

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church

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: Rev. Marvin P. Daniel
Church Administrator: 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)



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

"3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT"

DECEMBER 15, 2024

3:00 p.m.

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 the Confession of 1967; "ASSURANCE OF PARDON", Book of Common Worship.

Resource: CANTATA: "Celebrate! The Joy & Wonder of Christmas, created, arranged, and orchestrated by Marty Parks.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT”

December 15, 2024
3:00 p.m.

PRELUDE Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Hare, Pianist

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Marvin Daniel

CALL TO WORSHIP [*Responsive; Isaiah 40:1-5*]

One: Prepare the way of the Lord!

All: Lift every valley, lift every voice.

One: Prepare the way of the Lord!

All: And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

Candle Lighter: We light this candle as a symbol of the joy to be found in your kingdom on earth. Jonathan & Maddi Mendoza

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

***OPENING HYMN #133 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

CALL TO CONFESSION [*Pastor*]

In Jesus Christ, God seeks to smooth those places made rough by sin. With humility and hope, let us make our confession.

Please stand, as able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. Marvin Daniel to Gregory Memorial’s pulpit today!

Our thanks today to: Rev. Tammy Cox, Pastor of Trinity UMC, and Trinity UMC Choir for joining Gregory Memorial’s Choir in presentation of Marty Parks’ Christmas Cantata: *“Celebrate! The Joy and Wonder of Christmas!”*

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after the service for holiday refreshments!

December Preachers:

December 1 – Communion: Rev. Dr. Katherine C. Jackson; L. Johnson, Announcer

December 8: Rev. Nancy S. Clark; S. Shockley, Announcer

December 15: Service at 3 p.m.: Rev. Marvin Daniel; R. Scott, Announcer

December 22: Rev. Marvin Daniel; Mary Holc, Announcer

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service: Rev. Dr. Katherine C. Jackson

December 29: Rev. Marvin Daniel; D. Hunter, Announcer

Our Advent Candle Lighters:

Dec. 1 - 1st Sunday of Advent:

David & Lauren Togger

Dec. 8 - 2nd Sunday of Advent:

Barbara Taliaferro & Mary Lykins

Dec. 15 - 3rd Sunday of Advent:

Jonathan & Maddi Mendoza

Dec. 22 - 4th Sunday of Advent:

Mary & Sarah Webber

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve:

Rose Scott & Wayne Powers

Circle will meet at 12 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 17 at Susan Shockley’s.

Christmas Joy Offering will be received on Sunday, Dec. 22. See enclosed flyer.

Christmas Eve Service, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. Please let Rose Scott know by today if you have a child or youth that wants to be in the Christmas pageant, which will be shared at the beginning of worship on December 24. We need names and ages. [*Rev. Dr. K.C. Jackson*]

Angel Tree – This year, our Angel Tree will benefit the ASK Childhood Cancer Foundation. Please remember to bring in your not-wrapped gifts next Sunday, Dec.22.

Epiphany Luncheon, Jan. 5 - Rev. Dr. K. C. Jackson, in conjunction with the Faith Committee, will be hosting an Epiphany Luncheon immediately after worship on January 5, 2025 (Menu: soup, sandwiches and a special dessert). You can count on lots of fun, and you may even learn some facts about Epiphany that you didn’t know!! What a wonderful way to kick off the New Year. No cooking required; just come and enjoy. As always, please take this opportunity to invite a friend to join you! All are welcome!

In abundance of caution for safety and privacy of persons on “Prayers & Concerns”, moving forward the bulletin will not include address specifics. Please refer to the Directory or call the church office at (804) 732-1081 for info.

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

S	DECEMBER 15 "3rd Sunday of Advent" NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 3p Worship service By: Rev. Marvin Daniel Christmas Cantata: "Celebrate! The Joy & Wonder of Christmas" <i>Refreshments in Fellowship Hall!</i>	DECEMBER 22 "4th Sunday of Advent" 9:30a Sunday School 11a Worship service By: Rev. Marvin Daniel ➤ 5 Cents-a-Meal Offering ➤ Christmas Joy Offering
M	16	Church office open 23
T	12p Circle @ S. Shockley's 17	Christmas Eve 24 Church office open 7p Christmas Eve Service & Christmas Pageant Service by: Rev. Dr. K. C. Jackson
W	5:30-9p BSA Tr 900 Honor Court (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen) 18	Christmas Day 25 Church office closed
T	6a Clean church 19 Poinsettia delivery today <u>[Payment due on delivery]</u> 2p Newsletter (Jan) articles due in church office 6-8p BSA Cub Pack 910 (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)	Church office open 19 6a Clean church 2p Newsletter (Jan) out (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen)
F	20	20
S	8p PG Study Group AA meeting (Fellowship Hall) 21	8p PG Study Group AA meeting (Fellowship Hall) 21

Attendance	Worship	Service	Sunday	School
	M	V	M	V
December 1, 2024	20	8	11	2
December 8, 2024	17	5	13	2
December 15, 2024				
December 22, 2024				
December 29, 2024				

M=Members V=Visitors

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [In unison]

Great God, as we prepare to behold the birth of Jesus again, we are mindful of how we have failed to receive the fullness of that gift. The story points us to your glory, yet we struggle to join in the song of praise and thanksgiving. We are distracted and confused, so focused on things of little significance we overlook the good news of great joy that you have prepared.

Tell us again that the Savior is born. Tell us again that we are forgiven. Tell us again that our lives can be abundant in faith, hope and love because of what you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [Responsive]

One: The angel tells Joseph that the child forming in Mary's womb is to be named Jesus. "Call him Jesus," the angel says, "For he will save the people from their sins." From his birth through his resurrection, from age to age, Jesus is about salvation. This is good news!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH [In unison; from the Confession of 1967]**

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

CALL FOR OFFERING [Pastor]

With gratitude for God’s faithfulness and with thanksgiving for all that we have received, let us bring our gifts to God.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

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

O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, our coming Lord. Amen.

CANTATA: “Celebrate! The Joy & Wonder of Christmas”

Created, arranged, & orchestrated by Marty Parks

Presented by the Choirs of:

Gregory Memorial PC

Trinity UMC

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION [Pastor]**

Let us go trusting in Jesus Christ, the one who is surely coming. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the companionship of the Holy Spirit be with you and abide with you today and always. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments after the service!

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 & civil unrest in Syria
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)
Larry Brown of Chesterfield, Larry Johnson's friend (health issue)
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
Mary Kay & Mike Schroeter (health issues)
Dr. Joseph Hillier of Matoaca, Lykins family friend (health issue)
Peggy & Dennis Allen (health issues)
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)
Evelyn Foster
Michael Evans, former son-in-law of Nancy & A. W. Adams and son of
Bobby & Sandra Tipton and Ray Evans (health issue)
Frank (“Butch”) Reiter, Jr. (health issue)

ANNOUNCEMENTS – See Page 6

Christmas Praise Medley

[Please sing:]

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the king of Israel.

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born king!"

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the king of Israel.

Congregation Prayer

Loving Father,
like the angels we glorify and praise You.
Like the shepherds we kneel and adore You.
Our hearts are filled with gratitude
as we celebrate the joy and the wonder of Christmas;
as we claim the promise and the peace of Christmas;
and as we worship Jesus, the true blessing of Christmas.
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord....
Emmanuel. Amen.