

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 27, 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. Dr. Shelly Barrick Parsons

Sharing of Joys/Concerns

Call to Worship [*Led by Pastor*]

One: Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous,

All: We will shout for joy!

One: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.

All: You preserve us from harm; You deliver us from troubles;
You give us shelter.

One: Let all who are faithful offer you prayer and praise.

All: We will be glad and rejoice! We will shout for joy!

[Adapted from Psalm 32]

* **Opening Hymn** #15 "All Creatures of Our God and King"

Call to Confession [*Pastor*]

Prayer of Confession [*Congregation in unison*]

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that all too often we forget that we too are the lost sheep you seek. We have lost sight of your command to love – God, our neighbors, and ourselves. Instead, we heap judgement and shame on ourselves and others. We stand with crossed arms and closed hearts unwilling to forgive and be forgiven. We ask again for your forgiveness and seek the grace that frees us to live as your beloved children. Amen.

(A time for silent prayer of confession.)

Assurance of Pardon [*Responsive, led by Pastor*]

One: Friends hear the good news of the gospel. If anyone is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation.

All: Everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

One: In Christ, God is not counting our sins against us.

All: God has trusted us with this message of reconciliation.

One: Know that you are forgiven, be at peace, and share that forgiveness with others. Amen.

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

Prayer for Illumination [*Pastor*]

Scriptural Readings

Old Testament: Psalm 32 p. 440

New Testament: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 p. 850

Sermon "Moved with Compassion" Rev. Dr. Shelly Barrick Parsons

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.

Call for the Offering [*Pastor*]

Offering, Offertory

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

Prayer of Dedication [*Pastor*]

Prayers of the People concluded with Lord's Prayer

[Pastor offers prayers, each prayer ending with:]

One: Lord in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayer.

***Departing Hymn** #187 "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

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

***Postlude**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome back the Rev. Shelly Barrick Parsons to our pulpit!

The Pulpit line-up for April:

April 3: 5th Sunday in Lent - Rev. Dr. Erroll G. Rohr

April 10: Palm Sunday – Rev. Marvin Daniel

April 17: Easter – Rev. Beverly Sherrill Bullock

April 24: Rev. Beverly Sherrill Bullock & Rev. Sylvester H. Bullock

Today:

- There's a Choir meeting immediately after worship service.
- Today's the last day to order Easter Lilies!

Newsletter articles are needed! If you have an article you'd like to share in our The Herald newsletter, or one that you have clipped that you would like us to re-print (*with permission, of course!*) please dash it out on paper and leave in Nancy's office door mailbox, or, send it in to the church office by email: office@gregorymemorial.org. We've had some really good ones, and have now run out. So more, please!

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.

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

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

Session Members

(Term = 3 yrs.; * indicates 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)

3/27 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

S	<p><u>4TH SUNDAY IN LENT</u> 27</p> <p>9:30a Sunday School</p> <p>11a Worship</p> <p>➤ 5 Cents a Meal Offering</p> <p>*Guest preacher: Rev. Shelly Barrick Parsons</p> <p>12p Choir meeting after worship today</p> <p><u>Last day to order Easter Lilies!</u></p>	<p><u>5TH SUNDAY IN LENT</u> 3</p> <p>9:30a Sunday School</p> <p>11a Worship & Holy Communion</p> <p>*Guest preacher: Rev. Dr. Erroll G. Rohr</p>
M	28	4
T	<p>6p GSA Tr5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm.)</p> <p>29</p>	<p>6p Congregational Care Cmte.</p> <p>5</p>
W	<p>6p BSA Tr900 Honor Court & Dinner (Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm)</p> <p>30</p>	6
T	<p>6a Church cleaning</p> <p>2p Committee reports due</p> <p>31</p>	<p>6a Church cleaning</p> <p>7</p>
F	APRIL 1	8
S	2	9

ATTENDANCE:

WORSHIP

SUNDAY SCHOOL

	M	V	M	V
Mar. 6, 2022	24	6	8	
Mar. 13, 2022	14	8	5	
Mar. 20, 2022	18	5	6	
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.)

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Hymns for Worship Service – March 27, 2022

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

Hymn of Invitation #15 "All Creatures of Our God and King"

- 1) All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia! Alleluia!
O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam, sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 2) O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain. Alleluia! Alleluia!
O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear. Sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 3) O brother fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shadows of the night. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds such blessings on our way, sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 4) All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears; so, even in the midst of tears, sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 5) And you, most gentle sister death, waiting to hush our final breath: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom, fair is the night that leads us home. Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 6) O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart. Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One! Sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

TEXT: Francis of Assisi, 1225; trans. composite; public domain.

MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesang, 1623, alt., harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906; public domain.

#187 – “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

- 1) Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care. In your pleasant pastures feed us; for our use your fold prepare. *Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.*
- 2) We are yours: in love befriend us: be the guardian of our way. Keep your flock: from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray. *Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.*
- 3) You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be; you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free. *Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.*
- 4) Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will. Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill. *Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus you have loved us; love us still.*

TEXT: Thrupp's *Hymns for the Young*, 1836, alt.; public domain.

MUSIC: William Batchelder Bradbury, 1859, alt.; public domain

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church

Scripture Readings for Worship Service – March 27, 2022

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

Old Testament: Psalm 32

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit. When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.” And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them.

You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you. Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord’s unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him. Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

New Testament: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

Then Jesus told them this parable:

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ So he got up and went to his father. “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate. “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’ ““My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”