

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. Charles Philips to our pulpit today!

March Guest Preachers:

March 5: "2nd Sunday in Lent": Rev. Paul Nalla

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

March 19: "4th Sunday in Lent": **Rev. Charles Philips; Session Moderator**

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

Lenten Sunday School Lessons began this morning at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We are 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 join us in Sunday School and order the Study Guide (Cost: \$4.00), please contact Patsy.

Stated Session Meeting – 12 p.m. after worship today; Rev. Philips, Moderator.

Today's the last day to place your Easter Lily order! 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!

Looking for something to do? Come to our Closet Cleaning Party! On Tuesday, Mar. 21 we'll meet at 10 a.m. for a fun-filled morning of cleaning and organizing closets in the Sunday School rooms. All who attend will be treated to a light lunch by Sandy and Patsy. Hope to see you there!!!

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 Skill* (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*

MARCH 19, 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/ Susan Shockley

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Charles Phillips

CALL TO WORSHIP *[Responsive reading led by Pastor; based on Psalm 23]*

One: The Lord leads us like a shepherd.

All: God nourishes our lives and restores our souls.

One: The Lord is with us, even in the darkest valley.

All: God's goodness and mercy are always close.

***OPENING HYMN #41 "O Worship the King, All Glorious Above"**

CALL TO CONFESSION *[Pastor]*

Jesus calls us to enter the joy of discipleship, the joy of following in his way. But sin clings closely, and we struggle to respond fully to Christ's invitation. Let us seek God's forgiveness so that we may know more deeply the joy God intends.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *[In unison]*

God of perfect love, you continually bring forth life, transforming sadness to joy, and despair to hope. We are weak, but you are strong. Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true. We are seldom right, but you are never wrong. Forgive us, redeem us, transform us. Take away the sin that burdens us, and restore us to the people you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession]

***Please stand, as able.**

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Those affected by earthquakes and cholera in Turkey and Syria
First-responders, world-wide
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)
Paula McDaniel, Pam Elder's sister (health issue)
John Kephart, Grace Cibula's nephew (heart surgery on 1/12)
Tara Foster (recovering at home from surgery: kidney stones)
Billy Robertson (recovering from eye surgery)
Shirley MacNeill (hospitalized, Tri-Cities Medical Center, frm. JRMC)
Family/friends of Mrs. Inez Paul, Mary Holc's mother (d. 3/4)

ANNOUNCEMENTS – See back page.

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	MARCH 19	MARCH 26	
S	4th Sunday in Lent 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service Guest Preacher: Rev. Charles Philips 12p Stated Session Meeting Moderator: Rev. Philips <u>Last Day to Order Easter Lilies</u>	5th Sunday in Lent 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service ➤ 5C Meal Offering Guest Preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel	
	20	27	
	T	21	28
	10a "Closet Cleaning Party" at GMPC; Light lunch provided for volunteers 6p GSA Tr 5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/ Dining Room)		
	W	22	29
11a Place Easter Lily order w/Florist <u>before 11 a.m.</u>			
T	23	30	
6a Clean Church 2p Newsletter out	6a Clean Church		
F	24	31	
	25	APRIL 1	

	ATTENDANCE		WORSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	M	V	M	V	M	V
March 5, 2023	18	13	12	1		
March 12, 2023	23	11	11	2		
March 19, 2023						
March 26, 2023						

M=Members V=Visitors

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Responsive reading led by Pastor]

One: Relentlessly, God seeks us out. With abundant grace and boundless mercy, God seeks us out. This is good news!

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION [Pastor]

Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen

SCRIPTURAL READINGS (HOLY BIBLE, NRSV Trans.)

Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 23 p. 435

New Testament Lesson: 1st Samuel 16:1-13 p. 226-227

SERMON

"A Heart Exam"

Rev. Charles Philips

John 9

***REFLECTIVE HYMN #197 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"**

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]

With gratitude for God's faithfulness and with thanksgiving for all that we have received, let us bring our gifts to God.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

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

O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, the head of the church and the Lord of our lives. Amen.

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

One: Great God, in you is more love than we can imagine and more grace than we can understand. You have shown yourself in Jesus Christ as a God who meets us where we are and loves us as we are. We are glad for this day and grateful for your many gifts. You bring good things into our lives, more than we can name, more than we can number. You give us the bread of life, sustaining our souls and feeding our deepest hungers. You accompany us on our way. Thank you for your abundant faithfulness.

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

One: Our hearts are full with many things today. Disease and death and pain and sorrow are constantly among us. The journey through these days is marked by uncertainty and heartache. We are frequently overwhelmed by the needs around us and within us. Some need healing, some need encouragement, some need comfort, some need assurance, we all need hope. So we turn to you asking you to hear our prayers and grant what we need for the living of these days.

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

One: We pray for our nation. We pray for renewed commitments to our common life. Refresh us in the values of your heart: justice, righteousness, compassion, mercy, peace. Help us to find a unity of purpose as citizens and neighbors.

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

One: We pray for your Church in places near and far. May the waters of your grace continually refresh and empower us to extend the love of Jesus to all people. We pray for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), for the clarity of our witness and the success of our mission. We pray for our congregation, for our life together, and for our efforts to follow in the way of Jesus. Hear us. Hold us. Heal us. Help us. For the sake of our Savior, our Lord, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray using these words: *"Our Father..."*

***DEPARTING HYMN #286 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"**

***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]**

Let us go from this place trusting that God is with us and for us in every place. May the grace of our Lord Jesus, the love of God, and the companionship of the Holy Spirit be with you and abide with you this day and forevermore. Amen.

POSTLUDE

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