

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Guest Preachers & Announcers

July 2: Ms. Cathy Culp; S. Hunter, Announcer

July 9: Rev. Charles Philips; S. Shockley, Announcer

July 16: Rev. Marvin Daniel; R. Scott, Announcer

July 23: TBA; S. Shockley, Announcer

July 30: Rev. Marvin Daniel; L. Johnson, Announcer

“Back-to-School” Fair Items - Don't forget to pick a “Star” from our tree in the Narthex! Each “Star” has one item that is needed for the “Back-to-School” Fair. Choose your “Star” today and either return your item to church on Sunday, July 16 or Sunday, July 23. The churches in Prince George County are working together to give every student a chance to begin the school year as a “Star”!

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 Hare

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)

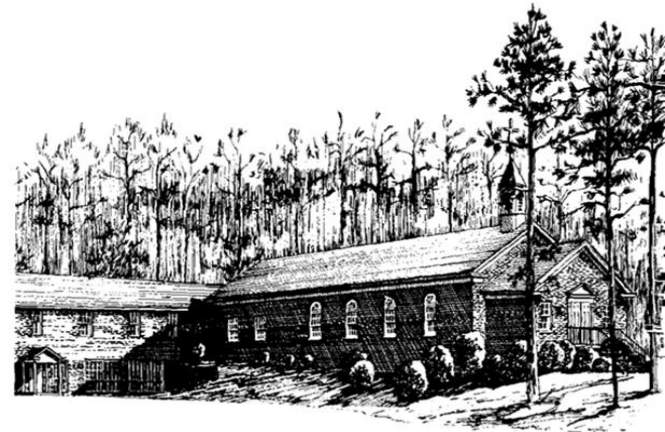
Doug Holc (2025); David Johnson (2025); Patsy Johnson (2025)

Donald Hunter - Clerk of Session (2023)

Trustees

Gail Hare (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

JULY 9, 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 Hare, Pianist

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS/
SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS** Susan Shockley

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Charles Philips

CALL TO WORSHIP [*Responsive reading*]

One: In this place, we gather to turn our hearts and minds to God.

All: We rejoice that the Triune God meets us here.

One: As we worship, we remember,

All: that we are the family of faith together!

***OPENING HYMN #336 "We Gather Together"**

CALL TO CONFESSION [*Pastor*]

When we come to worship God, we must first remember who we are, and we are people who often sin and turn from the ways of God. Relying on God's abundant grace, let us offer our confession together, knowing that we will be offered forgiveness in Christ.

[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, communities impacted by gun violence
People & Sovereign Country of Ukraine; Russian citizens conscripted into war
Those in our community suffering from 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
Etta Holc
Jerry & Ruby Hasky (health issues)
Lee Harsh, Valerie Harsh's brother-in-law (health issue)
Reese Etheridge, Wayne Powers' uncle (health issue)
Dana Etheridge, Wayne Powers' cousin (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)
Paula McDaniel, Pam Elder's sister (health issue)
Tara Foster (recovering at home from surgery: kidney stones)
Grace Cibula (recovering at home; health issues)
Shirley MacNeill (home, health issues)
Moneka Suprenant, Susan Shockley's & Sandy Eickmeyer's friend (brain injury)
John Carl Allen (recovering, orthopedic surgery)
Mary Kay & Mike Schroeter (health issues)

ANNOUNCEMENTS – See back page.

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	JULY 9	JULY 16
	6th Sunday after Pentecost	7th Sunday after Pentecost
S	11a Worship Service Guest Preacher: Rev. Charles Philips	11a Worship Service Guest Preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel 12p Stated Session Meeting Moderator: Rev. Daniel
M	10	17
T	7p Finance Cmte 11	18
W	12	19
T	6a Clean Church 7p Faith Cmte 13	6a Clean Church 2p Newsletter articles due 20
F	14	21
S	15	22

	ATTENDANCE		WORSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	M	V	M	V	M	V
July 2, 2023	27	7	9			
July 9, 2023						
July 16, 2023						
July 23, 2023						
July 30, 2023						

M=Members V=Visitors

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [In unison]

Gracious God, we are a people who often do the wrong thing, even when we want to do what is right. We have not cared for others as you have called us to, but we have been focused primarily on ourselves. We have been a people who are more divisive than uniting, more unkind than kind, and more rebellious than faithful. Forgive us, we pray and make us new to go forth and glorify you. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Responsive reading]

One: Hear the Good News! Through the grace and love of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

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

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

Gracious God, for generations, your Word has brought love and life to your people. Speak to us now; we pray that we may hear, and in hearing, we may be transformed. Amen.

SCRIPTURE (HOLY BIBLE, NRSV Trans.)

Old Testament: Psalm 45: 1-17 [Responsive reading, see insert]

Gospel: Matthew 11: 16-30 Reader: Susan Shockley

SERMON "Who Are You?" Rev. Charles Philips

***REFLECTIVE HYMN #735 "I Need Thee Every Hour"**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH [In unison; Apostle's 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]

In response to God's gracious action in our lives, we are called to give an offering to God. Our offering to God is our whole lives, including a part of what we have. Let us give an offering to God for God's purposes in our community and the world.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

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

Thank you, God, for all that we have and all that we are. We take these gifts given today and dedicate them ever and only to you. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER [Responsive reading]

One: Gracious God, in Jesus, we are invited to come to you with our burdens, with the wearying concerns of our lives. Hear us now as we pray for the world around us. Change our moral consciousness Lord to one in which safety and preservation of life is our most important concern. May we each look deep into your Word, Lord, to find the ethic we will live by and work for your kingdom to come.

All: Heavenly Father, hear us as we pray.

One: We pray for the sick or suffering people in our world and our community. We pray for your grace to be found in the unwanted diagnosis or medical news; may your love saturate the grief that news brings. For those who suffer from pain and discomfort, we pray that you will ease their suffering and give them fresh hope in the face of illness.

All: Healing Spirit, receive our prayer.

One: Lord, we ask that you look upon our relationships and families and strengthen them. Build up our marriages, reinforce our friendships, and bless the ties that bind us. Enable us to be the parents, grandparents, sons, and daughters you have called us to be. Bless our families — whether they are families of blood or choice.

All: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

One: And we ask that you guide this church into new life and health. Teach us each to live in such a way that the power of God working in us is evident to all. May all that we do as a church community and all that we do as individuals glorify you. We ask this in Jesus' name and join our voices in the prayer that he taught us, saying, **"Our Father"**

***DEPARTING HYMN #546 "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"**

***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]**

May you be strengthened for the week ahead by the joy we have shared this day. May the words of hope resonate the whole week long. May you live for the glory of God. And may the Triune God surround us with love and care our whole lives long. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Resource: *Holy Bible, (NRSV)* © 1989 by Div. of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved. Published by Zondervan.

Resource: Hymns and "Apostle's Creed" p. 35 from *Glory To God, The Presbyterian Hymnal*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.

Resource: Liturgy written by Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger, Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Huntsville, Alabama, and provided for distribution to congregations freely for worship use; © 2023 *Presbyterian Outlook*.

INSERT: PSALM 45: 1-17; NRSV [Responsive Reading]

One: My heart overflows with a goodly theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.

All: You are the most handsome of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you for ever.

One: Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your glory and majesty.

All: In your majesty ride on victoriously for the cause of truth and to defend the right; let your right hand teach you dread deeds.

One: Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; the peoples fall under you.

All: Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity;

One: you love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

All: your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;

One: daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

All: Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house,

One: and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him;

All: the people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts, the richest of the people with all kinds of wealth.

One: The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;

All: in many-colored robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins, her companions, follow.

One: With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.

All: In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth.

One: I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations; therefore the peoples will praise you for ever and ever.