

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome Rev. John Scholer back to Gregory Memorial's pulpit today!

August Chimes, Acolyte, Preachers, Announcers* (*Readers, if requested):

Chimes: Pat Hunter - Acolyte: Wayne Powers

August 3: Rev. Dr. K. C. Jackson; S. Hunter, Announcer

August 10: Rev. John Scholer; L. Johnson, Announcer

August 17: Rev. Dr. K. C. Jackson; S. Shockley, Announcer

August 24: Rev. Nancy S. Clark; R. Scott, Announcer

August 31: Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell; M. Holc, Announcer

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Resource: "Affirmation of Faith," (from "A Brief Statement of Faith") Book of Common Worship; © 1993 John Knox Press.

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GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Telephone: 804.732.1081 - Office Hours: Tues.-Thurs., 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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*

"9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST"

August 10, 2025

11:00 a.m.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST"

August 10, 2025

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Hare, Pianist

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Pat Hunter

ACOLYTE

Wayne Powers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS/ SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Larry Johnson

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. John Scholer

CALL TO WORSHIP [*Pastor leads; based on Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16*]

One: Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the convictions of things not seen.

All: Like Abraham, let us follow God, even when we don't know where we are going.

One: By faith, let us look forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

All: Let us worship the God whose promises call and claim us.

*** OPENING HYMN # 286 "Breathe On Me Breath of God"**

CALL TO CONFESSION [*Pastor*]

Sin hinders us and prevents us from receiving God's Word. Let us open our hearts to God's truth and liberate ourselves to walk Christ's path.

*** Please stand, as able.**



OUR PRAYER IN TIMES OF JOY AND CONCERN...

One of our great joys and responsibilities to each other and to God here at Gregory Memorial is the regular practice of praying for each other and our community.

*In the interest of protecting our congregation's personal information,
"Our Prayer in Times of Joy and Concern" is not publicly available.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Back page

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	August 10	August 17
	"9th Sunday after Pentecost"	"10th Sunday after Pentecost"
	9:30a Sunday School	9:30a Sunday School
S	11a Worship Service by Rev. John Scholer	11a Worship Service by Rev. Dr. KC Jackson
		12p Stated Session Meeting Moderator: Dr. Jackson
M	11	7p Finance Cmte 18
T	12	19
W	13	20
T	6a Clean Church 14	6a Clean Church 21
		2p Newsletter (Sep) articles due
F	15	22
S	6-10p PG Study Group AA membership dinner & meeting (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen) 16	6-10p PG Study Group AA membership dinner & meeting (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen) 23

Attendance	Worship	Service	Sunday	School
	M	V	M	V
August 3, 2025	30	7	7	
August 10, 2025				
August 17, 2025				
August 24, 2025				
August 31, 2025				

M=Members V=Visitors

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *[In unison]*

God of Hope and Promise, we admit that our faith sometimes falters. We acknowledge that our doubts and grievances often overwhelm. We struggle to comprehend our own suffering and that of others. Pardon us when we lose faith in you and in ourselves. Guide us back to harmonious relationships. Encourage us to stay engaged and committed to meaningful dialogues filled with grace. Amen.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession]

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON *[Responsive; Pastor leads]*

One: The mercy of the Lord is sure.

All: In Christ, we are forgiven and set free from the chains that bind us so that we can be Your people. Thanks be to God!

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

* PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *[In unison]*

God, your Word directs every step we take. Help us listen to your Word as it is read and preached today, so we may understand your message. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE READINGS *[Holy Bible, NRSV Trans.]*

Old Testament: Psalm 2

New Testament: Revelation 21:22-27

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"God Sits in Heaven and Laughs"

Rev. John Scholer

* 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.

*** HYMN OF DEDICATION # 735 "I Need Thee Every Hour" [sing twice]**

CALL FOR OFFERING [Pastor; 2 Corinthians 9:7]

"God loves a cheerful giver." Let us present our tithes and offerings to God.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

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

God of abundance, everything we have is on loan from you. Help us be good stewards of all your precious resources. Bless these gifts we give in return that they might, in turn, be a blessing to others. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER [Pastor leads]

One: God of our ancestors, it's hard not to question your promises considering the condition of our world. For those not directly experiencing the terror of war, the headlines have become routine. Yet, the desperate need for humanitarian assistance, freeing hostages, and achieving peace remains critical.

All: Revive us, God, with a hopeful faith that may question but stays firm in our relationship with you as our Rock and Redeemer.

One: O God, our comfort, during this scorching summer heat, be with those enduring hardships on our city streets, those without the refuge of air-conditioned homes, those suffering most from our warming world. Shield those battling wildfires. Grant insight to those working on solutions for strained energy systems. Guide us all to responsibly manage and conserve our shared resources.

All: Revive us, God, with a hopeful faith that may question, but stays firm in our relationship with you as our Rock and Redeemer.

One: Finally, let us not overlook the blessings of this summer. Even amid our mourning and questioning, we appreciate the peaceful moments of rest, the community bonds formed over shared meals, the crack of baseball bats in the afternoon, and the joyful faces of children playing in water from hoses and hydrants. As the scorching sun sets and the cool evening breezes arrive, may we walk hand-in-hand with our loved ones, reminding ourselves that joy helps us endure hardship and that enduring love can lift our spirits when life feels burdensome.

All: Our souls long for you, O God, and our hearts rejoice in your presence.

One: Hear our prayers and grant us the will to fulfill them. Now, we pray the prayer Christ taught us as the Body of Christ, saying, **"Our Father ..."**

*** DEPARTING HYMN # 462 "I Love to Tell the Story"**

*** CHARGE & BENEDICTION [Pastor]**

God promises. Christ saves. The Holy Spirit liberates us to love and serve. As we enter this new week may we go with the grace and blessings of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Amen.

*** POSTLUDE**