

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. Marvin Daniel 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 Phillips; Session Moderator

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

Maundy Thursday Service – April 9. Gregory's congregation has been invited to Maundy Thursday service, led by Rev. Charles Phillips, at Rosewood Presbyterian Church (5500 Oaklawn Boulevard, Prince George, VA. Service begins at 7 p.m. on April 9.

Scholarship application deadline for Fall Semester: May 31. Deadline for submitting applications for the Christine Belsches Memorial Scholarship Fund is May 31. Applications may be submitted to Susan Shockley or Santy Hunter, or mailed (Gregory Memorial PC, P. O. Box 182, Prince George, VA 23875) or brought to the Church Office.

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); _____* (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 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/ Rose Scott

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Marvin Daniel

CALL TO WORSHIP *[Responsive reading led by Pastor]*

One: We gather to worship God.

All: God who makes bones dance.

One: God who calls Lazarus from the grave.

All: God who forgives us and gives us hope.

***OPENING HYMN #269 "Lead On, O King Eternal"**

CALL TO CONFESSION *[Pastor]*

If the Lord marked our iniquities, we could not stand. But there is forgiveness with God. In trust and faith, let us offer our confessions to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *[In unison; based on Psalm 130]*

Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord. Hear our voices and let your ears be attentive to the voice of our supplications. We come into your presence confessing our sins, aware we have behaved in ways that are contrary to your desire for our living. We come into your presence aware that too often we allow lifelessness to gain the upper hand. We come into your presence aware that we put our trust in our own abilities. Forgive us, O God. Infuse us with your life-giving spirit. Breathe into us and make us come alive.

[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, moved to SSRMC)
Family/friends of Mrs. Inez Paul, Mary Holc's mother (d. 3/4)
Congratulations to new parents Morgan & Josh Ingram on arrival of daughter,
Rigsby (b. 3/17!)

ANNOUNCEMENTS – See back page.

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	MARCH 26	APRIL 2
S	5th Sunday in Lent 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service ➤ 5C Meal Offering Guest Preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel	Palm Sunday <i>Begin Holy Week</i> 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service & Holy Communion Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. James Taneti
M	27	3
T	28	4
W	29	5
T	30	6
	6a Clean Church	Maundy Thursday 6a Clean Church 7p Maundy Thursday worship service at Rosewood Presbyterian Church (5500 Oaklawn Blvd.)
F	31	7
	2p Cmte reports (March) due	Good Friday
S	APRIL 1	8
		Holy Saturday Great Vigil of Easter

ATTENDANCE	WORSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	M	V	M	V
March 5, 2023	18	13	12	1
March 12, 2023	23	11	11	2
March 19, 2023	23	9	13	
March 26, 2023				

M=Members V=Visitors

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Responsive reading led by Pastor]

One: Hope in the Lord!

All: With the Lord, there is steadfast love.

One: With God, there is great power to redeem.

All: Thanks be to God who redeems us from all our iniquities.

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION [Pastor]

Our souls wait for the Lord and in God's Word we hope. We wait for the Divine Word to envelop and guide us. We wait for the creating word to give us life and bring nourishment to our parched souls. Our souls wait for the Lord and in God's Word we hope.

SCRIPTURAL READINGS (HOLY BIBLE, NRSV Trans.)

Old Testament Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14 p. 704

New Testament Lesson: John 11:1-45 p. 873-874

SERMON

"Do You Believe This?"

Rev. Marvin Daniel

***REFLECTIVE HYMN #213 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"**

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]

We bring before God gifts of gratitude in response to God's gift of breath, life and wholeness.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

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

Good and gracious God, may these gifts be one of the ways your life giving presence is experienced in our community. Use this money and use us to give hope to the hopeless, wholeness to the broken and fullness to the hungry. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

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

One: God of valley and grave, we come before you today and pray for your life-giving presence in places that seem dry and dead. There are those places we know from the news: Ukraine, Turkey, Syria, Greece, East Palestine — places where war, natural disaster and human greed has left dead bodies and broken lives behind. You asked, O God., "Mortal, can these bones live?" And for people in these places where they have had to bury ones they love, even as they worry about their own living, give them breath that indeed they may live.

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

One: Across your created world, your people wait and hope. We wait for an end to gun violence. We wait for an end to racial injustice. We wait for an end to the priority of money over people. We wait for an end to all those things that rob your people of life, that rob your people of breath, that rob your people of wholeness.

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

One: As we gaze across your world, O God, we wonder where we fit in. Give us the courage to live the reality of the resurrection. Give us the courage to witness to new life. Give us the courage to step into your created world with your words of prophecy, with the courage to believe that you call us and guide us so that bones may live and your people may breathe.

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

One: In your name, we pray in the way that Jesus taught us, "Our Father..."

***DEPARTING HYMN #313 "Lord, Make Us More Holy"**

***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]**

Listen for the voice of God calling to you, "Mortal, can these bones live?" And in confidence, answer "O Lord God, You know." And then hold on — because God just may use you to make it happen.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit rest, remain and surround you today and all days. And all of God's people say ... **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

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