Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, September 7, 2025 | 10:30 A.M.

RALLY DAY

Gathering

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.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — **REV. ANNE H.K. APPLE**

PRELUDE — *Morning Has Broken*
arr. Diane Bish

INTROIT — *Come Christians, Join to Sing*
arr. Gordon Young

The Sanctuary Choir and Instrumental Ensemble
Text: No. 267 in The Hymnal

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsive)* — **CASI CALLAWAY**

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.
We gather to worship with joy and praise, seeking to follow Christ.
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.
We set aside our distractions and doubts to give our attention to the Lord our God.
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.
May the Spirit guide us as we worship our risen Lord.
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.

✠**HYMN 641** — *When in Our Music God Is Glorified*
ENGELBERG

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.

✠**CALL TO CONFESSION**

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, sinner that I am.
(silence)
Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, sinner that I am.
(silence)
Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, sinner that I am.
(silence)
Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, sinners that we are.
(silence)
Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, sinners that we are.
(silence)
Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, sinners that we are.
(silence)

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. Older children may return to sit with their parents.*

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.*

✠Assurance of Pardon

✠Response | Hymn 448 *Peace of God Be With You*
AL-SALAAMU LAKUM

The hymn will be sung twice.

✠Passing of the Peace

Proclaiming the Word

Children's Sermon **Rev. Anne H.K. Apple**

Wee Worship Leaders: Emily Watson and Nicole Riis

Anthem *Psalm 150*
Cesar Franck

The Sanctuary Choir and Instrumental Ensemble

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 18:1-11 **Casi Callaway**

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *Today we imagine God's shaping of us as a people of faith. What scripture has been formative for your life of faith? What prayer do you have for Government Street Presbyterian Church and her people?* **Rev. Apple**

Thanksgiving

Anthem *Gloria (Twelfth Mass)*
W.A. Mozart/W. Mueller

The Sanctuary Choir and Instrumental Ensemble

Glorious is Thy name, Almighty Lord. Glorious is Thy name, is Thy name O Lord. All the angels stand 'round about Thy throne. Let all nations bow before Thee. We praise Thee, we give thanks to Thee, we adore Thee, we glorify Thee. Lord, we bless Thee for Thy great glory. Heav'n is Thy throne and earth is Thy footstool. Thou art King over all the world. Glorious is Thy name, is Thy name O Lord. Blessing and honor be to God, forever and evermore.

Call to Offering
and Presentation of Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings

Offertory *Laudate Dominum (Vesperae solennes de confessore)*
W.A. Mozart

The Sanctuary Choir and Instrumental Ensemble; Gabrielle Mohr, *soprano soloist*

Translation: Praise the Lord, all nations; Praise Him, all people. For He has bestowed His mercy upon us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever. Glory be to the Father and to the son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forever and ever. Amen. (Psalm 117)

✠Response | Hymn 606 *Doxology*
OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God, above ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

When we gather for Communion, *the Spirit draws us into Christ's presence and unites us with Christians in every time and space. We join with the baptized faithful in heaven and on earth in offering thanksgiving to the triune God. We affirm the promises of our baptism and recommit ourselves to love and serve God, one another, and our neighbors in the world.*

The Lord's Prayer:

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table — **Rev. Apple**

Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Breaking of the Bread
Communion of the People
Communion Voluntary — *O Dearest Lord, Thy Sacred Head*
arr. D. Johnson

The Sanctuary Choir and Instrumental Ensemble;
Meredith Wilson, *mezzo-soprano soloist*

O dearest Lord, thy sacred head with thorns was pierced for me; O pour thy blessing on my head that I may follow thee. O dearest Lord, thy sacred hands with nails was pierced for me; O shed thy blessing on my hands, that they may work for thee. O dearest Lord, thy sacred feet with nails were pierced for me; O pour thy blessing on my feet that they may follow thee. O dearest Lord, thy sacred heart with spear was pierced for me; O pour thy spirit in my heart that I may live for thee. Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Sending

✠Hymn 649 — *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*
AMAZING GRACE

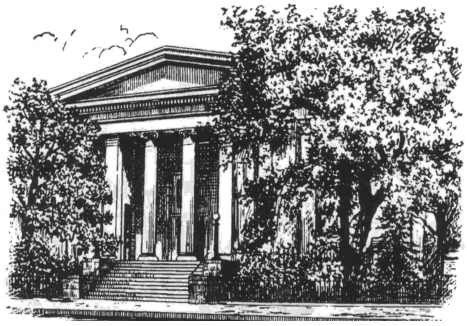
✠Benediction — **Rev. Apple**

Postlude — *Sonata No. 10 in D (Church Sonatas)*
W.A. Mozart

We thank our guest musicians for joining us today: violinists Dr. Silvia Rath, Jim Lichtenberger, violist Daniela Pardo, and timpanist Laura Noah.

Sunday, September 14

Join us next Sunday, September 14. The Rev. Anne H.K. Apple will preach on Luke 15:1-10. Music includes Hal Hopson's "The Gift of Love" and Nicholas Brodsky's "I'll Walk with God."



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Sexton(s)

Send news for the e-newsletter or bulletin to Sally Ericson at sallyericson23@gmail.com, or use the QR code below to access the online form.

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given
to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Frederick Price
by his family.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Afternoon Social Down the Bay: The young adults of GSPC (and the young at heart!) are invited to gather at 5:30 p.m. at the Jackson / Otts Bay House, 6859 Bay Road. Please RSVP to sjackson@llbb.com or 251-610-7031.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Tuesday Lunch and Learn at GSPC with Tom McGehee: Join us as we begin the Fall Lunch and Learn series! Lunch is served at noon and Tom will begin his talk at 12:30 p.m. The subject is "Life before AC: How did they survive?" The cost is $10 and includes drinks and dessert. The lunch series will continue weekly on Tuesdays through November 18.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Music Rehearsals: Handbells, 5:15-5:45 p.m. in the sanctuary; choir, 6-7:30 p.m. in the choir room.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Fall Gathering: The Presbyterian Women will have their Fall Gathering at 5 p.m. in the Guesnard House. All are welcome to join us for an evening of fellowship and Bible study. If you are able, please bring a snack or beverage to share.

NEWS AND NOTES

Status Update on the Elevator: A new chair lift has been installed in the West stairwell, on the East side wall. If you need assistance in using it, please ask the Sunday Assistant outside the sanctuary door to help you.

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. If you have the knowledge and interest, please contact Neal Horner or Lynn McDaniel.

McKemie Place, a shelter for homeless women, is one of our church's mission/ ministry outreach projects. Each month on the second Friday, 2-3 volunteers provide a light lunch for about 24 residents. Volunteers are needed for Sept. 12, Oct. 9, and Nov. 14. Please call Lisa DeShazo at 251-591-1077 or Mary DeWitt Dukes at 504-920-1918 if you are able to volunteer.

Flower Dedications: To place flowers in the Sanctuary in memory of or in honor of a loved one, 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.