Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, July 13, 2025 | 10:30 A.M.

ORDINARY TIME

Welcome to worship! *We are glad you are here. If you need any assistance, please notify an usher. 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.*

Despite our best efforts*, we continue to sin against God and others. We begin our worship with corporate and individual prayers of confession, trusting that God will grant forgiveness as promised in scripture.*

Gathering

WELCOME — **REV. ANNE H.K. APPLE**

PRELUDE — *Gavotte in D Major*, J.S. Bach

Elias Hammond, *Student Violinist*

INTROIT — *I'll Fly Away*

Brumley; arr. Bob Burroughs

Jacob Mohr, *Tenor*

Some glad morning when this life is o'er, I'll fly away, To a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away. I'll fly away O glory to a land far beyond the starry sky, I'll fly away. Just a few more weary days and then I'll fly away to a land where joy shall never end, I'll fly away. When I die, hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsive)* — **LINDA REYNOLDS**

From water to wilderness,
God's covenant continues.
God's kingdom draws near.

On stone and in hearts,
God's covenant continues.
God's kingdom draws near.

We will always be ready
To make a defense for the hope that is within us.
We follow Christ. Let us worship God together in Spirit and Truth.

✠**HYMN 694** — *Great God of Every Blessing*

AURELIA

✠**CALL TO CONFESSION**

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Responsive)*

(Silence)

When we fail to bear witness to hope, we soften the message of the Gospel. O Lord in your mercy, **Forgive us, we pray.**

When we do not live according to your ways, but according to our own, we condone violence, participate in systems of injustice, and use power to our own advantage at the expense of others. O Lord, in your mercy,
Forgive us, we pray.

When we are tempted to follow paths other than those you set before us, we fail to see evil in its many guises. O Lord, in your mercy,
Forgive us, we pray.

We pass the peace *by greeting one another and saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," to which one replies, "And also with you." The ancient ritual of the church reminds us that Christ offers us peace that passes understanding.*

Children ages three *and older are invited to the front for the Children's Sermon. Children ages 3 through kindergarten may go to Wee Worship following the Children's Sermon. They may be picked up from the Sunday School classroom following worship. Children under 3 are welcome in the nursery.*

Wee Worship sign-in slips *are available next to the bulletins at the front and back of the church as well as in the children's worship totes. Children may bring these filled out slips with them when they go to Wee Worship.*

Children's worship totes *are available for children in the sanctuary. These totes include children's bulletins and other items to help children engage in the worship service.*

Please use this QR code to access the ***Officer Nomination Form.*** *(To access the code, hold up your phone as if you were taking a photo and click on the small yellow box.) You may make as many nominations as you like. You may also email nominations to julieotts@gmail.com.*

✠Assurance of Pardon
✠Passing of the Peace

✠Response | Hymn 581 *Glory Be to the Father*
GLORIA PATRI

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination **Rev. Anne H.K. Apple**

First Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9 **Linda Reynolds**
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks Be to God!

Children's Sermon **Bradley Daugherty**
Wee Worship Leaders: Emily Watson and Katherine Ogburn

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-17

Sermon: "Always Be Ready" **Rev. Apple**

Responding to the Word

✠Hymn 703 *Jesus, Thou Boundless Love to Me*
ST. CATHERINE

Moment for Mission **Julie Otts**

Offering
Offertory *O That I Knew Where I MIght Find Him*
Alec Rowley

Jacob Mohr, *Tenor*
O that I knew where I might find Him, that I might come even to His seat.
Behold, I go forward, but He is not here; and back ward, but I cannot perceive Him;
On the left hand, where He doth work but I cannot behold Him,
He hideth Himself on the right hand. Blessed are they that have not seen
and yet have believed. Blessed are they, that have not seen
and yet have believed, have known Him.

✠Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Response| 606 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*
OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer is a place we bring ourselves fully before God. *If you have a need for prayer, you may call the church office to speak with a pastor or to have your request passed on to our prayer team.*

✠Affirmation of Faith *(From the Confession of 1967, Section 9.43)*

In each time and place,
there are particular problems and crises through which God calls the church to act.

The church, guided by the Holy Spirit,
humbled by its own complicity and instructed by all attainable knowledge,

seeks to discern
the will of God and learn how to obey in these concrete situations.

Sending

✠Hymn 724 *O Jesus, I Have Promised*
ANGEL'S STORY

✠Charge and Benediction **Rev. Apple**

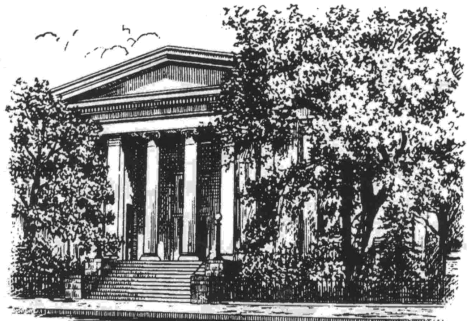
Postlude *Allegretto*
G.F. Handel

Sunday, July 20

Join us next Sunday, July 20. Music will include the bluegrass duo of Jim Tamblyn and Jarrett Callaway, assisted by singers Zach Conner and Jacob Mohr, presenting "Have Thy Own Way," "Lord, Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," "Near to the Heart of God," and "Have a Little Talk with Jesus."

SUMMER MUSIC SCHEDULE at GSPC

July 20: Bluegrass duo Jim Tamblyn and Jarrett Callaway
July 27: Harpist Rebekah Atkinson
August 3: Pianist Nancy Graham
August 10: Soprano Gabrielle Mohr



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CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar
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Marilyn Mills
Arthur Lewis
Sexton(s)

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Gill by Linda and Ted Burke.

GSPC News

Call for Nominations: The congregation is invited to submit nominations for Elders and Deacons in the Class of 2028. Please use the QR code on page 2 of the bulletin to access the nomination form, or email your nominations to Julie Otts at julieotts@gmail.com.

Elevator Out of Order: The elevator needs major repairs and will be out of service until further notice. We apologize for the inconvenience. If you need help when entering or exiting the sanctuary, please call the church office ahead of time, or notify a staff member or a Sunday Assistant.

Bottle Drive: Do you have any extra water bottles in your cabinet? GSPC is collecting reusable water bottles to give out to those who need them. Please bring your donations to the church office.

Seeking a 12-Step Program Host: The Mission Committee is searching for a volunteer with AA-12 step program history to host a new program at GSPC. This will be a weekly commitment. The committee will help with providing books and meeting space to get this program up and running. If you have the knowledge and interest, please contact Neal Horner or Lynn McDaniel.

GSPC During World War II: In honor of the 80th anniversary of World War II, Meredith Johnston has curated a display about GSPC's congregational life during wartime. The display in the Jackson Street foyer includes information about the service of GSPC members who served in the war. Thanks to Meredith for this wonderful history exhibit.

McKemie Place Lunches: Volunteers are needed to help provide a light summer lunch for about 20-24 homeless ladies at McKemie Place. The shelter is at 618 Azalea Road, and volunteers are asked to arrive in time to set up and be ready to serve at 11:30 a.m. If you can help on August 8, September 11 or October 10, please call Lisa deShazo at 251-591-1077 or Mary DeWitt Dukes at 504-920-1918.

Missing Children's Worship Totes: We are missing several of the small bags that we use for Children's Worship materials. Parents, please check to see if you have any of these bags at home or in your car. Thank you!

GSPC Book Club: The GSPC Book Club will meet on Tuesday, August 26, at 5:30 p.m. in the GSPC Library and via Zoom. Our reading selection will be "Fairhope, 1894–1954: The Story of a Single Tax Colony" by Paul Alyea and Blanche Alyea. Please RSVP to Meredith Johnston at mwjohnston@crimson.ua.edu or 251-323-5954.

Flower Dedications: If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please contact Ann Adams at Adams-marion@att.net or 251-591-8586.

About Government Street Presbyterian Church

Government Street Presbyterian Church, known as the mother of Presbyterianism in Southern Alabama, was founded in 1831. This vibrant congregation has a long tradition of servant leadership and urban mission work in the heart of downtown Mobile. We welcome all to join us in responding to the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ.