

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Pastor Gibby Elder back to our pulpit today!

Jan. Guest Preachers:

Jan. 1: Rev. Charles Philips; Officiant for Ordination & Installation of Elders

Jan. 8: Pastor Gibby Elder

Jan. 15: TBA

Jan. 22: Rev. Marvin Daniel

Jan. 29: Rev. Marvin Daniel; Moderator of Annual Congregational Meeting

REMINDERS:

Annual Congregational Meeting – after worship service on Sunday, January 29, 2023 at 12 p.m. (weather-permitting; unless otherwise announced)

Session Meeting Schedule for 2023 – Monthly on 3rd Sundays beginning at 12 p.m. (approx.) in Session Meeting Room after worship service unless announced otherwise.]

Holy Communion Schedule for 2023 – 1st Sunday of even-numbered months (Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., Oct., Dec.)

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: Susan Shockley Financial Sec.: Sandy Hunter

Session Members

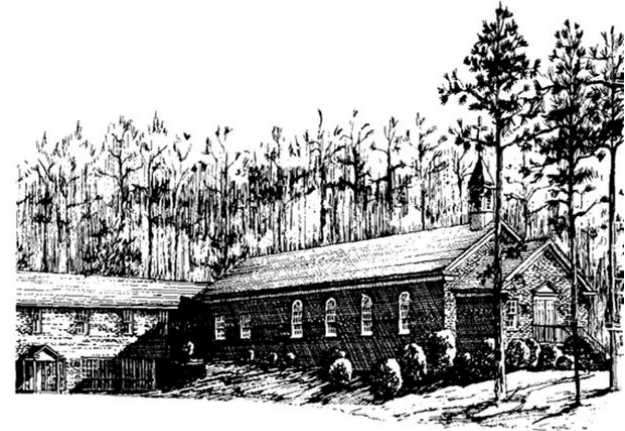
(Term = 3 yrs.; * indicates a partial term)

Lisa Brown (2023); Donald Hunter (2023); William Shill* (2023)
Rose Scott (2024); David L. Johnson* (2024); Susan Shockley (2024)
Doug Holc (2025); David Johnson (2025); Patsy Johnson (2025)
Donald Hunter - Clerk of Session (2023)

Trustees

Gail Rollings (2023); Donald Hunter (2024); Ron Recher (2025)

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

“THE EPIPHANY”

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“BAPTISM OF THE LORD”

JANUARY 8, 2023

11:00 a.m.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
“THE EPIPHANY” - “BAPTISM OF THE LORD”

The Epiphany commemorates three scriptural events: The visit of the Magi to the stable in Bethlehem following the nativity of Jesus; Christ's Baptism in the Jordan; and his first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana.

PRELUDE Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Rollings, Pianist

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS/
SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS** Larry Johnson

PASSING OF THE PEACE Pastor Gibby Elder

CALL TO WORSHIP [*Pastor; responsive*]

One: We know that the voice of the Lord is powerful and that the servant of the Lord will not break a bruised reed.

All: We believe that the servant of the Lord will not quench a dim flame.

One: Both these things are true: Our God's righteousness is a mighty stream, and our Savior is like a lamb.

All: Through the Holy Spirit, we hold space for all aspects of God. Today we worship an unknowable God, who loves us and calls us by name, who came to meet us in the person of Jesus Christ.

***OPENING HYMN #145 “What Child Is This”**

CALL TO CONFESSION [*Pastor; based on Isaiah 42:1-9*]

Those who know and love God are called to righteousness. Yet, we turn away from this calling. Let us confess our sins to God, our loving and merciful redeemer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [*In unison*]

Creator God, our baptisms have marked us with your love, inviting us into covenant with you. We see a broken world but it's easier to ignore the pain of others. Forgive us for forgetting that our lives are meant for something bigger. (*Pause for a moment of silent confession*)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [*Pastor; based on Isaiah 63:7-9*]

Even when we fail, even when we are not perfect, God still claims us. God still calls us by name. God still places God's Spirit upon us. We are known and loved and forgiven. Amen.

***Please stand, as able.**

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Families, persons, entities impacted by Hurricane Ian
People of Ukraine
Those in our community suffering from mental/physical illness,
loss, grief or hardship
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)

ANNOUNCEMENTS – See back page.

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	JANUARY 8	JANUARY 15
S	Baptism of the Lord 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service ➤ Guest Preacher: Pastor Gibby Elder	9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service ➤ Guest Preacher: TBA 12p Session Meeting Moderator: TBA
M	6p Crater BSA Order of Arrow Karakona Ch19, Nawakwa Ldg3 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm)	ML King Birthday
T	1p Circle (Location: GMPC)	6p GSA Tr5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm)
W		
T	6a Clean Church 7p Faith Cmte	6a Clean Church 2p Newsletter articles due 7p Finance Cmte
F		Fellowship Hall reserved (set-up for 1/21)
S		Fellowship Hall reserved

ATTENDANCE:	WORSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	M	V	M	V
January 1, 2023	19	7		
January 8, 2023				
January 15, 2023				
January 22, 2023				
January 29, 2023				

M=Members V=Visitors

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

***PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION [In unison]**

Almighty God, in this season of Epiphany you invite us to seek Christ's revelation. In the reading of this Scripture today, give us the eyes to see and ears to hear who Christ is — in the Bible and in the world around us. May this knowledge change us. Amen.

SCRIPTURAL READINGS (NRSV)

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6 p. 602
 New Testament Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12 p. 783-784

SERMON "The King Is Discovered!" Pastor Gibby Elder

***REFLECTIVE HYMN #151 "We Three Kings of Orient Are"**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH [In unison; Apostles' Creed]

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.

LITANY FOR BAPTISM OF THE LORD [Responsive; BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP]

One: O Christ, by your epiphany your light shines upon us, giving us the fullness of salvation. Help us show your light to all we meet today.

All: Lord, have mercy.

One: O Christ of glory, you humbled yourself to be baptized, showing us the way of humility. Strengthen us to serve you in humility all the days of our life.

All: Lord, have mercy.

One: O Christ, by your baptism you cleansed us from our sin, making us children of your Father. Give the grace of being a child of God to all who seek you.

All: Lord, have mercy.

[Continued...]

One: O Christ, by your baptism you sanctified creation and opened the door of repentance to all who are baptized. Make us servants of your gospel in the world.

All: Lord, have mercy.

One: O Christ, by your baptism you revealed to us the glorious Trinity when the voice from heaven proclaimed, "This is my beloved Son," and the Holy Spirit descended upon you like a dove. Renew a heart of worship within all the baptized.

All: Lord, have mercy.

CALL FOR OFFERING [Pastor]

Let us give freely in the faith that our gifts will be blessed by God to be a blessing to others.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION [In unison]**

Heavenly Father, please bless our gifts just as you bless those who gave them and those who will receive them. May this sharing remind us of the connection that holds us and the beloved community you call us to form.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER [Pastor, responsive]

One: Almighty God, there is so much hate in the world, it can throw us off balance. We pray for those caught in war-torn Ukraine who are fleeing their homes because they have no other option. We pray for those unable to flee, seeking safety and shelter from the harsh winter amid the shelling of war; for those spending time away from the comfort of family. We pray for those whose hearts are hardened by fear and anger. Center us, God, amongst the fear, violence, and hate. Help us to stay grounded in you.

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

One: Holy Father, we pray for your Divine guidance for our political leaders. Surround them with wise people. Help them to cut through bureaucracy to help those on the margins of society.

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

One: Christ, you are alive. You are present. You are working in the world. In your name we pray these things together as Christ taught us, Saying, "Our Father..."

***DEPARTING HYMN #147 "The First Nowell"**

***BLESSING**

One: We have been blessed!

All: We have met for divine worship, as God's people.

One: We have been blessed!

All: Our sins have truly been forgiven.

One: We have been blessed!

All: We go out into the world as the body of Christ, bearing the good news of the gospel. We are blessed, indeed. Amen!

CHARGE & BENEDICTION [Pastor]

Beloveds, remember your baptism. Go from here with confidence that God sees you, calls you, and delights in you. In you, God is well pleased. With this assurance, let us open hearts to God that we may work together with the Holy Spirit, to bring compassion to every aspect of our lives. Amen.

***POSTLUDE**

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