

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Apr. Guest Preachers:

Apr. 7: Rev. Marvin Daniel; L. Johnson, Announcer

Apr 14: Rev. Marvin Daniel; S. Shockley, Announcer

Apr.21: Rev. Nancy Clark; R. Scott, Announcer

Apr.28: Rev. Marvin Daniel; Donald Hunter, Announcer

Holy Communion – Today.

Circle Meeting – Tuesday, Apr. 9 at 1 p.m. Location: Grace Cibula's.

BSA Troop 900 Camp Fund-raiser: Hanging Flower Baskets & Camp Cards –

Scout Leader Ralph Orr will be at the church after today's worship service to handle orders for the Scouts' hanging flower baskets and Camp Cards. Orders will be taken today for the flower baskets (\$25 each) with payment due on delivery to the church April 16. Camp Cards (\$10 each, of discount coupons for area businesses and restaurants) will be sold to those interested. *(A real bargain! If you are someone who takes their car in for an oil change or maintenance, there's a Midas coupon for \$20 on the card that more than covers the \$10 cost of the Camp Card! Card expires 12/31/2024, and Midas is 1 of 9 merchants on the card that allows multiple uses! See enclosed flyer for details.*

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, Presbyterian Hymnal, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.

Liturgy: By Rev. Chris Currie, Senior Pastor at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church, New Orleans, LA and provided to congregations freely for worship use; © 2024 Presbyterian Outlook.

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)*

Rose Scott (2024); Blake Bishop* (2024); Susan Shockley (2024)

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

Mary Holc (2026); Sandy Hunter (2026); William Shill (2026)

Donald Hunter (Clerk of Session (2024)

Trustees

Donald Hunter (2024); Ron Recher (2025); Gail Hare (2026)

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

"2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER"

APRIL 7, 2024

11:00 a.m.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER”

APRIL 7, 2024

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Hare, Pianist

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS/
SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS** Larry Johnson

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Marvin Daniel
Guest Preacher

CALL TO WORSHIP [*Responsive reading*]

One: Into our fears and through our locked doors.

All: Come, Almighty God.

One: When we think ‘peace be with you,’ means no change or disruption,

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

One: Amidst our lives that confuse religious entertainment with Easter fulfillment,

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

One: For the sake of a community meant to be its best during crisis,

All: Come Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*OPENING HYMN #236 “The Strife Is O'er”

CALL TO CONFESSION [*Pastor*]

When we stand at the baptismal font and confess our sins we are not doing so as lost, guilty and ambiguous human beings who are not sure of our standing before God, we come confident as those who are no longer dead in our trespasses but who are already alive in Jesus Christ. Without God’s grace, we would not even know we are sinners. So we confess together:

**Please stand, as able.*

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Those affected by Baltimore, MD bridge disaster
First-responders, world-wide
Our deployed U.S. service personnel & their families
Families, persons, communities affected by weather disasters & gun violence
All families affected by the Israeli-Gaza Strip war
People & Sovereign Country of Ukraine; Russian citizens conscripted into war
Those in our community suffering from illness/loss/grief/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)
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)
Grace Cibula (health issue; recovering at home)
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, Lykins family friend (health issue)
Peggy & Dennis Allen (health issues; Peggy: Petersburg Home for Ladies,
Rm #18)
Corey Whelan, Pat Hunter’s grandson (on-going health issue)
Judy Recher (health issue)
Shirley MacNeill (health issues; recovering at home)
Valerie Harsh, living in Staunton, VA (health issue)
Sean Godwin, grandson of Bill & Cheryl Godwin (health issue: MCV-Massey)

ANNOUNCEMENTS ... See back page.

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | APRIL 7 | APRIL 14 |
| S | "2nd Sunday of Easter" 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service & Holy Communion Guest preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel | "3rd Sunday of Easter" 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service Guest preacher: Rev. Marvin Daniel |
| M | 6p BSA Crater Dist. Order of Arrow (Fellowship Hall, multiple rooms) 8 | 15 |
| T | 1p Circle (Location: G. Cibula's) 9 7p Finance Cmte | 6p GSA Tr5000 (Fellowship Hall, multiple rooms) 16 |
| W | 7p Faith Cmte 10 | 17 |
| T | 6a Clean church 11 Windows replacement in Education Wing, Fellowship Hall | 6a Clean church 18 2p Newsletter articles due 6p BSA Cub Pack 910 (Fellowship Hall, multiple rooms) |
| F | Windows replacement in Education Wing, Fellowship Hall 12 | 19 |
| S | 13 | 20 |

ATTENDANCE

WORSHIP

SUNDAY SCHOOL

| | M | V | M | V |
|---------------------------------|--------|----|----|---|
| March 3, 2024 | 18 | 11 | 8 | |
| March 10, 2024 | 22 | 5 | 12 | |
| March 17, 2024 | 22 | 11 | 11 | |
| March 24, 2024 | 26 | 8 | 24 | |
| March 28, 2024 (Maundy Thurs) | 17 | | | |
| March 31, 2024 (Sunrise Serv.*) | *23/32 | 12 | 14 | |

M=Members V=Visitors

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [In unison]

O Lord our God, we think our best should happen when we are in control. Forgive us for not expecting the risen Christ to show up when we are anxious, content to lock the doors of your house for fear of all that is outside.

Forgive us for thinking that church mainly happens inside these walls and not into the world you so love and into which we are sent. Forgive us for looking for your power in all the conventional places but never in places of brokenness, crisis and defeat.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been, repair what we are, and by the power of Christ's resurrection, raise us up to serve others for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession.]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Pastor]

You are already forgiven, loved and whole. In Christ, you are a fully flourishing human being; go live like it. In the Spirit, you are not an isolated spiritual being, doing Christianity alone, but you are part of a community of faith; go build that. By the grace of God, every human being is seen, loved, and made whole; go practice that. Amen.

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

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

Divine Redeemer, bearer of life, open us to the wisdom of your Word today and enlighten us with your truth. Liberate us from all that distracts us and turns us from your path. Guide us and ground us in Christ's everlasting hope. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS [Holy Bible, NRSV Trans.]

1st Reading: Psalm 133 p. 501
 2nd Reading: Acts 4:32-35 p. 888 Reader: L. Johnson
 Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31 p. 883

SERMON

"Peace Be With You"

Rev. Marvin Daniel

***REFLECTIVE HYMN #246 "Christ Is Alive!"**

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]

We become who we are called to be not through getting, acquiring and possessing but in our giving. To that end, let us worship God by giving our good gifts.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

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

Good and gracious God, help us to say thank you, to live with gratitude, to look for the best in each other, and to live charitably with all. May your resurrection never stop surprising us, disrupting us and transforming us, until Christ's kingdom comes. Amen

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

One: Eternal God, give us grateful hearts for the divine mysteries we cannot explain, solve or grasp. Thank you for the good news of Christ's resurrection that continues to impact this world with its ripples. May this miracle and its ongoing aftermath disrupt us even as it comforts us, may it send us out to risk telling others the life-changing story.

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

One: We thank you for the beauty of this worship service and the fullness of this day. We remember those who Christ made a priority in his midst: People who lived outside the legal codes, the social codes and the cultural norms. Remind us that Christ not only welcomed those presumed to be unworthy but liberated their full dignity and humanity. Show us how this is something Christ continues to do in our midst despite the narratives of division that try to put Christ back in the tomb. Give us eyes to see and courage to act.

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

One: To that end, we pray for this community and for the mission of the universal church. Like those mourning male and female disciples who could barely see the risen Christ through their despair, we are prone to pessimism. Remind us that Easter is always a miracle and that we are at our best when we walk by faith and not by sight. Remind us that we are called and equipped to be people of hope in a world entombed by death. Remind us that you are at work even now, giving us what we need to share our faith with others. It is in the name of our resurrected Lord we pray, "**Our Father....**"

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE [Please refer to insert]

DEPARTING HYMN #238 "Thine is the Glory"

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION [Pastor]**

Jesus says: 'As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' The work of church is not over; it has just begun. Go with joy where the crucified and risen Christ is sending you. And as you go, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, go with you, now and forevermore. Amen.

POSTLUDE