

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome Rev. Marvin Daniel back to our pulpit today!

### Guest Preachers & Announcers

October 1: Rev. John Scholer; D. Hunter, Announcer

October 8: Rev. Kenneth Stith, Sr.; P. Johnson, Announcer

**October 15: Rev. Marvin Daniel; S. Hunter, Announcer**

October 22: Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell; L. Johnson, Announcer

October 29: Rev. Marvin Daniel; S. Walker, Announcer

**Stated Session Meeting** – immediately after worship service today.

**Movie Night – Wednesday, October 25.** Featuring Sight & Sound Productions' "ESTHER", a story of drama, power, romance and intrigue! The evening will begin at 6 p.m. with a delicious Taco Dinner, followed by the movie at around 6:30 p.m. Bring a friend or two! ~~10/8~~, 10/15, 10/22

**Congregational Pocket Directory Update:** Copies will be available in Narthex by end of this month.

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*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", Glory To God, The Presbyterian Hymnal, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press. p. 35.

*Resource:* Liturgy by Rev. John Wurster, Pastor at St. Philip Presbyterian Church in Houston, TX, for The Presbyterian Outlook, and provided for distribution to congregations freely for worship use; © 2023 The Presbyterian Outlook.

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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 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*

**OCTOBER 15, 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** Sandy Hunter

**PASSING OF THE PEACE** Rev. Marvin Daniel  
Guest Preacher

### **CALL TO WORSHIP** [*Responsive reading; from 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 #39 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"**

### **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.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession.]

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**\*Please stand, as able.**

## OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

First-responders, world-wide  
Families, persons, entities affected by weather disasters & gun violence  
Families, persons, communities affected by Israeli-Hamas war in Gaza Strip  
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  
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 L. 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)  
Moneka Suprenant, Susan Shockley's & Sandy Eickmeyer's friend (brain injury)  
John Carl Allen (recovering, orthopedic surgery)  
Mary Kay & Mike Schroeter (health issues)  
Dr. Joseph Hillier of Matoaca (dentist, ret.), family friend of Mary Lykins (injured & hospitalized from a fall & possibly pending surgery)  
Alex Courtney of Florence, SC, business associate of Dianna L. Flaherty, Mary Lykins' daughter (injured in motor vehicle accident)  
Peggy & Dennis Allen (health issues); Peggy - Petersburg Home for Ladies, Rm #18  
Corey Whelan, Pat Hunter's grandson (continuing health issue)  
Judy Recher (health issue)  
Shirley MacNeill (health issues; Parham Doctor's Hosp., Rm. 215)  
Family/friends of Hannah Vaughn, K. V. Butler's granddaughter (d. 10/4)  
Family/friends of Alan Sheffield Foster (d. 10/10)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS – See back page.**

**THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY**

	OCTOBER 15	OCTOBER 22
S	<b>20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>9:30a</b> Sunday School <b>11a</b> Worship Service Guest Preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel <b>12p</b> Stated Session Meeting Moderator: Rev. Daniel	<b>21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>9:30a</b> Sunday School <b>11a</b> Worship Service Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell
M	16	23
T	<b>6p</b> GSA Tr5000 (Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm)	24
W	18	MOVIE NIGHT In Fellowship Hall <b>6p</b> Taco Dinner <b>6:30p</b> Movie "Esther"
T	<b>6a</b> Clean Church <b>2p</b> Newsletter articles due <b>6p</b> BSA Cub Scout Pack 910 Fellowship Hall Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Rm)	<b>6a</b> Clean Church <b>2p</b> Newsletter out
F	20	27
S	<b>9a</b> 115 <sup>th</sup> Presbytery of the James Meeting (Via Zoom): Bill Shill, GMPC Commissioner	28

ATTENDANCE	WORSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	M	V	M	V
October 1, 2023	19	5	6	
October 8, 2023	21	5	9	
October 15, 2023				
October 22, 2023				
October 22, 2023				

M=Members V=Visitors

**CONFESSION OF SIN [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.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Responsive]**

One: Relentlessly God seeks us out. With abundant grace and boundless mercy, God seeks us out.

All: **This is good news!**

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

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

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.

**SCRIPTURE (HOLY BIBLE, NRSV Trans.)**

Old Testament: Exodus 32:1-14

Rev. Marvin Daniel

**PSALM 23 [In unison]**

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

New Testament: Philippians 4:1-9

Rev. Marvin Daniel

**SERMON**

"Triumphant Joy"

Rev. Marvin Daniel

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

**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]**

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; based on Psalm 19]**

O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use, 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 [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 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: Holy Father, we are humbled and grateful for your gifts.**

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 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: Holy Father, 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: Holy Father, 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 like this: *"Our Father...."*

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

**\*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**