on behalf of your world, your people, and all those entrusted to our care. Hear the cries, Holy God, of our planet struggling to survive. Give us, who consume most of the earth's resources, the will to reorder our lives, that the environment might be protected, and natural resources renewed. May all your people have their rightful share of food, medical care, shelter. May all your creatures and all creation know our care and respect.

**All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

One: Renew our nation, Sovereign God, in the ways of justice and peace. Guide those who make and administer our laws to build a society based on trust and respect. Erase prejudices that oppress; free us from crime and violence; guard our youth from the perils of selfish individualism and material hoarding. Motivate all citizens to end our debilitating division, promote productive and respectful debate, and work towards the good of all your people.

**All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

One: Strengthen this congregation, Spirit of God, in its work and worship. Fill our hearts with your self-giving love, that our voices may sing your praise, and our lives conform to the image of your Son. Nourish us with your Word and sacraments that we may faithfully minister in your name, and witness to your love and grace for all the world.

**All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

One: Sustain those among us, Living God, who need your healing. Make the sick whole. Give hope to the dying. Comfort those who mourn. Uphold all who suffer in body or mind. In this global moment ravaged by war, bless those who work for peace, heal those traumatized by violence, secure those whose lives and livelihoods are in jeopardy.

**All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

One: O God, in your loving purpose answer our prayers and fulfill our hopes. In all things for which we pray, give us the will to seek to bring them about, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. And hear us now as we join with Christians everywhere praying the prayer Christ taught us to pray by saying, "***Our Father...***"

**\*Departing Hymn #472 "Kum Ba Yah"<sup>2</sup>**

**\*Charge & Benediction [Pastor]**

I invite you, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by reading and meditating on the Word of God. May the grace, hope, peace and love of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with you now and always. Amen.<sup>3</sup>

**\*Postlude**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We welcome back the Rev. Sylvester H. Bullock to our pulpit!**

**Stated Session Meeting** – After today's worship service.

**Easter Lilies:** Cost: \$14/plant; make check payable to Gregory Memorial by Mar. 27, using order forms in bulletin or on Narthex table.

**Next Sunday's guest preacher:** Rev. Dr. Shelly Barrick Parsons

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

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

<sup>3</sup> Resource: Liturgy written by Teri McDowell Ott and provided for free distribution; © *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2022.

<sup>4</sup> Resource: "Apostles' Creed", BOOK OF ORDER, PC (USA)

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### **GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

[www.gregorymemorial.org](http://www.gregorymemorial.org) [www.facebook.com/gmpcva](http://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](mailto:office@gregorymemorial.org))

Organist: Sandra Perkins      Pianist: Gail Rollings

Treasurer: Kevin Foster

Financial Sec.: Sandy Hunter

**3/20 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY**

	<b><u>3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT</u></b>	<b>20</b>	<b><u>4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT</u></b>	<b>27</b>
S	<b>9:30a</b> Sunday School <b>11a</b> Worship *Guest preacher: Rev. Sylvester H. Bullock <b>12p</b> Session Meeting Moderator: Rev. Bullock		<b>9:30a</b> Sunday School <b>11a</b> Worship *Guest preacher: Rev. Shelly Barrick Parsons	
M		21		28
T		22	<b>6p</b> GSA Tr5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm.)	29
W		23	<b>6p</b> BSA Tr900 Honor Court & Dinner (Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm)	30
T	<b>6a</b> Church cleaning <b>2p</b> Newsletter out	24	<b>6a</b> Church cleaning	31
F		25	<b>APRIL</b>	1
S		26		2

**ATTENDANCE:**

**WORSHIP**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

	M	V	M	V
Mar. 6, 2022	24	6	8	
Mar. 13, 2022	14	8	5	
Mar. 20, 2022				
Mar. 27, 2022				

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)  
Shirley MacNeill (health issue, Chippenham Med. Ctr.)  
Family/friends of Charles Shortt (d. 3/7)

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church

Hymns for Worship Service – March 20, 2022

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

**Hymn #462 – "I Love to Tell the Story"**

1) I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love. I love to tell the story, because 'tis true, it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.

*I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

2) I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet! I love to tell the story, for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

*I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

3) I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest. And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.

*I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

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*TEXT: Katherine Hankey, 1866; ref. William G. Fischer, 1869; public domain.*

*MUSIC: William G. Fischer, 1869; public domain*

**Hymn #472 "Kum Ba Yah\*"**

1) \*Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

2) Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

3) Someone's singing, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's singing, Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's singing, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

4) Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

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*TEXT and MUSIC: African American spiritual; public domain.*

***\*Come by here***

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church

Scripture Readings for Worship Service – March 20, 2022

Resource: THE HOLY BIBLE, (NRSV) © Biblegateway.com.

**Old Testament: Isaiah 55: 1-9**

“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David. See, I have made him a witness to the peoples, a ruler and commander of the peoples. Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations you do not know will come running to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendor.”

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**New Testament: Luke 13: 1-9**

Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?’

“‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.’”