

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We welcome the Rev. John Scholer 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**

**Next Sunday's (Sep. 1) Guest Preacher: Rev. Nancy S. Clark**

***OUR "BACK TO CHURCH" KICK-OFF BEGINS ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7!***

Jesus asked all of us to be disciples and spread the news of the Lord. There's no better way to prepare for this task than enjoying inspirational music and a delicious dinner. On Saturday, 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.

The evening's activity will start at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall with a delicious Covered-dish Dinner. Then at 6 p.m. the concert will begin in the Sanctuary.

Since there will be 12-15 members in the musical group, as well as visitors, we are asking everyone to make a little extra. Bring a friend, a dish, and enjoy a great evening!

Free-will offerings for the performance will be accepted.

---

*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 and "Apostle's Creed", *Glory to God, Presbyterian Hymnal*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.

*Resource:* Liturgy by Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle, associate pastor for youth and discipleship at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Austin, Texas; 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](http://www.gregorymemorial.org) [www.facebook.com/gmpcva](https://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)*

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

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

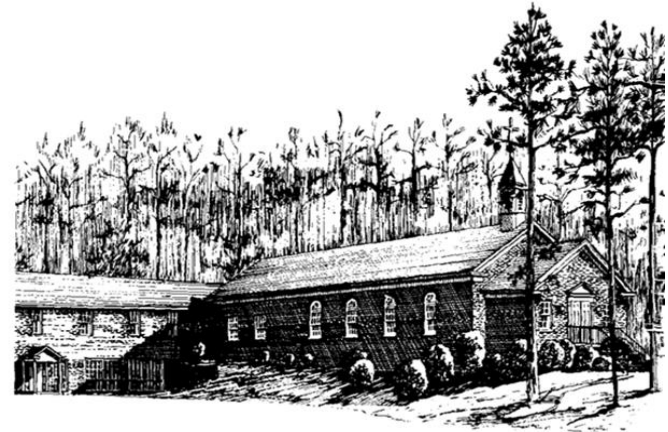
Mary Holc (2026); Sandy Hunter (2026); William Shill (2026)

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 25, 2024**

**11:00 a.m.**

# GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**AUGUST 25, 2024**

**11:00 a.m.**

**PRELUDE** Sandra Perkins, Organist  
Gail Hare, Pianist

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

**PASSING OF THE PEACE** Rev. John Scholar  
Guest Preacher

## **CALL TO WORSHIP [Responsive reading]**

One: Christ abides in us,

**All: And we abide in him.**

One: Christ has the words of eternal life:

**All: We believe and trust that he is the Holy One of God.**

One: As we hear the gospel of peace today,

**All: Let us choose again whom we will serve.**

One: The God who hears and answers when we call.

**All: We bring our praises and our prayers to God,**

One: As we hear the gospel of peace today,

**All: Trusting God to meet us as we gather.  
Let us worship our God together!**

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

## **CALL TO CONFESSION [Pastor; Psalm 34:22]**

The Psalm reminds us: "The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in God will be condemned." Trusting that God is always more ready to forgive than we are to confess, let us turn to God in prayer, seeking forgiveness and new life

-----  
**\*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; recovering at home)

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)

Family/friends of Madonna Schroeter, Mike Schroeter's mom in TX (d. 8/13)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS ... See back page.**

**THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY**

	AUGUST 25	SEPTEMBER 1
S	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>  <b>9:30a</b> Sunday School  <b>11a</b> Worship Service  ➤ 5 Cents-a-Meal Offering  Guest preacher: Rev. John Scholer	<b>15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>  <b>9:30a</b> Sunday School  <b>11a</b> Worship Service   Guest preacher: Rev. Nancy S. Clark
M	26	2
T	27	3
W	28	4
T	29	5
F	30	6
S	31	7
	<b>8p-9p</b> PG Study Group AA meeting (Fellowship Hall, Reception Area, Kitchen, Meeting/ Dining Room)	<b>5-6p "Back to Church Celebration"</b> Covered-dish Dinner in Fellowship Hall All are welcome!  <b>6-7:30p Concert By "Wings of Mercy"</b> in Sanctuary. All are welcome!  <b>8-9p</b> PG Study Group AA meeting (Fellowship Hall, Reception Area, 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	20	6	9	
August 25, 2024				

M=Members V=Visitors

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION [In unison]**

Loving God, through Christ you abide in us, and you invite us to abide in you. But so often we are restless and unsatisfied. Instead of resting in the fullness of life Christ offers to us, we chase after money and fame, recognition and power, status and control. Instead of honoring the image of God in all our neighbors, we push others down in the pursuit of our own desires. Forgive us for forgetting that you call us to a different way of being in the world, to lives grounded in the self-giving love of Christ. Lead us out of self-interest and into communal care for one another and the world you have made. In Christ's name we pray; Amen.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession.]

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Pastor; from (John 3:17)]**

John's Gospel tells us: "God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." Christ forgives us and makes us whole. Christ fills us with life and sets us free for love. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

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

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

Eternal God, quiet our hearts and minds amid the clattering chaos of the world and all the voices vying for our attention. May we clearly hear your word of life spoken to us today. As we hear, help us to understand; as we understand, move us to respond in love, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ; Amen.

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

Old Testament: Deuteronomy 24:14-15

New Testament: Hebrews 4:14-16

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 20:1-16

**SERMON** "A Radical Take on Fairness" Rev. John Scholer

**\*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]**

When Christ abides in us and we abide in him, we can see that everything we have is a gift from God. The gifts of time, talent and treasure God has entrusted us with are not to be hoarded, but to be shared, to give life to others as Christ gives life to us. Let us now return to God a portion of what God has so generously given to us.

### **OFFERING, OFFERTORY**

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

### **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION [Pastor]**

Holy God, we thank you that we have heard your words of eternal life today. As a sign of our gratitude, we offer you these gifts. Take what we have given and multiply it for the good of our faith community, the good of our neighbors, and the good of the world you so love. Shape and mold us so that our whole lives become a loving response to your goodness. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

One: Holy Three-in-One and One-in-Three, we give thanks that you draw us into community with you, just as your three persons live in perpetual community: Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

**All: Lord, Thank you for the many gifts of grace that flow into our lives when we enter the embrace of your love: for your nearness in times of trouble, for your guidance in times of uncertainty, for the promise of hope.**

One: Loving Lord, we pray for our world marred by violence, arrogance, greed and injustice. As we fight against racism, sexism, poverty and every form of oppression, remind us that the fight is not against our neighbors who think or believe differently from us, but against the powers and principalities that oppose your reign of justice and peace. Ground us in your love and fill us with your Spirit that we may see Christ's face in the face of every person we meet. When we are tempted to treat our neighbors as enemies, soften our hearts and move us to offer your transformative grace. Give us patience, perseverance and hope as we join you in the work of building the kingdom of God.

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

One: God of grace, you promise to be near to the brokenhearted and save the crushed in spirit. We bring before you those in our community who are sick or recovering, grieving or in pain. Comfort their spirits by your Spirit and ease their sufferings with your healing mercies.

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

One: Lord of all, we thank you that through Christ's life, death and resurrection, you have already won victory over sin and death. Help us to live in ways that reflect and respond to your overflowing love. Make us ready, that we may stand firm in your grace and be your faithful people, bearing the good news of Jesus Christ to the world. We pray this in Christ's name and as he taught us: **"Our Father..."**

**\*DEPARTING HYMN # 687 "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"**

### **\*CHARGE & BLESSING [Pastor; from BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP]**

"Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit." And remember that wherever you go, whatever evils God calls you to fight, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit will be with you always. Amen.

### **POSTLUDE**