

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday September 25, 2022 | 10:30 A.M.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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.*

PRELUDE *Reverie*
LEON BOELLMAN

MINUTE FOR MISSION **HENRY MORRISETTE**

WELCOME **REV. ALEXANDRA HUTSON**

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Responsive*)

Happy are those whose help is in the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God.
The Lord God reigns forever,
for all generations.
Praise the Lord! Let us Worship God!

✠**HYMN 305** *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*
DARWALL'S 148TH

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *unison* **REV. ALEXANDRA HUTSON**

We have sinned, O God, hoarding what we have, grasping for more, and ignoring these who hunger and thirst. We stay with our own kind; complacent in the face of systems that oppress. Hear our silent prayers of confession:

(silence)

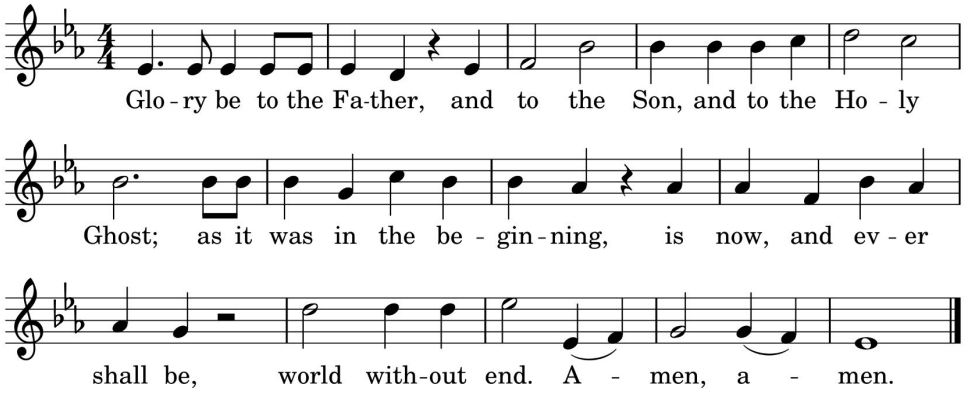
Forgive us, purify us; remake us, that we might know your love. In Christ's Name. Amen.

***Following the Children's Sermon, children ages 3-Kindergarten** are invited to leave the sanctuary with two volunteers for Wee Worship. Wee Worship is a special time designed for young children to have a space to learn about God through bible stories, crafts and play. The sign–in binder is located in the first pew of the middle section of the sanctuary.*

✠Assurance of Pardon **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

✠Response | Hymn 581 *Glory Be To The Father*

GLORIA PATRI



Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination **Katherine Ogburn**

First Reading I Timothy 6:6-19

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

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

Second Reading **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

Luke 8:26-39

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

Sermon "What is Your Name" **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

Thanksgiving

✠ **Hymn 39** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*
FAITHFULNESS

✠ **Affirmation of Faith** *unison* **Houston Jones**

The Nicene Creed

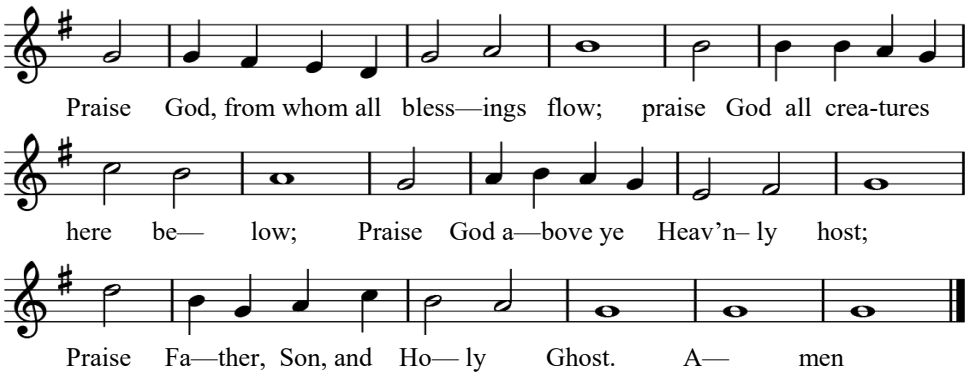
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty; maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through whom all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

The Nicene Creed was written in 325 in order to unify the church. *It affirms that the divinity of Christ, the Son, is of the same substance as the divinity of God, the Father. It is an ecumenical creed used by Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Protestant Christians with slight variations.*

Offering **Houston Jones**

Meditation *Pastorale*
LEON BOELLMAN

✠**Response | Hymn 607** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
OLD HUNDREDTH



Prayer of Thanksgiving **Houston Jones**

Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer
Rev. Alexandra Hutson

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

Sending

The benediction begins with a charge, or a challenge, to the faithful *as they prepare to leave and is concluded with a blessing and assurance of God's presence as they go from the sanctuary into their lives of discipleship.*

✠**Hymn 727** *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*
THE SERVANT SONG

✠**Benediction** **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

Postlude *Diapason in A Major*
GEORGE GREEN

Reverend Rebekah Abel Lamar is participating in the ordination of Courtnay Veazey at Idlewild Presbyterian Church in Memphis, TN, this morning. Courtnay served as GSPC's Summer intern in 2021.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

I Timothy 6:6-19

6 Of course, there is great gain in godliness
combined with contentment, 7 for we
brought nothing into the world, so that[a] we
can take nothing out of it, 8 but if we have
food and clothing, we will be content with
these. 9 But those who want to be rich fall
into temptation and are trapped by many
senseless and harmful desires that plunge
people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the
love of money is a root of all kinds of evil,
and in their eagerness to be rich some have
wandered away from the faith and pierced
themselves with many pains.

11 But as for you, man of God, shun all this;
pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love,
endurance, gentleness. 12 Fight the good
fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life
to which you were called and for which you
made[b] the good confession in the presence
of many witnesses. 13 In the presence of God,
who gives life to all things, and of Christ Je-
sus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pi-
late made the good confession, I charge
you 14 to keep the commandment without
spot or blame until the manifestation of our
Lord Jesus Christ, 15 which he will bring
about at the right time—he who is the
blessed and only Sovereign, the King of
kings and Lord of lords. 16 It is he alone who
has immortality and dwells in unapproacha-
ble light, whom no one has ever seen or can
see; to him be honor and eternal dominion.
Amen.

17 As for those who in the present age are
rich, command them not to be haughty or to
set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches
but rather on God, who richly provides us
with everything for our enjoyment. 18 They
are to do good, to be rich in good works,
generous, and ready to share, 19 thus storing
up for themselves the treasure of a good
foundation for the future, so that they may
take hold of the life that really is life.

Thank you to Dr. Nancy Graham for serving as our guest organist today.

Luke 8:26-39

26 Then they arrived at the region of the
Gerasenes,[a] which is opposite Galilee. 27 As
he stepped out on shore, a man from the
city who had demons met him. For a long
time he had not worn[b] any clothes, and he
did not live in a house but in the
tombs. 28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out
and fell down before him, shouting, "What
have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the
Most High God? I beg you, do not torment
me," 29 for Jesus[c] had commanded the un-
clean spirit to come out of the man. (For
many times it had seized him; he was kept
under guard and bound with chains and
shackles, but he would break the bonds and
be driven by the demon into the
wilds.) 30 Jesus then asked him, "What is your
name?" He said, "Legion," for many demons
had entered him. 31 They begged him not to
order them to go back into the abyss.

32 Now there on the hillside a large herd of
swine was feeding, and the demons
[d] begged Jesus[e] to let them enter these. So
he gave them permission. 33 Then the de-
mons came out of the man and entered the
swine, and the herd stampeded down the
steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

34 When the swineherds saw what had hap-
pened, they ran off and told it in the city and
in the country. 35 Then people came out to
see what had happened, and when they
came to Jesus, they found the man from
whom the demons had gone sitting at the
feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind.
And they became frightened. 36 Those who
had seen it told them how the one who had
been possessed by demons had been
healed. 37 Then the whole throng of people
of the surrounding region of the Gerasenes
[f] asked Jesus[g] to leave them, for they were
seized with great fear. So he got into the
boat and returned. 38 The man from whom
the demons had gone out begged that he
might be with him, but Jesus[h] sent him
away, saying, 39 "Return to your home, and
declare how much God has done for you."
So he went away, proclaiming throughout
the city how much Jesus had done for him.

GSPC NEWS







Lunch and Learn: Today, families will have an opportunity to attend an informational luncheon on "Anxiety and How to Cope With It," presented by Kari Whatley. The luncheon, cooked by Shelia, will begin after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

"At the River" Film Screening: GSPC will host filmmaker Carolyn Crowder on Monday, September 26, from 6 to 9 p.m. to view and discuss her documentary "At the River." The film shares the experiences of many southern Presbyterian ministers who took risks to stand for Civil Rights in the 50s and 60s. Vernon Hunter, Billy McLean, and Jim Lowry are just a few of the pastors she interviewed, along with family and friends, including our own Martelle Scott and Martha Tissington. The community is welcome.

Blessing of the Pets: Join us on Saturday, October 1, for the third annual Blessing of the Pets in the GSPC parking lot from 10 a.m. to noon. Bring your pets for a blessing, a photo and a goody bag! This event is a partnership with the Mylo Foundation, which will have several dogs available to foster.

Congregational Meeting: There will be a Congregational Meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, October 2, for the purpose of electing church officers.

Bible Basics: Mark your calendars for the Family Bible Basics class, a two-hour overview of the Bible, on Sunday, October 16! Lunch will be provided.

Interfaith Bible Study: The Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar joins Rabbi Ed Boraz of Spring Hill Avenue Temple and the Rev. Trey Doyle of First Baptist Church for an interfaith Bible study, "Two Pastors and a Rabbi." The dates are October 20, November 10 and December 1 at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Volunteers needed for Trunk or Treat: Our annual Halloween party is coming up on Sunday, Oct. 30, and we need plenty of trunks full of treats! RSVP to the Rev. Alexandra Hutson.

CHURCH OFFICERS

SESSION

Class of 2022

John Browning, Joy Gardner, Dorothy Morrison, Scott Weldon, Marcia Wyatt

Class of 2023

Susan Ashbee, Casi Callaway, Lisa deShazo, John Moses, Henry Morrissette, Bo Perry

Class of 2024

Bobby Headrick, Charles Jones, Mary Herndon Nordmann, Katherine Ogburn, Dick Otts, Beth Rouse

Clerk of Session: John Browning

Assistant Clerk: Henry Morrissette

DIACONATE

Class of 2022

Kym Carroll, Sally Ericson, John Peebles, Jim Van Haneghan, Zack Weaver

Class of 2023

Damon Boone, Jane Hale, Ashley Oswalt, Harris Oswalt Jr., Leigh Schottgen, LeAnne Tamblyn

Class of 2024

Ashley Ashbee, Stella Jackson, Ashford Kettler, Richard Otts, Jasper Reaves

URBAN MINISTRIES

JELLY AND SNACKS 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 and we are in need of donations of creamy peanut butter (no Jif, please, because of the recent recall) and grape jelly and individually packaged snacks (peanut butter or cheese crackers, chips, cookies, Little Debbies, etc.). There is a donation box in the Jackson Street foyer for these donations.

BLANKET MINISTRY

All are invited to donate items to be delivered to USA Children's & Women's Mother/Baby/At Risk department for full term babies of needy families (not the NICU) and to the Mostellar Clinic. Here are suggested items and sizes:

- Baby blankets (greatest need) approx. 28-36" square/rectangles 30-34"x40-46"
- A few hats and booties
- (USACW only): No-scratch mittens (must be fabric, not yarn)

Inexpensive items of any baby-appropriate washable fabric or yarn are appreciated. No large items, please: The babies we serve usually average 3-5 lbs. Store-bought or handmade items are welcomed. (Please do not donate unmade fabric.)

Donations may be left in the "Baby Box" at the Jackson Street entrance, or you may order from Amazon and request delivery to the church, marked "Blanket Ministry."



300 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36602
251-432-1749 | gspcmobile.org
Member PC(USA)

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar
Pastor & Head of Staff
rebekah@gspcmobile.org

Rev. Alexandra Hutson
Associate Pastor
alexandra@gspcmobile.org

Barbara Williams
Property Manager & Hostess
barbara@gspcmobile.org

Heather Hamilton
Office Manager
heather@gspcmobile.org

Dawn Hearn
Bookkeeper
dawn@gspcmobile.org

Shelia Smith
Director of Food Services

Marilyn Mills
Arthur Lewis
Sextons

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers today are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Elizabeth and Austill Pharr by their family.

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 25

Sunday Book Study Group-Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the library. Blanche Parsons will lead a new study on the book, "Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others", by Barbara Brown Taylor.

Talking Heads Sunday School class -This class, led by the Rev. Rebekah Able Lamar, meets on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Heltzel Room on the second floor.

Sunday School for children and youth-These classes meet at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays.

Wee Worship-Sundays at 10:45 a.m. after the Children's Sermon.

"Lunch and Learn: Anxiety and how to cope with it"- 11:30a.m. Fellowship hall. Lunch provided.

Monday, September 26

"At the River" film screening, from 6-9:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Open to the public.

Tuesday, September 27

Women's Bible Studies-Tuesdays at 8 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams.

Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.

Wednesday, September 27

Men's Bible Study - Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Library. Contact: Bo Perry.

Saturday, October 1

Blessing of the pets-10:00 a .m.-12:00 p.m. in the Church parking lot.

Sunday, October 2

Congregational meeting– Immediately following worship to elect officers.

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.

Worship has continued on this site since 1836, when the sanctuary, now a National Historic landmark, was completed.