

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

March Guest Preachers:

March 5: "2nd Sunday in Lent": TBA

March 12: "3rd Sunday in Lent": Rev. Andy Meyers

March 19: "4th Sunday in Lent": Rev. Charles Philips

March 26: "5th Sunday in Lent": Rev. Marvin Daniel

Today is the last day to drop off your donated items for the Scouts' "Birthday Cake" Project. Collection boxes are in the Narthex and the Fellowship Hall.

Mark your calendar! Movie Night will be held Wednesday, March 1, featuring the movie "Ruth" from the Sight and Sound collection. Dinner of chili, soup, bread and dessert will be served at 6 p.m., with movie starting at 6:30 p.m. (approx.) Come and enjoy, and don't forget to bring a friend!

Lenten Sunday School Lessons will begin Sunday, March 12 at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be using materials written by Max Lucado entitled, "He Chose the Nails: What God Did to Win Your Heart." These lessons invite you to examine the cross, contemplate its purpose and celebrate its significance. If you would like to order the Study Guide (Cost: \$4.00), please contact Patsy.

It's time to order Easter Lilies! We are accepting orders starting today through March 19. Order forms are in the Sunday bulletin and also on the Narthex table. Cost: \$14/plant includes delivery charge. Make check payable to "Gregory Memorial Church" and leave check with order form in collection plate!

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6300 Courthouse Rd. / P. O. Box 182, Prince George, VA 23875

www.gregorymemorial.org www.facebook.com/gmpcv

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); _____* (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

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

11:00 a.m.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We welcome you to worship with us this morning, as we gather in community to draw closer to God. 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 quiet stillness of God's presence!

PRELUDE Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Rollings, Pianist

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS/
SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS** Donald Hunter

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Marvin Daniel

CALL TO WORSHIP [*Responsive; based on Matthew 4:1-11*]

One: For forty days and forty nights,

All: our Savior fasted in the wilderness

One Tempted to turn from God, tempted to turn to power and privilege,

All: our Savior resisted.

One: Let us follow Jesus through the wilderness this Lent, examining our temptations, resisting them and returning to God.

All: Let us worship God.

***OPENING HYMN #438 "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"**

CALL TO CONFESSION [*Pastor*]

We pause here to examine our lives, our temptations and the ways we have fallen short before our God. Let us confess our sins together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [*In unison*]

Gracious God, as we wander through this wilderness with Jesus, we turn to during times of stress and struggle, and we confess the neglect of our faith. We confess all that we place above you, making idols of money, earthly power, and even food. Empty us this Lent, Holy God. Guide us in our spiritual practices so we can leave this wilderness season more aware of your presence and the ways our faith can sustain us. Amen.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession]

***Please stand, as able.**

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Families, persons, entities impacted by weather-related disasters

Families, persons impacted by gun violence

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 (health issues)

Eddie Frankenstein

Grace Cibula

Etta Holc

Jerry & Ruby Hasky (health issues)

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)

Ruth Figg (Petersburg Home for Ladies)

Billy Robertson (recent health issue)

Shirley MacNeill (recent health issue)

Paula McDaniel, Pam Elder's sister (health issue)

John Kephart, Grace Cibula's nephew (heart surgery on 1/12)

Inez Paul, Mary Holc's mother (hospice care, Riverview on the Appomattox)

Tara Foster (recovering at home from surgery: kidney stones)

ANNOUNCEMENTS – See back page.

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	FEBRUARY 26	MARCH 5
S	1st Sunday in Lent 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service ➤ 5 Cents a Meal Offering Guest Preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel <u>Order Easter Lilies</u>	2nd Sunday in Lent 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service Guest Preacher: TBA <u>Order Easter Lilies</u>
M	27	6
T	2p Cmte reports due 28	7 6p GSA Tr.5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm) 7p Congregational Care Cmte
W	MARCH 1	8
T	6a Clean Church 2	9 6a Clean Church 7p Faith Cmte
F	3	10
S	4	11

ATTENDANCE	WORSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	M	V	M	V
February 5, 2023	25	10	8	2
February 12, 2023	13	92	4	2
February 19, 2023	24	10	10	2
February 26, 2023				

M=Members V=Visitors

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Remember and receive these hopeful words from John 8:32, "If you continue in my word, you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." Receive God's truth. Receive God's grace. Accept the freedom God provides. Amen.

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of grace, help us seek you and the message you intend for us today. Let us not be distracted by worldly pursuits or pleasures. Help us to focus our hearts and minds on you and your Word read and proclaimed today. Amen.

SCRIPTURAL READINGS (HOLY BIBLE, NRSV Trans.)

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 p. 2
 New Testament Lesson: Matthew 4:1-11 p. 785

SERMON "Tempted" Rev. Marvin Daniel

***REFLECTIVE HYMN #166 "Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days"**

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.

CALL FOR OFFERING [Pastor]

God calls us to lives of grateful generosity. Let us praise the Giver of all good gifts through our offering today.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

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

God of grace, you provide for us in amazing ways. Accept these offerings as signs of our gratitude and bless them to further Christ's ministry and mission among the poor, the despairing and the destitute. Amen.

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

One: Eternal God, as we begin this Lenten journey with Jesus in the wilderness, our struggles and temptations become all too real. Emptying ourselves of that which teases and tempts us to turn from you and turn toward idols of comfort that don't satisfy and don't last, we pray for you to open us to your truth and guide us in Christ's path. God, help us with our Lenten reckoning. We are in the wilderness, and we desperately need you as our guide.

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

One: All too often, God, we prioritize our comfort and our convenience over the struggles and suffering of others. Hear our desire to change, O God. Help us be deliberate in our actions and thoughtful in our choices. Help us ask ourselves the hard questions before we take action. Who will our actions impact? Who might we unintentionally harm? What voices have we not heard from? Who have we not yet considered? God, help us with our Lenten reckoning. We are in the wilderness, and we desperately need you as our guide.

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

One: Finally, Holy God, in this moment of prayer we pause now to de-center ourselves and our needs to focus on the needs of others. Hear our prayers and pleas on behalf of your people.

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

One: We pray for those who are fleeing violence, those who are grieving death and deep loss, those who are sick and their caregivers; those seeking healing from trauma. We pray for refugees and asylum seekers, for world leaders seeking to resolve conflict through non-violence and diplomacy. We pray for those fighting for life after a natural disaster.

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

One: In your mercy, O God, hear the prayers of your people. Help us walk with you during this Lenten season, so we can learn and grow in your embrace. Help us follow in the footsteps of our Savior, who calls on us to pray as he prayed, **"Our Father..."**

***DEPARTING HYMN #440 "Jesus, Lover of My Soul"**

***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; Book of Common Worship]**

Beloved people of God; I invite you, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by meditating on God's word.

May the grace, hope, peace and love of God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer be with us all, now and forever. Amen.

POSTLUDE

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