

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell 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

Mark your calendar for "Back to Church" Sunday, September 7, 2025. It is hard to believe that summer is coming to a close and the holidays are fast approaching. The Faith Committee is planning a Potluck Luncheon immediately after church on Sunday, September 7 to celebrate "Back to Church" Sunday and reunite with our Church family. The congregation is asked to provide a covered dish for either the entrée, vegetable or salad. Faith Committee will provide all paper products, beverages and host a "Make Your Own Sundae" as dessert. Let's take this opportunity to invite someone who hasn't attended in a while, as well as, a friend or neighbor that might be looking for a church home. [8/24, 8/31]

A Study on the Book of Revelation - The Adult Sunday School Class will begin a study on the *Book of Revelation* moderated by Rev. Dr. Katherine Jackson and Mary Holc. This study will be based on the book, *Breaking the Code* by Bruce Manning. If you've ever wanted a chance to get a better understanding of the *Book of Revelation*, now is your chance. The study will begin September 7 at 9:30 a.m. in the church Fellowship Hall. [8/24, 8/31]

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

Resource: Hymns, *Glory To God, Presbyterian Hymnal*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.

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

Resource: Liturgy by L. Roger Owen, teacher of spirituality and ministry at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary; provided to congregations freely for worship use; © 2025 *Presbyterian Outlook*.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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www.gregorymemorial.org www.facebook.com/gmpcva
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." Revelation 22:12-13

"12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST"

August 31, 2025

11:00 a.m.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST"

August 31, 2025

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Hare, Pianist

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ACOLYTE

Pat Hunter
Wayne Powers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS/ SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Mary Holc

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell

CALL TO WORSHIP *[Pastor leads]*

One: Gathered to worship God,

All: we are all right where we belong.

One: Called to this celebration of worship by God's Spirit

All: we approach God with joy in our hearts.

One: Nourished by the love of Jesus, God's Son,

All: we gladly feast at this banquet of grace.

* OPENING HYMN # 634 "To God Be the Glory"

CALL TO CONFESSION *[Pastor]*

Our God is a generous God, bestowing grace immeasurably, loving us beyond what we can imagine, and forgiving us before we know to ask. To this God of generosity, love and forgiveness we now turn as we confess our sins.

* *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.

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THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

S	August 31	September 7
	12 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service by Rev. Dr. C. E. Bagwell ➤ Local Emergency Aid Offering	13 th Sunday after Pentecost “Back to Church” Sunday 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service by Rev. Dr. K.C. Jackson 12p “Back to Church” Potluck Covered Dish Luncheon (Fellowship Hall) All are welcome!
M	September 1	8
	Labor Day	
T	5:30-8:30p GSA Tr 5000 (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)	2 1p PW Women @ GMPC 9
W		3 10
T	6a Clean Church 6-8p SA Cub Pack Den mtg (Fellowship Hall)	4 6a Clean Church 11
F		5 12
S	8p PG Study Group AA membership dinner & meeting (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)	6 13 8p PG Study Group AA membership dinner & meeting (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)

Attendance	Worship	Service	Sunday	School
	M	V	M	V
August 3, 2025	30	7	7	
August 10, 2025	25	8	8	
August 17, 2025	28	8	6	
August 24, 2025	26	9	7	
August 31, 2025				

M=Members V=Visitors

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [In unison]

Holy God, we compare ourselves with others, wondering if we are better than them. We judge one another, trying to justify ourselves. We seek to establish our superiority by assuming positions of honor. Forgive us, we pray. Free us to see ourselves truthfully and to love one another with humble, gracious spirits. Amen.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession]

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Pastor leads]

One: God alone has the authority to judge, and by the grace of Jesus Christ, God has declared that we are forgiven of all our sin.
All: **Thanks be to God!**

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN # 581 “Glory Be to the Father”

* PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION [In unison]

Open our hearts and minds, O God, by your Holy Spirit’s power, that as scripture is read and the Gospel announced, we might receive with open hearts whatever you speak to us this day. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE READING [Holy Bible, NRSV Trans.]

Old Testament: Psalm 36:5-9
New Testament: Luke 16:19-31

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“The Reality of Hell”

Rev. Dr. Charles E. Bagwell

*** REFLECTIVE HYMN # 451 "Open My Eyes, That I Might See"**

*** 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]

As a response to God's Word, which we have heard read and proclaimed, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

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

Gracious God, we offer to you these gifts, both as signs of our gratitude and as instruments of your reign. Use these gifts, and us, that your way of love and peace, transformation and hope might flourish in this place. Amen.

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

One: Gracious God, we praise you for your goodness in our lives: for our creation, preservation, and for all the blessings of this life. In these waning days of summer, we thank you for the gifts of warm days, children playing, time with family and friends, and all the other gifts of your love and grace.

All: We especially thank you for the gift of this day, a new day to worship and serve you in Spirit and in truth. You have called us to draw close to you, honoring us with this privilege of worship.

One: God, even as we acknowledge your gifts, our hearts ache when we see war in our world, fear in our country, and the hate and violence and that's sometimes perpetrated in your name. We grieve with you the way power is abused to perpetuate injustice; the way those who have positions of privilege use them to their own advantage rather than for helping those in need; the way doors of access to prosperity in this country are opened to so few.

All: Amid our own fear, confusion and anger, give us wisdom, that we might become fearless beacons of your justice, peace and truth. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

One: Keep us faithful to our calling and fill our lives with your love to overflowing. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying, **"Our Father..."**

*** DEPARTING HYMN # 39 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"**

*** CHARGE & BENEDICTION [Pastor]**

Go forth from this place to serve God and your neighbor in all that you do. And may the blessings and peace of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, keep you this day and always. Amen.

*** POSTLUDE**