

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. Wendel Gouldman back to our pulpit today!

August Guest Preachers:

August 4 (Holy Communion): Rev. Marvin Daniel; S. Shockley, Announcer

August 11: Rev. Marvin Daniel; R. Scott, Announcer

August 18: Rev. Wendel Gouldman R. Scott, Announcer

August 25: Rev. John Scholer; P. Johnson, Announcer

“BACK TO CHURCH” SUNDAY!

Jesus asked all of us to be disciples and spread the news of the Lord. What better way to prepare for this task than to enjoy some inspirational music and a delicious dinner. On September 7, we will be kicking off a new church year by hosting the musical group, “*Wings of Mercy*” featuring a variety of music including gospel, country, rock and bluegrass.

Before the program we will all enjoy a Potluck Covered-dish Dinner in the Fellowship Hall at 5 p.m., and at 6 p.m. the concert will begin in the Sanctuary, ending at 7:30 p.m. Since there will be 12-15 members in the musical group, as well as visitors, we are asking that everyone make a little extra. So, bring a friend, a dish, and enjoy a great evening!

Free-will offerings for the performance will be accepted.

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Resource: Hymns and “Apostle’s Creed”, Glory to God, Presbyterian Hymnal, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.

Resource: Liturgy by Rev. Barbara Chaapel is a retired minister in Philadelphia Presbytery and serves as a parish associate at First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, 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

AUGUST 18, 2024

11:00 a.m.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 18, 2024

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Hare, Pianist

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS/
SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS** Rose Scott

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Wendel Gouldman
Guest Preacher

CALL TO WORSHIP [Responsive reading; Psalm 111:1-4]

One: Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the congregation.

All: **Great are the works of the Lord studied by all who delight in them.**

One: Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

All: **He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds, The Lord is gracious and merciful.**

***OPENING HYMN # 839 "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine"**

CALL TO CONFESSION [Pastor]

The proof of God's amazing love is this: that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Christ rose for us. Christ reigns in power for us. Christ prays for us. With such assurance, we need not fear confession, but simply draw near to our maker in candor.

***Please stand, as able.**

OUR PRAYERS & CONCERNS

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
Evelyn Foster
Jerry & Ruby Hasky (health issues)
Lee Harsh, Valerie Harsh's brother-in-law (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)
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)
Valerie Harsh, living in Staunton, VA (health issue)
Sean Godwin, grandson of Bill & Cheryl Godwin (health issue: MCV-Massey)
Marty Mann, brother-in-law of Donald Hunter & Pat Hunter (health issues)
Tara Foster (recov. hip surgery)
Sarah Solesbee, Tara Foster's mom, (recov. knee surgery)
Family/friends of Grace Cibula (d. 8/12)

ANNOUNCEMENTS ... See back page.

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	AUGUST 18	AUGUST 25
S	13th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service Guest preacher: Rev. Wendel Gouldman	14th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship Service ➤ 5 Cents-a-Meal Offering Guest preacher: Rev. John Scholer
M	19	26
T	20	27
W	21	28
T	22	29
F	23	30
S	24	31
	8p-9p PG Study Group AA meeting (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Room)	8p-9p PG Study Group AA meeting (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen, Meeting/Dining Room)

Worship Attendance	M	V	M	V
August 4, 2024	23	9	12	
August 11, 2024	23	14	10	
August 18, 2024				
August 25, 2024				

M=Members V=Visitors

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [In unison]

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life and sent his Spirit to be with us always. We confess that we have not trusted in the truth of that Spirit to enliven our hearts, to set us in the ways of justice, and to free us from fear. We have turned away from the gift of Christ's presence. Forgive us, and turn our hearts back to you, that we may be your faithful and loving people, walking in the footsteps of the One who came to transform the world.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession.]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Pastor; from Ephesians 4:31-32]

Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. For in Jesus Christ, we are fully and forever forgiven.

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

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

O God, as we have received the gift of the Holy Spirit to enliven our lives and ministries, take the shades from our eyes, the stoppers from our ears, and the shields from our hearts so that we can hear and see and feel anew the truth and life-giving power of your Word.

SCRIPTURE READING [Holy Bible, NRSV Trans.]

Old Testament: 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14 [p. 265; 266-267] Reader: R. Scott
 Gospel Lesson: John 6:51-58

SERMON

"Spiritual Discernment—
 Come, Taste and See!"

Rev. Wendel Gouldman

***REFLECTIVE HYMN # 465 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"**

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]

O taste and see that the Lord is good, and happy are those who take refuge in him. Surrounded and fed by God's goodness, let us return of the gifts that we have received in abundance.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION [Pastor]**

We present these gifts, O Lord, asking that you will use them through the church to spread the abundance of your love and justice in the world, p2that all may taste your goodness.

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

One: All-loving God, creator, redeemer and sustainer of our lives, you are Truth, Grace and Love. For your presence with us, we are deeply grateful. Grateful for this earth, our home. For this church, our sanctuary and our community. For each other, our neighbors and for strangers that would become neighbors. And for our calling, our vocation to go into all the world in your name to serve those in need, to companion the lone and the lost. To befriend the friendless. To try to speak and do what is just, and what is loving.

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

One: We pray that there may be more places of sanctuary in the world. Safety from the horrors of war and violence of guns. Safety from the ravages of power that excludes the poor, the hungry, the old, the sick, the differently abled. Safety for those who feel unseen, unheard, unattended by love. We pray especially this day for the safety of children, whether they are in Israel, in Gaza, in Ukraine, in Darfur, or in our own towns, cities, and here in Prince George. And for the safety of the world's seas and lands and wildlife, that they may have places of sanctuary from destruction and extinction.

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

One: As the natural world around us comes to its season of fullness and harvest, we are grateful for our food and daily bread, for the abundance of the land from which we harvest its fruits. May all your people and creatures feed in abundance, and taste and smell the fragrance of earth's produce. Show us ways to share the bounty that You have given us.

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

One: For we know, dear God, that we are never alone: Your peace touches our hearts; Your love holds our hands; You are ever near our living heart. And so, on this Sabbath day, prepare our way into the ministry you call us to take up. We pray this and all our prayers, in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying together, **"Our Father ..."**

***DEPARTING HYMN # 2 "Come, Thou Almighty King"**

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION [Pastor]**

Here we have tasted the goodness of the living bread, and been filled with the power of God's Word. Now go into the world to share the abundance of new life in Christ. And may the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and may God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, remain with you always. Amen.

POSTLUDE