

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. Marvin Daniel back to our pulpit today!

November's Guest Preachers:

November 6: Rev. H. Carson Rhyne, Jr.

November 13: Rev. Andy Meyers

November 20: Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell

November 27: Rev. Marvin Daniel

Next Sunday's guest preacher (Dec. 4: Holy Communion) – Rev. Clay Macaulay.

Christmas Poinsettias – Order now through Dec. 4; Cost: \$15 includes delivery; use order forms in Sunday bulletins or on Narthex table and leave your completed form with check in the collection plate. Please make your check payable to "Gregory Memorial." **Deadline to receive orders is Dec. 4!**

Season of Advent – Nov. 27-Dec. 24.

This morning, our Adult Sunday School Class began its study of "Because of Bethlehem" by Max Lucado. Class starts at 9:30 a.m. in the Meeting/Dining Room of the Fellowship Hall. Anyone who wants to join us may do so, as the class study will continue through Dec. 18. All are welcome! Bring a friend!

Congratulations to our in-coming Elders & Trustee (Class of 2025) who were elected Nov. 13: New Elders Doug Holc, Dave Johnson, Patsy Johnson; Trustee: Ron Recher. [Officer training - Jan. 7 and Installation - Jan. 8]

Special thanks to our out-going Elders: Mary Holc, Charlie Smyth, Sandy Hunter (Class of 2022) and Larry Johnson (Class of 2024). Your dedicated leadership and guidance was very much appreciated!

"Cookies 'n' Cocoa!" will be hosted by Faith Committee at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3 in the church Fellowship Hall after the PG Christmas Parade, serving pre-packaged cookies and cocoa that Lisa Brown will shop for. Monetary donations are sought for purchase of the items. Please see Lisa Brown (804.926.0991) or Sandy Hunter (804.731.0082).

Angel Tree – Faith Committee will host this year's Angel Tree in the Narthex for a family recommended by Dept. of Social Services (a mom with 4 kids). The Christmas ornament tags will be available on the Angel Tree Dec. 4. All gifts must have the ornament the tag attached and must be left not wrapped, but be placed inside gift bags, and then be placed under the tree by Dec. 18.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Telephone: 804.732.1081 - Office Hours: Tues.-Thurs., 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Email: office@gregorymemorial.org

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

"1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT"

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT”

NOVEMBER 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 that 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. Marvin Daniel

Sharing of Joys/Concerns

Call to Worship

One: Stand up and raise your head!

All: Our redemption is drawing near!

One: Let us fill our hearts;

All: We lift them up to the Lord! The days are surely coming when all things shall be made new.

Candle Lighter: We light this candle as a symbol of the hope we have in the promise of the Lord's coming.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

**Please stand, as able.*

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Families, persons, entities impacted by Hurricane Ian

People of Ukraine

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 & Dennis Allen

Eddie Frankenstein

Grace Cibula

Etta Holc

Jerry Hasky (health issue)

Lee Harsh, Valerie Harsh's brother-in-law (health issue)

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)

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)

Emily Henry, Mary Holc's sister (health issue)

Charlie Perkins (health issue)

Chris Ashby, Wayne Powers' granddaughter Brittney's husband
(health issues)

Judy Recher (problem with knee)

Barbara Taliaferro

Ruth Figg (Petersburg Home for Ladies)

Billy Robertson (recent health issue)

Shirley MacNeill (recent health issue)

Inez Paul, Mary Holc's mother (rehab., Riverview on the Appomattox)

Paula McDaniel, Pam Elder's sister (health issue, St. Francis Hospital)

ANNOUNCEMENTS – See back page.

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	NOVEMBER 27	DECEMBER 4
S	<p>1st Sunday of Advent: "Hope"</p> <p>9:30a Sunday School</p> <p>11a Worship Service ➤ 5 Cents Meal Offering</p> <p>*Guest preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel</p> <p>Order Christmas Poinsettias</p>	<p>1st Sunday of Advent: "Peace"</p> <p>9:30a Sunday School</p> <p>11a Worship Service & Holy Communion</p> <p>*Guest preacher: Rev. Clay Macaulay</p> <p><u>Last day to order your Christmas Poinsettias!</u></p>
M	28	5
		11a Place poinsettia order with florist before 11a
T	29	6
	6p GSA Tr5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm)	6p GSA Tr5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm)
W	30	7
T	December 1	8
	6a Clean Church	6a Clean Church 7p Faith Cmte
F	2	9
S	3	10
	3p "Cookies 'n' Cocoa!" at GMPC after PG Christmas Parade	

ATTENDANCE:	WORSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	M	V	M	V
November 6, 2022	19	12	4	
November 13, 2022	19	7	8	
November 20, 2022	26	12	7	
November 27, 2022				

M=Members V=Visitors

*** OPENING HYMN #82 – "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**

CALL TO CONFESSION [Pastor; from Hebrews 4:14-16]

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weakness, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in the time of need. Let us confess our sins against God and neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [In unison]

Holy God, remind us that you have formed us with your own hands, made us in your own image, and placed us in this world to be stewards of your good creation. Forgive our failure to live in the way you made us to live. Renew within us the knowledge of your love so that we may live joyfully and gratefully, sharing what we have. For we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who offered himself for us, and opens to us the way of eternal life.

(A time for silent prayer of confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Pastor]

With the coming of Christ, God has given us the gift of forgiveness, even seventy times seven. God reaches out to offer us new life, a new day, a chance to begin again. Believe the promise of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*** CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #581 "Glory Be to the Father"**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION [In unison]

Dear Lord, in the silence of our hearts, the listening of our ears, and the wisdom of our minds, may the word become Word for us, in Christ's name and by his power. Amen.

SCRIPTURAL READINGS (NRSV)

Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16 p. 645
 New Testament Lesson: Romans 5:2-5 p. 917

SERMON "Hope" Rev. Marvin Daniel

*** REFLECTIVE HYMN #451 "Open My Eyes, That I May See"**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH [In unison; John 1:1-5]

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."

CALL FOR OFFERING [Pastor]

We offer our individual gifts – our time, our talents, and our financial resources – to God; and those gifts become the church's gifts. And then the church offers them to the world. So with generous hearts, let us offer our gifts to the world.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

*** DOXOLOGY HYMN #606 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION [In unison]

Just as Elisha took up Elijah's mantle, and the disciples took up the ministry of Jesus, their teacher, we present these gifts that through them the church may take up the mantle of Christ and proclaim his transformative Word to the world through acts of justice and love. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER [Responsive]

One: 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 offer our gratitude for all your blessings and gifts as we pause to celebrate our national day of Thanksgiving. May we share of our bounty with those neighbors who have little.

One: We pray today for your creation. 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. We pray especially for the people of Ukraine, for the people of Russia, and for the people of Iran and Syria.

All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

One: We pray for our country, our community and our church. Strengthen our 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 sick in body, heart or mind. We pray today especially for the newly baptized, that they may grow in the community of faith.

All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

One: As we mark another season of Advent, remembering the One who came as our savior, let us remember too the kingdom he came to bring, the kingdom that we, as disciples, are called to be partners in bringing. We rejoice in the lives of those who have died in faith.

All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

One: 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. In the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying, "*Our Father...*"

***DEPARTING HYMN #475 "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"**

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION [Pastor]**

As you begin the journey of Advent, remember that you are partners with Christ in bringing in the realm of God, and that in the days of uncertainty as the world is transformed, be watchful and stay awake, remembering 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**

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, Westminster John Knox Press, 2013.
Resource: Liturgy written by Barbara Chaapel and provided for free distribution to congregations for worship use; © Presbyterian Outlook, 2022.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table *[Minister]*

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Minister: Let us pray.

All: Loving God, through your goodness, we have this bread and cup to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. May we know your presence in the sharing of this bread, so that we know your touch in all bread, all matter. We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared among his community through the centuries, and shares with us now. Made one in Christ and one with each other, we offer these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Amen.

Words of Institution

Minister: Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread ... *[Minister continues with words of institution from 1 Cor. 11:23-26 or Gospel parallels.]* The gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion of The People at the Lord's Table *[The elements are distributed in the manner most suitable. After the last person is served, the Minister continues:]*

Prayer of Gratitude

Minister: Let us give thanks together:

All: We offer you praise, dear God, and hearts lifted high, for in the communion of your love Christ comes close to us, and we come close to Christ. Therefore, with the whole realm of nature around us, with earth, sea and sky, we sing to you. And with our loved ones, on earth and in your heavenly host, with brothers and sisters around the world, we join in the song of your unending greatness. Amen.

Adapted from The PC (USA) Common Worship Book and The Iona Abbey Worship Book