

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



PALM SUNDAY

April 10, 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

Mary Holc

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Marvin Daniel

Sharing of Joys/Concerns

Call to Worship [*Responsive, led by Pastor*]

One: The word has come to us from God...

All: who promises to shelter us under the wings of hope and Grace.

One: The word has come to us through Jesus...

All: who encourages us to remember the good news we have received.

One: The word flows to us from the Spirit...

All: who reminds us to place our hopes and trust in God.

*** Opening Hymn #196 “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”**

Call to Confession [*Pastor*]

Prayer of Confession [*In unison*]

Have mercy upon us most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, both known and unknown, things done and left undone. And so, uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(A time for silent prayer of confession.)

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

One: Friends, God's steadfast love endures forever.

All: There is no wall high enough or thick enough to separate us from the love of God.

One: Jesus marched into Jerusalem to save us and save us he will!
In the name of Jesus Christ, I announce that our sins have been forgiven. Amen!

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

Call for the Offering [*Pastor*]

Offering, Offertory

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

Prayer of Dedication [*Pastor*]

Prayer for Illumination [*Pastor*]

Scriptural Readings

Liturgy of the Palms: Luke 19:28-40 p. 854

Liturgy of the Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9 p. 594
Luke 22:14-71; 23:1-56 p. 857-860

Sermon

"Who Is This Man?"

Rev. Marvin Daniel

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.

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 #198 "Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!"**

Charge & Benediction *[Pastor]

***Postlude**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. Marvin Daniel to our pulpit!

Rev. Daniel is a cradle Presbyterian, having grown up at Richmond's First Presbyterian, spent 10 years at First Presbyterian in Virginia Beach where he served as an Elder and is currently at Second Presbyterian in downtown Richmond where he serves as Commissioned Pastor for Mission and Advocacy. He is an Elder at Second Presbyterian as well. Marvin is a graduate of Washington and Lee University and the 2-year Pathways course of study at Union Presbyterian Seminary, where he serves on the Board of Trustees.

Junior Church will be held Easter Sunday. In addition to the lesson, crafts and snacks have been planned. Please invite families with young children – the more the merrier!

Pulpit line-up for April:

April 17: Easter – Rev. Beverly Sherrill Bullock

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

Newsletter articles are needed! We've had some really good lead newsletter stories, and have now run out. If you have an article you'd like to share, please leave it in Nancy's office door mailbox, or, send it in to the church office by email: office@gregorymemorial.org

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)

4/10 THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

S	<p><u>PALM SUNDAY</u> Begin Holy Week</p> <p>9:30a Sunday School</p> <p>11a Worship *Guest preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel</p>	10	<p><u>RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/EASTER DAY</u></p> <p>6:30a Sunrise Service, followed by Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall</p> <p>9:30a Sunday School</p> <p>11a Worship *Guest preacher: Rev. Beverly Sherrill Bullock</p>	17
M	<p>6p BSA Tr900 Cyber/Tnet Security class (Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>6p Crater Dist. Karakona Ch 13 Order of Arrow (Fellowship Hall: Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm)</p>	11		18
T	<p>1p Circle</p> <p>7p Faith Cmte. (formerly Christian Ed, Missions & Outreach Cmtes.</p>	12		19
W		13		20
T	<p><u>MAUNDY THURSDAY</u> 6a Church cleaning</p> <p>2p News articles due</p> <p>7p Maundy Thursday Service &/Holy Communion</p> <p>* Guest preacher: Rev. Sylvester H. Bullock</p>	14	<p>6a Church cleaning</p> <p>2p May newsletter out</p> <p>7p Stewardship & Finance Cmte.</p>	21
F	<p><u>GOOD FRIDAY</u></p>	15		22
S	<p><u>HOLY SATURDAY</u> Great Vigil of Easter</p>	16		23

ATTENDANCE:

WORSHIP

SUNDAY SCHOOL

	M	V	M	V
Apr. 3, 2022	17	7	7	
Apr. 10, 2022				
Apr. 17, 2022				
Apr. 24, 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)

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church

Hymns for Worship Service – April 10, 2022 (Palm Sunday)

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

#196 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

1) Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son, who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One. *All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!*

2) The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went; our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present. *All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!*

3) To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise; to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. *All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!*

4) Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King! *All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!*

TEXT: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 820; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851, alt.; public domain.

MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1614; arr. William Henry Monk, 1861; public domain.

Departing Hymn #198 "Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!"

1) Ride on! Ride on in majesty! Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry; thy humble beast pursues its road with palms and scattered garments strowed.

2) Ride on! Ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die; O Christ, thy triumphs now begin o'er captive death and conquered sin.

3) Ride on! Ride on in majesty! The hosts of angels in the sky look down with sad and wondering eyes to see the approaching sacrifice.

4) Ride on! Ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die; bow thy meek head to mortal pain; then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

TEXT: Henry Hart Milman, 1827, alt.; public domain.

MUSIC: John Bacchus Dykes, 1862; public domain.

Liturgy of the Palms: Luke 19:28-40

After saying these things, Jesus headed straight up to Jerusalem. When he got near Bethphage and Bethany at the mountain called Olives, he sent off two of the disciples with instructions: "Go to the village across from you. As soon as you enter, you'll find a colt tethered, one that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it. If anyone says anything, asks, 'What are you doing?' say, 'His Master needs him.'" The two left and found it just as he said. As they were untying the colt, its owners said, "What are you doing untying the colt?" They said, "His Master needs him." They brought the colt to Jesus. Then, throwing their coats on its back, they helped Jesus get on. As he rode, the people gave him a grand welcome, throwing their coats on the street. Right at the crest, where Mount Olives begins its descent, the whole crowd of disciples burst into enthusiastic praise over all the mighty works they had witnessed: "Blessed is he who comes, the king in God's name! All's well in heaven! Glory in the high places!" Some Pharisees from the crowd told him, "Teacher, get your disciples under control!" But he said, "If they kept quiet, the stones would do it for them, shouting praise."

Liturgy of the Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9; Luke 22:14-71; Luke 23:1-56

[Isaiah 50:4-9:] The Master, GOD, has given me a well-taught tongue, so I know how to encourage tired people. He wakes me up in the morning, wakes me up, opens my ears to listen as one ready to take orders. The Master, GOD, opened my ears, and I didn't go back to sleep, didn't pull the covers back over my head. I followed orders, stood there and took it while they beat me, held steady while they pulled out my beard, didn't dodge their insults, faced them as they spit in my face. And the Master, GOD, stays right there and helps me, so I'm not disgraced. Therefore I set my face like flint, confident that I'll never regret this. My champion is right here. Let's take our stand together! Who dares bring suit against me? Let him try! Look! the Master, GOD, is right here. Who would dare call me guilty? Look! My accusers are a clothes bin of threadbare socks and shirts, fodder for moths!

[Luke 22:14-71] When it was time, he sat down, all the apostles with him, and said, "You've no idea how much I have looked forward to eating this Passover meal with you before I enter my time of suffering. It's the last one I'll eat until we all eat it together in the kingdom of God." Taking the cup, he blessed it, then said, "Take this and pass it among you. As for me, I'll not drink wine again until the kingdom of God arrives." Taking bread, he blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, given for you. Eat it in my memory." He did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant written in my blood, blood poured out for you. "Do you realize that the hand of the one who is betraying me is at this moment on this table? It's true that the Son of Man is going down a path already marked out—no surprises there. But for the one who turns him in, turns traitor to the Son of Man, this is doomsday." They immediately became suspicious of each other and began quizzing one another, wondering who might be about to do this.

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church
Scripture Readings for Worship Service – April 10, 2022 (Palm Sunday)
Resource: THE HOLY BIBLE, (THE MESSAGE Translation) © Biblegateway.com.

Within minutes they were bickering over who of them would end up the greatest. But Jesus intervened: “Kings like to throw their weight around and people in authority like to give themselves fancy titles. It’s not going to be that way with you. Let the senior among you become like the junior; let the leader act the part of the servant. “Who would you rather be: the one who eats the dinner or the one who serves the dinner? You’d rather eat and be served, right? But I’ve taken my place among you as the one who serves. And you’ve stuck with me through thick and thin. Now I confer on you the royal authority my Father conferred on me so you can eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and be strengthened as you take up responsibilities among the congregations of God’s people. “Simon, stay on your toes. Satan has tried his best to separate all of you from me, like chaff from wheat. Simon, I’ve prayed for you in particular that you not give in or give out. When you have come through the time of testing, turn to your companions and give them a fresh start.” Peter said, “Master, I’m ready for anything with you. I’d go to jail for you. I’d *die* for you!” Jesus said, “I’m sorry to have to tell you this, Peter, but before the rooster crows you will have three times denied that you know me.” Then Jesus said, “When I sent you out and told you to travel light, to take only the bare necessities, did you get along all right?” “Certainly,” they said, “we got along just fine.” He said, “This is different. Get ready for trouble. Look to what you’ll need; there are difficult times ahead. Pawn your coat and get a sword. What was written in Scripture, ‘He was lumped in with the criminals,’ gets its final meaning in me. Everything written about me is now coming to a conclusion.” They said, “Look, Master, two swords!” But he said, “Enough of that; no more sword talk!”

Leaving there, he went, as he so often did, to Mount Olives. The disciples followed him. When they arrived at the place, he said, “Pray that you don’t give in to temptation.” He pulled away from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, “Father, remove this cup from me. But please, not what I want. What do *you* want?” At once an angel from heaven was at his side, strengthening him. He prayed on all the harder. Sweat, wrung from him like drops of blood, poured off his face. He got up from prayer, went back to the disciples and found them asleep, drugged by grief. He said, “What business do you have sleeping? Get up. Pray so you won’t give in to temptation.” No sooner were the words out of his mouth than a crowd showed up, Judas, the one from the Twelve, in the lead. He came right up to Jesus to kiss him. Jesus said, “Judas, you would betray the Son of Man with a kiss?” When those with him saw what was happening, they said, “Master, shall we fight?” One of them took a swing at the Chief Priest’s servant and cut off his right ear. Jesus said, “Let them be. Even in this.” Then, touching the servant’s ear, he healed him. Jesus spoke to those who had come—high priests, Temple police, religion leaders: “What is this, jumping me with swords and clubs as if I were a dangerous criminal? Day after day I’ve been with you in the Temple and you’ve not so much as lifted a hand against me. But do it your way—it’s a dark night, a dark hour.”

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Arresting Jesus, they marched him off and took him into the house of the Chief Priest. Peter followed, but at a safe distance. In the middle of the courtyard some people had started a fire and were sitting around it, trying to keep warm. One of the serving maids sitting at the fire noticed him, then took a second look and said, "This man was with him!" He denied it, "Woman, I don't even know him." A short time later, someone else noticed him and said, "You're one of them." But Peter denied it: "Man, I am not." About an hour later, someone else spoke up, really adamant: "He's got to have been with him! He's got 'Galilean' written all over him." Peter said, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about." At that very moment, the last word hardly off his lips, a rooster crowed. Just then, the Master turned and looked at Peter. Peter remembered what the Master had said to him: "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." He went out and cried and cried and cried.

The men in charge of Jesus began poking fun at him, slapping him around. They put a blindfold on him and taunted, "Who hit you that time?" They were having a grand time with him. When it was morning, the religious leaders of the people and the high priests and scholars all got together and brought him before their High Council. They said, "Are you the Messiah?" He answered, "If I said yes, you wouldn't believe me. If I asked what you meant by your question, you wouldn't answer me. So here's what I have to say: From here on the Son of Man takes his place at God's right hand, the place of power." They all said, "So you admit your claim to be the Son of God?" "You're the ones who keep saying it," he said. But they had made up their minds, "Why do we need any more evidence? We've all heard him as good as say it himself."

[Luke 23:1-56] Then they all took Jesus to Pilate and began to bring up charges against him. They said, "We found this man undermining our law and order, forbidding taxes to be paid to Caesar, setting himself up as Messiah-King." Pilate asked him, "Is this true that you're 'King of the Jews'?" "Those are your words, not mine," Jesus replied. Pilate told the high priests and the accompanying crowd, "I find nothing wrong here. He seems harmless enough to me." But they were vehement. "He's stirring up unrest among the people with his teaching, disturbing the peace everywhere, starting in Galilee and now all through Judea. He's a dangerous man, endangering the peace." When Pilate heard that, he asked, "So, he's a Galilean?" Realizing that he properly came under Herod's jurisdiction, he passed the buck to Herod, who just happened to be in Jerusalem for a few days. Herod was delighted when Jesus showed up. He had wanted for a long time to see him, he'd heard so much about him. He hoped to see him do something spectacular. He peppered him with questions. Jesus didn't answer—not one word. But the high priests and religion scholars were right there, saying their piece, strident and shrill in their accusations. Mightily offended, Herod turned on Jesus. His soldiers joined in, taunting and jeering. Then they dressed him up in an elaborate king costume and sent him back to Pilate. That day Herod and Pilate became thick as thieves. Always before they had kept their distance.

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Then Pilate called in the high priests, rulers, and the others and said, "You brought this man to me as a disturber of the peace. I examined him in front of all of you and found there was nothing to your charge. And neither did Herod, for he has sent him back here with a clean bill of health. It's clear that he's done nothing wrong, let alone anything deserving death. I'm going to warn him to watch his step and let him go." At that, the crowd went wild: "Kill him! Give us Barabbas!" (Barabbas had been thrown in prison for starting a riot in the city and for murder.) Pilate still wanted to let Jesus go, and so spoke out again. But they kept shouting back, "Crucify! Crucify him!" He tried a third time. "But for what crime? I've found nothing in him deserving death. I'm going to warn him to watch his step and let him go." But they kept at it, a shouting mob, demanding that he be crucified. And finally they shouted him down. Pilate caved in and gave them what they wanted. He released the man thrown in prison for rioting and murder, and gave them Jesus to do whatever they wanted.

As they led him off, they made Simon, a man from Cyrene who happened to be coming in from the countryside, carry the cross behind Jesus. A huge crowd of people followed, along with women weeping and carrying on. At one point Jesus turned to the women and said, Daughters of Jerusalem, don't cry for me. Cry for yourselves and for your children. The time is coming when they'll say, 'Lucky the women who never conceived! Lucky the wombs that never gave birth! Lucky the breasts that never gave milk!' Then they'll start calling to the mountains, 'Fall down on us!' calling to the hills, 'Cover us up!' If people do these things to a live, green tree, can you imagine what they'll do with deadwood?" Two others, both criminals, were taken along with him for execution. When they got to the place called Skull Hill, they crucified him, along with the criminals, one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them; they don't know what they're doing." Dividing up his clothes, they threw dice for them. The people stood there staring at Jesus, and the ringleaders made faces, taunting, "He saved others. Let's see him save himself! The Messiah of God—ha! The Chosen—ha!" The soldiers also came up and poked fun at him, making a game of it. They toasted him with sour wine: "So you're King of the Jews! Save yourself!" Printed over him was a sign: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. One of the criminals hanging alongside cursed him: "Some Messiah you are! Save yourself! Save us!" But the other one made him shut up: "Have you no fear of God? You're getting the same as him. We deserve this, but not him—he did nothing to deserve this." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you enter your kingdom." He said, "Don't worry, I will. Today you will join me in paradise." By now it was noon. The whole earth became dark, the darkness lasting three hours—a total blackout. The Temple curtain split right down the middle. Jesus called loudly, "Father, I place my life in your hands!" Then he breathed his last.

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When the captain there saw what happened, he honored God: "This man was innocent! A good man, and innocent!" All who had come around as spectators to watch the show, when they saw what actually happened, were overcome with grief and headed home. Those who knew Jesus well, along with the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a respectful distance and kept vigil. There was a man by the name of Joseph, a member of the Jewish High Council, a man of good heart and good character. He had not gone along with the plans and actions of the council. His hometown was the Jewish village of Arimathea. He lived in alert expectation of the kingdom of God. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Taking him down, he wrapped him in a linen shroud and placed him in a tomb chiseled into the rock, a tomb never yet used. It was the day before Sabbath, the Sabbath just about to begin. The women who had been companions of Jesus from Galilee followed along. They saw the tomb where Jesus' body was placed. Then they went back to prepare burial spices and perfumes. They rested quietly on the Sabbath, as commanded.