

Image—*"The Baptism." Egg Tempera on Gesso; September, 2015.*

Welcome to worship! *We are glad you are here. If you need any assistance, please notify an usher. Nursery, located in the hall behind the sanctuary, is provided for infants through age two. Please take a moment to register your attendance with us by using the friendship register located in each pew. We welcome the opportunity to learn more about you.*

Please silence *all cellular devices for the duration of the service.*

Congregational responses *are in* ***bold*** *text.* ✠ *is an indication to rise in body or in spirit as you are able.*

Children's worship packets *are available at the front of the sanctuary.*

Hymn 475—*Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.*

Government Street Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 9, 2022 | 10:30am

Baptism of the Lord
Ordination & Installation of Officers

Gathering

Prelude *Suite from Water Music*
G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Chiming of the Half-hour GUILDFORD

Welcome **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

✠**Call to Worship** *responsive*

The voice of the Lord resounds upon the water
The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.
The Son of God is named, "Beloved."
And all who worship him shout out, "Glory to God!"
The Lord is strong and majestic.
Let us worship God in spirit and truth.

✠**Hymn 475** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
NETTLETON

✠**Prayer of Confession** *unison*

Gracious God, we are precious in your sight,
yet we often forget that we are your beloved.
We confess that our love is fickle and inconstant.
We follow selfish goals and deny that our way of life harms others
and hurts your world.
We are sorry and we want to change.
Create in us a clear heart, strengthen our resolve,
reconcile us one to another,
and bless us with your peace.
In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

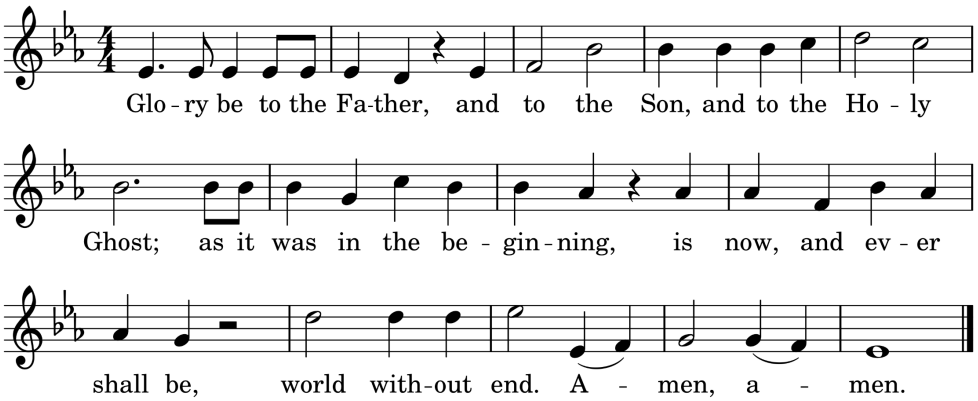
- Psalm 103:17

✠Assurance of Pardon

✠Response | Hymn 587

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX



Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination — **Carly Akers**

First Reading — Isaiah 43:1-7

The Word of the Lord. — Old Testament pg. 190

Thanks Be to God!

Children's Sermon — **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

Children ages three and older are invited to the front. Those three years through kindergarten may leave with volunteers for Wee Worship for the remainder of the service. Sign-in for parents of Wee Worship children is on the front row.

Second Reading — Luke 3:7-17, 21-22

The Gospel of the Lord. — New Testament pg. 54

Thanks Be to God!

Sermon "Baptized and Beloved" — **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Thanksgiving

Hymn 482

Baptized in Water

BUNESSAN

Hymn 482—Each stanza of this compact and carefully constructed text about baptism begins with allusions to John 3:5 and Ephesians 1:13. The interplay of constant and changing lines accentuates each added image. It is set here to a Gaelic tune first transcribed in the 19th century.

Affirmation of Faith *unison*

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.

All that is *in the heavens and on the earth is yours, O Lord, and of your own we give you.*

I Chronicles 29:11, 14

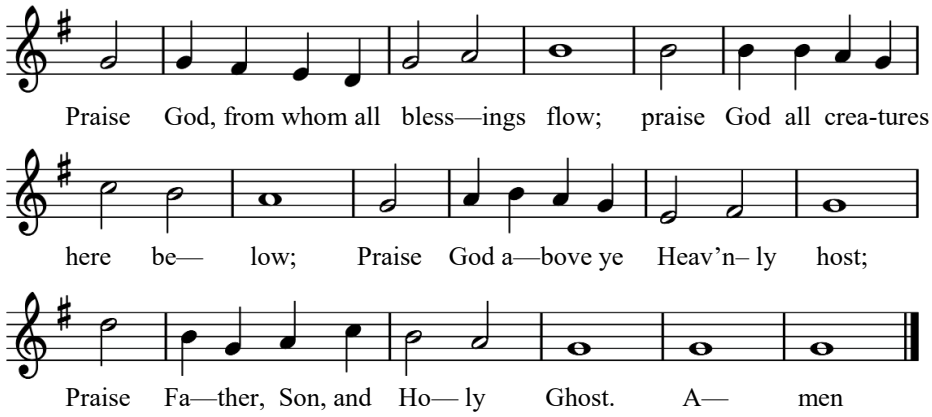
Offertory

Meditation

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
arr. D. Bish

✠Response | Hymn 607

Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow
OLD HUNDREDTH



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of Intercession

Ordination & Installation of Officers

Statement on Ordination & Installation **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Constitutional Questions to Officers

Questions to the Congregation — John Browning

When prompted, the people respond ***"we do."***

- Do we, the members of the church, accept these members as ruling elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?
- Do we agree to pray for them, encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

Ordination Prayers — Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar

Laying on of Hands

Welcoming of New Officers

Sending

✠Hymn 757 — *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

KINGSFOLD

Hymn 757*—This text placing stewardship in the context of faithful witness was written by a retired Presbyterian minister to be part of the 1986 stewardship campaign titled "Called to Be Disciples." The tune name recalls the Sussex village where the arranger first heard the melody.*

✠Benediction — Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar

Postlude — *Allegro Maestoso*

Handel

CALLED TO SERVE

VOLUNTEERS TODAY

SUNDAY ASSISTANTS

-

WEE– WORSHIP & NURSERY

- Allison Peebles
- Blanche Parsons
- Toots Weaver

Please remember in your daily prayers the people our church is serving, and those who work with them.

URBAN MINISTRY

PB&J FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

Our 45 Meals on Wheels recipients get a sandwich bag each day, along with their hot meal. The bag has a sandwich and a snack. Peanut butter and jelly is often on the menu. During the month of November, we are asking for donations of creamy peanut butter and grape jelly to help fill the pantry for the remainder of the year. There is a donation box in the Jackson Street entrance for these donations.

MCKEMIE PLACE

GSPC has agreed to provide lunch for up to 40 residents at McKemie Place on the second Friday of each month. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered for this mission over the last three months and into 2022. Due to its funding situation, the agency depends on volunteers to provide both lunch and dinner for the residents. They are looking to find individuals or groups that would be willing to provide a lunch or dinner meal on a regular basis each month. They are especially in need of volunteers to provide lunch meals. So, if you, as an individual, or are a member of a group that might be interested in providing this on a regular basis, please contact them at 251-287-2225.

COLD WEATHER CLOTHING DONATIONS

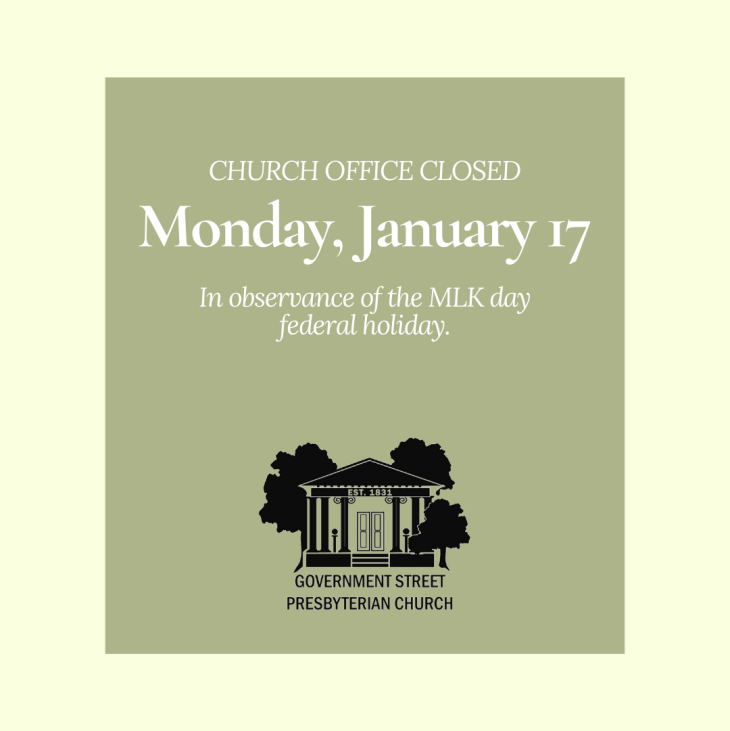
During the month of January, we will be collecting gently worn cold weather clothing items for men. women, and children - such as coats, hats, gloves, scarves. Also, socks are a much needed item for those in shelters. These items will be given to various agencies that distribute clothing to those who are homeless or are in need. There is a box designated for these donations at the Jackson Street entrance.

MOBILE BAYKEEPER CLEAN-UP PROJECT

January 15, 2022

On Saturday, Mobile Baykeeper will host a clean-up project on Springhill Ave. between Broad and St. Stephens Rd. from 8:30 - 11:00 a.m.

If you wish to volunteer, please visit their website mobilebaykeeper.org to register.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The **PW Coordinating team** will meet Monday, January 10, at 10 a.m. in the library. Please make every effort to attend. Our focus for this Session is Chapter 5: of *What My Grandmothers Taught me: Ruth and Redemption*.
This session will be led by Mary Elizabeth Perry.
If you don't have a book, come anyway—it's just fun to be together with other GSPC women.

All Presbyterian Women will meet for our Monthly PW Bible Study Tuesday evening, January 11, 2022 at 7 p.m. on Zoom.



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Dawn Hearn
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Shelia Smith
Director of Food Services

Marilyn Mills
Arthur Lewis
Sexton(s)

The Sanctuary Flowers

are given to the glory of God.

Christian Education

Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays at 8 a.m.
at the home of Ann Adams

Tuesdays at 10 a.m. via Zoom
Contact: Laurie Shorter or Mary Elizabeth Perry

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Library.
In-person & on Zoom
Contact Bo Perry.

Sunday Book Study Group

Sundays at 12 p.m. via Zoom
Contact: Laurie Shorter

Presbyterian Women

Coordinating Team— January 10, 10 a.m. in the Library
P.W. Circle & Bible Study—January 11, 7 p.m. on Zoom
Contact: Bligh Jones or Mary Elizabeth Perry

Christian Education

Sunday School *all ages*
Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Wee-worship *ages 3—kindergarten*
Sundays during worship