

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. Dr. Katherine C. Jackson to Gregory Memorial's pulpit today!

January Preachers:

January 5: Rev. Dr. Katherine C. Jackson; P. Johnson, Announcer

January 12: Rev. Dr. Katherine C. Jackson; S. Hunter, Announcer

January 19: Rev. Marvin Daniel; L. Johnson, Announcer

January 26: Rev. Marvin Daniel; S. Shockley, Announcer

Epiphany Luncheon, today, after worship service! Rev. Jackson, in conjunction with the Faith Committee, is hosting an Epiphany Luncheon immediately after Worship today. In the Fellowship Hall. Menu: soup, sandwiches and a special dessert. *All are welcome at Gregory Memorial!*

"THESE DAYS" (Jan-Mar.) – Copies of this publication are available in Narthex. Free to congregation. Pick up your copy today for some inspirational daily reading!

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 {Apostle's Creed} Book of Common Worship; © 1993 John Knox Press.

Resource: CALL TO WORSHIP by Bruce Prewer; PRAYER OF CONFESSION by Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy; PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE by Rev. Ian Elston.

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)

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

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

Blake Bishop (2027); Susan Shockley (2027); Jonathan Mendoza (2027)

Donald Hunter (Clerk of Session (2025))

Trustees

Kevin Foster (2025); Gail Hare (2026); Donald Hunter (2027)

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

"2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS"

JANUARY 5, 2025

11:00 a.m.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS”

JANUARY 5, 2025

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE Sandra Perkins, Organist
Gail Hare, Pianist

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Dr. Katherine C. Jackson

CALL TO WORSHIP [*Responsive; Based on Matthew 2:1-12, Isaiah 60:1-6*]

One: Light! Light, light and more light! Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of God has risen upon you.

All: Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

One: When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, wise men came from the East, saying: Where is he who is born king of the Jews?

All: For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him.

One: The wonderful light of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also, with you.

***OPENING HYMN # 744 “Arise, Your Light Is Come!”**

CALL TO CONFESSION [*Pastor*]

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 & 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 (health issue)
Mary Kay & Mike Schroeter (health issues)
Dr. Joseph Hillier of Matoaca, Lykins family friend (health issue)
Dennis Allen (health issues)
Corey Whelan, Pat Hunter’s grandson (health issue)
Judy Recher (health issue)
Shirley MacNeill (health issues)
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)
Family/friends of Peggy Allen, wife of Dennis, mother of Morgan Ingram & grandmother of Rigsby Ingram (d. 12/26)

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Back page

THESE TWO WEEKS AT GREGORY

	JANUARY	5	JANUARY	12
S	"2ND Sunday of Christmas"		"Baptism of the Lord"	
	9:30a Sunday School		9:30a Sunday School	
	11a Worship service By: Rev. Dr. K. C. Jackson		11a Worship service By: Rev. Dr. K. C. Jackson	
	12p Epiphany Luncheon (Fellowship Hall; Menu: soup, sandwiches & a special dessert!) Join us! All are welcome!			
M	"Epiphany of the Lord"	6	6:30-9p BSA Crater OA (Fellowship Hall)	13
T		7	1p Circle meeting @ GMPC	14
			7p Finance Cmte	
W	7p Faith Cmte	8		15
T	6a Clean church	9	6a Clean church	16
	7-9p GSA Tr 5000 (Fellowship Hall)		2p Newsletter (Feb) articles due	
			6-8p BSA Cub Pack 910 (Fellowship Hall)	
F		10		17
S	8p PG Study Group AA meeting (Fellowship Hall)	11	8p PG Study Group AA meeting (Fellowship Hall)	18

Attendance	Worship	Service	Sunday	School
	M	V	M	V
December 1, 2024	20	8	11	2
December 8, 2024	15	7	13	2
December 15, 2024	24	28	---	
December 22, 2024	30	11	14	
December 29, 2024	17	2	7	

M=Members V=Visitors

PRAYER OF CONFESSION [In unison; Inspired by Matthew 2: 1-18]

Gracious God, we would like to be among those who saw the coming of the Christ Child, those who dropped all that they were doing and traveled to worship the coming of God's love into this world. And yet, merciful God, we must recognize all the times we are more like Herod. Whenever we, in our actions or in our inactions, find our own need for control more compelling than the needs of others for health and safety. Whenever we cling to the security of our privilege, rather than standing up for the rights of the oppressed. Whenever we are complicit in the harming of innocents for the sake of profit, or power, or because we fear to know, and to change the injustices of this world. Loving God, we confess our sins against you and one another, and pray that you will fill us with your light, that we may live our lives as true disciples in your name, without counting the cost. In the name of Christ, the one who showed us the way, we pray.

[Pause for a moment of silent confession]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON [In unison]

God's light is present in this world. Present in the Christ child, born to lead us out of darkness. Present in the star, in all that guides us to love. God's light is in the world, and the darkness did not overcome it. God's grace is in the world, and our mis-steps will not overcome it. We are loved, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

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

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

God of The Word, made flesh, how do we HEAR for the FIRST time a story we have HEARD READ so MANY times? Give us new perspective. Help us NOT to assume we know all there is to know in the familiar story we hear this morning. Open our hearts and minds to your Spirit and the new truth you may be teaching us today. Perhaps the truth will not be new, but a lesson we have heard and simply need to be reminded of again. Wherever it is you are leading, let us be willing to follow. Whatever it is you want to teach, let us be open to listening and obeying. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING [Holy Bible, NRSV Trans.]

New Testament: Matthew 2:1-12 (13-18) [p. 833-834]

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "The TRUTH about Herod and the Wise Guys" Rev. Dr. Katherine C. Jackson

*** REFLECTIVE HYMN # 145 "What Child Is This?"**

*** 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]

The letter to the Hebrews calls us to a life of gratitude and generosity with these words: "Through Jesus let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." Let us present our tithes and offerings with glad and generous hearts.

OFFERING, OFFERTORY

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

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

God of all good gifts, who gives freely to us, may our lives be an offering, and our work a good gift. Just like the gifts the magi brought pleased you and were fit for the king of all creation, may the gifts brought to you this morning be pleasing. Amen.

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

One: Lord of yesterday, today and tomorrow, we gather here this first Sunday of the New Year, in a mixture of hope, anticipation, fear, excitement, and expectation.

All: We do not know what the year holds for us. There are things we are afraid of: worries about health and family, job security and finances.

One: There is much to look forward to – weddings or anniversaries or baptisms, holidays to enjoy, friends to laugh with.

All: Lord God, the coming year is full of uncertainty and hope. Whatever the year holds for us, though, we trust You, and we place every day of this year in your care knowing that, as in the past, You are with us, caring for us with constant love.

One: And so, Lord, we place ourselves into your keeping and dedicate our lives to your service through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior, who taught us to pray saying:

All: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***DEPARTING HYMN # 151 "We Three Kings of Orient Are"**

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION [Pastor]**

POSTLUDE