

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Christians Who Love and Care.

“Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.” ~ Revelations 22:12-13

May 29, 2022

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church



7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 29, 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!

Prelude

Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Rollings, Pianist

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome & Announcements

Larry Johnson

**Passing of the Peace/
Sharing of Joys & Concerns**

Rev. Sylvester H. Bullock

Call to Worship [Responsive, led by Pastor]

One: The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

All: The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory.

One: Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

All: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

*** Opening Hymn #269 "Lead On, O King Eternal"**

Call to Confession [Pastor]

The proof of God's amazing love is this: that 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.

Prayer of Confession [In unison]

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life, and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world, and failed to give him glory. Forgive us, and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world, and is head of the church, his body.

(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. Siblings, believe the promise of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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

Prayer for Illumination [Pastor]

O God, as we fully experience the good news of Easter and look toward the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost, open our hearts and minds to your Word dwelling within us, calling us to unity in Christ.

Scriptural Readings

Old Testament: Psalm 97	p. 480
New Testament: Acts 16: 16-34	p. 900-901

Sermon	"The Midnight Hour"	Rev. Sylvester H. Bullock
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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.

[Apostles' Creed]

Call for the Offering *[Pastor]*

Jesus prayed: As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. Living in the world, we gather the gifts we have received, and bring them before God, offering back what we have, so that the world may know the love of Christ and become one.

Offering, Offertory

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

Prayer of Dedication *[Pastor]*

As Elisha took up Elijah's mantle, we present these gifts that through them the church may take up the mantle of Christ and proclaim his Word to the world through acts of justice and love. Amen.

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer *[Pastor prayers, ending each with "Lord in your mercy"; congregation responds to each with "Hear our prayers."]*

Our God, the heavens declare your glory and the firmament shows for the work of your hands. One day tells its tale to another and each night imparts knowledge to the next. The sun, the moon, the seas, the dry lands, the plants that enrich the earth, the creatures that swim and fly and run, all these gifts of your creation, although they have no words or language, their sound goes out to all the lands, and their messages to the ends of the earth.

We offer our prayers for the earth and recommit ourselves to honor and protect it. May we hear the cries of creation, and see in its power and beauty your own image, and your deep love for what you have made. May we love all of your creation — every grain of sand, every leaf, every ray of light, ancient trees,

pollinating bees, and all animals. May we not trouble the earth's life, or waste its resources, or abuse its beauty. May we look on the natural world with reverence and acknowledge that we are small in the vastness of the universe.

We know that for you, O God, all life is like an ocean, all is flowing and blending, and that when we withhold any measure of love from anything in your universe, we withhold that same measure of love from you.

Lord God, as we pray, we bring our sisters and brothers, strangers and neighbors into your presence. We rejoice with those who rejoice today: those who have found love, those who have been healed of disease, those who look forward to marriage, or the birth of children, those who have meaningful work, and happy families, those who have safe and happy homes, those who worship you in freedom and the beauty of holiness. And we weep with those who weep today: those who are sick in their bodies, their minds, their spirits, those who have lost beloved sons and daughters and fathers and mothers to gun violence, those who have lost jobs, or who cannot find meaningful work and struggle for ways to use their gifts, those who flee their own lands and homes, seeking refuge, and the strength and grace of a new community.

We weep today for and with the people of Ukraine who face imaginable loss and suffering as their cities and home and families and lives are destroyed by brutal violence. Bring them peace. Be close to all who suffer this day, O God. And even in the midst of suffering, we offer the gratitude that is in our hearts: gratitude for our lives, for our church community, for the freedom to worship, for the food and shelter and friendship that sustain us each day.

By your Holy Spirit, hold the church in unity, and keep it faithful to your Word, so that, breaking bread together, we may be one with Christ in faith and love and service, now and forever. We pray these things in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying, "***Our Father...***"

***Departing Hymn #265 "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"**

Charge & Benediction [Pastor]

As you follow the journey of discipleship into the post-Resurrection world, remember that Christ prays for you, and draws you into the very heart of God.

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

***Postlude**

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	29	DAY OF PENTECOST	5
S	9:30a Sunday School 10:15a 5 th Sunday Fellowship B'fast 11a Worship ➤ Local Emergency Aid Offering *Guest preacher: Rev. Sylvester H. Bullock		9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship & Holy Communion ➤ Pentecost Offering *Guest preacher: Rev. Carson Rhyme	
M	MEMORIAL DAY	30	1p Worship Cmte. (church)	6
T	2p Cmte. Reports due 6p GSA Tr5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm).	31	6p GSA Tr5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm). 6p Congregational Care Cmte.	7
W	JUNE	1		8
T	6a Church cleaning	2	6a Church cleaning	9
F		3		10
S	9a Church Work Day	4		11

ATTENDANCE:

WORSHIP

SUNDAY SCHOOL

	M	V	M	V
May 1, 2022	16	7	5	
May 8, 2022	24	7	8	
May 15, 2022	17	48	5	
May 22, 2022	16	4	6	
May 29, 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)
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 Lykins Flaherty, Mary Lykins' daughter
Renee' Renier, Diana Flaherty's long-time friend (health issue)
Shirley MacNeill (health issue)
Emily Henry, Mary Holc's sister (health issue)
Charlie Perkins (surgery, health issue)
Jim & Karen Hamilton of Charlotte, NC, Judy Recher's nephew & niece
(injured, vehicular accident)
Ron Recher (Covid pneumonia, Bon Secours-Southside Med. Ctr.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. Sylvester H. Bullock back to Gregory's pulpit!
Day of Pentecost, next Sunday, June 5: Pentecost Offering envelopes will be provided in next Sunday's worship service bulletin.

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 Secretary: 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)

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

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

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church
Hymns for Worship Service – May 29, 2022 (7th Sunday of Easter)

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

Hymn #269 "Lead On, O King Eternal!"

- 1) Lead on, O King eternal! The day of march has come; henceforth in fields of conquest your tents shall be our home. Through days of preparation your grace has made us strong, and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.
- 2) Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease, and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace; for not with swords' loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums, with deeds of love and mercy the heavenly kingdom comes.
- 3) Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears, for gladness breaks like morning where'er your face appears; your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light. The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might!

TEXT: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1888, alt.; public domain.
MUSIC: Henry Thomas Smart, c. 1835; public domain.

Hymn # 265 "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

- 1) Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run; his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- 2) To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head; his name, like sweet perfume, shall rise with every morning sacrifice.
- 3) People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest sone, and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.
- 4) Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to loose their chains; the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.
- 5) Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King; angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the load Amen!

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.; public domain.
MUSIC: Attr. John Hatton, c. 1793; public domain.