

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### **March Guest Preachers & Announcers:**

April 2 "Palm Sunday" & Communion: Rev. Dr. James Taneti; S. Hunter, Announcer

April 9 "Easter ": Rev. Marvin Daniel; Announcer, R. Scott, Announcer

**April 16: Rev. Charles Philips; also Session Moderator; L. Johnson, Announcer**

April 23 Rev. Marvin Daniel; D. Hunter, Announcer

April 30: Rev. Renita Page; R. Scott, Announcer

**Stated Session Meeting** – Today, immediately (est. 12:00 p.m.) after worship service; Rev. Philips, Moderator.

**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.

**Reminder that "These Days" (Apr.-Jun.)** is available in the Narthex. This daily study guide is provided free to the congregation. Pick up your copy today while supplies last!

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### **GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

[www.gregorymemorial.org](http://www.gregorymemorial.org)    [www.facebook.com/gmpcva](http://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](mailto: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*

**2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**APRIL 16, 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** Larry Johnson

**PASSING OF THE PEACE** Rev. Charles Philips

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *[Responsive reading; based on John 20:19-31]*

One: Christ is risen! He greets us with a word of peace.

**All: We welcome the risen Christ! We worship and adore him!**

One: Christ is risen! Locked doors and doubting hearts cannot keep him away.

**All: We welcome the risen Christ! We worship and adore him!**

One: Christ is risen! He comes to bless us with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**All: We welcome the risen Christ! We worship and adore him!**

**\*OPENING HYMN #611 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"**

**CALL TO CONFESSION** *[Pastor]*

Christ is risen. Yet we often act as if he is still in the tomb. Let us confess all that turns us toward death, so we can know the grace of new life through Christ.

*[Pause for a moment of silent confession]*

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**\*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, communities impacted by gun violence  
People & Sovereign Country of Ukraine; Russian citizens conscripted into war  
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 Chippenham Med. Ctr.)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS – See back page.**

**THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY**

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
|   | <b>APRIL 16</b>   | <b>APRIL 23</b>  |
| S | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b><br><b>9:30a</b> Sunday School<br><b>11a</b> Worship Service<br><br>Guest Preacher:<br>Rev. Charles Philips<br><br><b>12p</b> Stated Session Meeting<br>Moderator: Rev. Philips | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b><br><b>9:30a</b> Sunday School<br><br><b>11a</b> Worship Service<br>➤ 5-Cents Meal Offering<br><br>Guest Preacher:<br>Rev. Marvin Daniel |
| M | 17  | 24   |
| T | <b>6p</b> GSA Tr 5000 (Fellowship Hall<br>Reception Area, Kitchen,<br>Meeting/Dining Rm)  | 25   |
| W | 19  | 26   |
| T | <b>6a</b> Clean Church<br><br><b>2p</b> News articles due   | <b>6a</b> Clean Church<br><br><b>2p</b> Newsletter out   |
| F | 21  | 28   |
| S | 22  | 29   |

| ATTENDANCE     | WORSHIP |    | SUNDAY SCHOOL |   |
|----------------|---------|----|---------------|---|
|                | M       | V  | M             | V |
| April 2, 2023  | 21      | 8  | 13            |   |
| April 9, 2023  | 30      | 20 | 11            |   |
| April 16 2023  |         |    |               |   |
| April 23, 2023 |         |    |               |   |
| April 30, 2023 |         |    |               |   |

M=Members      V=Visitors

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION [Pastor]**

Savior God, forgive our doubts and disbelief. You show up in our lives, yet we fail to notice you and demand more proof. We expect more when you have already given us enough. Forgive our lack of faith. Forgive our lack of gratitude. Redeem us. Restore us. Resurrect us for life in Christ. Amen.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession.]

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Responsive]**

One: As is written in John 20:19, "Jesus came and stood among them [the disciples] and said, 'Peace be with you.' Know that you are forgiven and receive Christ's peace.

All: **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia. Amen.**

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

**\*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION [Pastor]**

Savior God, you've gifted us with the Holy Spirit as our advocate and guide. Open us to the Spirit's breath. Carry us on the wings of your wisdom. Set us on the solid foundation of your Word read and proclaimed. May we hear the truth you intend for us today. Amen.

**SCRIPTURAL READINGS (HOLY BIBLE, NRSV Trans.)**

Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 16:1-11, p. 430-431

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31, p. 883

New Testament Lesson: 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:3-9, p. 983

**SERMON**                      "Inheritance Guaranteed"      Rev. Charles Philips

**\*REFLECTIVE HYMN #835 "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"**

### **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]**

Christ is risen! Hallelujah! Let us gratefully give of our offerings in praise of Christ's ministry through us and for us.

### **OFFERING, OFFERTORY**

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

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

Risen and redeeming God, you have given us more than we could ever give you in return. You are gracious and generous in your love. Accept these offerings as signs of our gratitude and bless our work on Christ's behalf. May we love as Christ loved. May we serve as Christ served. Call us forth into your world, guided by Christ's spirit. Amen.

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

One: God of grace, your Son moves through locked doors, and into our places of fear. We are grateful for the peace Christ offers. Holy God, hear our prayers on behalf of those who are exhausted by their lives and carrying heavy loads; the overwhelmed and depressed who cannot find joy; the sick and the suffering; those without hope....

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

One: Mighty God, Healer of Nations, hear our prayers for peace. Hear our prayers on behalf of the people of Ukraine; for Russian citizens forced into war; for innocent lives and families torn apart by violence.

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

One: God of hope, you resurrect us from our places of despair, turning us toward your promises of peace. Help us rejoice in the beauty that surrounds us. Help us attend to the gifts you abundantly provide and hear our prayers of gratitude for opportunities to live a life of purpose and to follow Christ in meaningful service.

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

One: Ground us in your good news, O God, and keep our feet steady on Christ's path. May we return to worship you again and again, and to pray the prayer Christ taught us, saying, "**Our Father...**"

### **\*DEPARTING HYMN #265 "Jesus Shall Reign Where're the Sun"**

### **\*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, from John 20:29]**

"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." We leave this sanctuary a blessed people. Let us go now and be a blessing to others. 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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