

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Guest Preachers & Announcers

August 6: Rev. Marvin Daniel; P. Johnson, Announcer

August 13: Rev. Charles Philips; L. Johnson, Announcer

August 20: Rev. Marvin Daniel; R. Scott, Announcer

August 27: Rev. Dr. Errol G. Rohr; D. Hunter, Announcer

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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

AUGUST 13, 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** *Larry Johnson*

PASSING OF THE PEACE *Rev. Charles Philips*

CALL TO WORSHIP *[Responsive reading; from Psalm 2]*

One: As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

All: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?

One: These things I remember as I pour out my soul:

All: How I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.

One: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted
Within me?

All: Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

***OPENING HYMN #307 "God of Grace and God of Glory"**

CALL TO CONFESSION *[Pastor]*

In the presence of almighty God and before one another, let us confess our sin and the things that hinder us in leading faithful lives as God's people.

[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

	AUGUST 13	AUGUST 20
S	11th Sunday after Pentecost 11a Worship Service Guest Preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel	12th Sunday after Pentecost 11a Worship Service Guest Preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel 12p Stated Session Meeting Moderator: Rev. Daniel
M	14	Drive Carefully--- School starts today! 
T	15	22
W	16	23
T	6a Clean Church 2p News articles due	6a Clean Church 2p Newsletter out 7p Faith Cmte
F	18	25
S	19	26

	ATTENDANCE		WORSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	M	V	M	V	M	V
August 6, 2023						
August 13, 2023						
August 20, 2023						
August 27, 2023						

M=Members V=Visitors

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [In unison; based on Psalm 69:1-3;

Matthew 14; Hebrews 12:1-2]

Save us, O God, for the waters have come up to our necks. We sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold; we have come into deep waters, and the floods sweep over us. We are weary; our throats are parched. Our eyes grow dim with waiting for our God. Gracious God, forgive us for taking our eyes off Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. When the storms of life swirl around us, we forget your unfailing goodness and power to save us. When we hear Jesus say, "Come," we make excuses about why it is too hard to follow him, especially when the way seems dangerous and challenging. Forgive our sins, Lord, and help us to step out in faith. Be merciful to us when we cry out, "We believe; help our unbelief!" In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Responsive; hymn "How Firm a Foundation"]

One: Hear these words of assurance: "When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow. For I will be with you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress." Friends, hear and believe the good news:

All: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

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

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

How firm a foundation is laid for our faith in your excellent Word, O Lord! As we hear your Word read and proclaimed today, may our faith be strengthened that we may step out in faith and follow our Lord Jesus where he leads us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE (HOLY BIBLE, NRSV Trans.)

Old Testament: _____

Gospel: _____

New Testament: _____

Reader: L. Johnson

SERMON " _____ "

Rev. Charles Philips

***REFLECTIVE HYMN #463 "How Firm a Foundation"**

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 grateful response to all that God has done for us in Jesus Christ, let us continue our worship as we present our tithes and offerings.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

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

Lord Jesus, you call us to follow you in faith and promise to provide us everything we need for ministry in your name. Bless these gifts we bring, that we may use them faithfully to share the good news of your love and mercy. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

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

One: God of grace and God of mercy, when life threatens to overwhelm us, we cry out as the psalmist did, "Save me, O God!" and as Peter did, "Lord, save me!" You are always there for us, reaching out and taking our hand, offering your peace and calming our fears by your very presence in Jesus Christ.

All: Holy Father, hear our prayers.

One: Lord Jesus, when you call us to follow where you lead, our hearts rejoice, but our fears sidetrack us. Open our hearts and our ears to hear your voice above all others. Then may we respond in trust, willing to get out of the boat, come to you, walk with you, and follow you through all of life's joys and sorrows, triumphs and challenges.

All: Holy Father, hear our prayers.

One: Holy Spirit, fill us with your power and your gifts for ministry that We might be faithful disciples of our Lord Jesus who says, "Come." Help us to focus on the abundance of grace rather than the scarcity that comes from fear. Teach us your truth that we may come to know, love, and trust Jesus Christ in all of life.

All: Holy Father, hear our prayers.

One: O God, we pray for your church in this place. When we are afraid To step out in faith, help us stay focused on Jesus Christ. When we are comfortable, stir us from our complacency. When we make our plans based on what we don't have, forgive us and remind us of your never-failing promise of abundant life in Jesus Christ. When we find ourselves sinking under the weight of our doubts, help us to reach out to you and take your strong hand that will lift us up. We offer these and all of our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, who taught us to pray, "**Our Father**"

***DEPARTING HYMN #542 "God Be with You 'Till We Meet Again"**

***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; 1 Peter 2:5]**

Come to him, a living stone, and like living stones, let yourselves be Built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual Sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. Amen.

POSTLUDE

INSERT: PSALM 139: 1-13; NRSV [Responsive Reading]

One: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

All: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

One: You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

All: Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

One: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

All: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

One: Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

All: If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

One: If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

All: even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

One: If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night',

All: even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

One: For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.