# Government Street Presbyterian Church

Sunday, July 16, 2023 | 10:30 a.m.

Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

# *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.*

***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.*

***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.*

**Prelude** *Largo (Xerxes)*
G.F. Handel

**Welcome** **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

**Minute for Mission:** Supper Clubs **Linda Reynolds**

**✠Call to Worship**

Bless the Lord, O my soul.
**And all that is within me, bless God's holy name.**
Bless the Lord, O my soul.
**God's steadfast love is from everlasting to everlasting.**
Let us worship God.

**✠Hymn 32** *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*
ELLACOMBE

**✠Prayer Of Confession** **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

Faithful God, your word falls on hardened ground when our worldly anxiety and attachment to wealth crowd out your place in our lives. Forgive us Lord, and hear our silent prayers of confession.

(silence)

Forgive our frail and human ways and cultivate in us a spirit of trust and faithfulness, for you are our hope for deliverance. Amen.

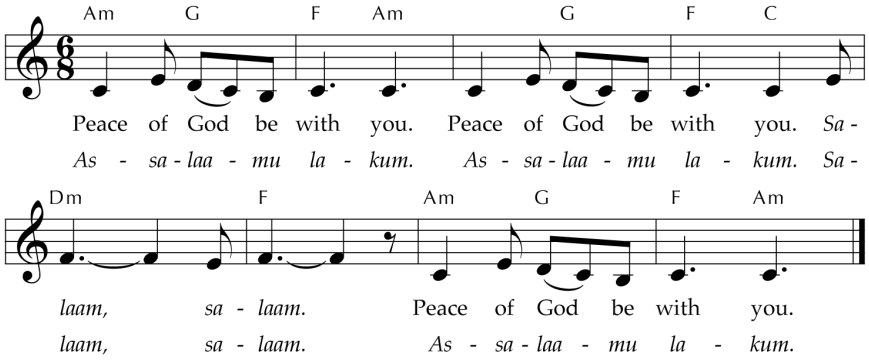
**✠Assurance of Pardon** **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

**✠Passing of the Peace**

**✠Response: Hymn 448** *Peace of God Be with You*
AS-SALAAMU LAKUM

448 Peace of God Be with You

*As-salaamu lakum*




***Children ages three*** *and older are invited to the front for the Children's Sermon.*

*The nursery is available for ages infant through kindergarten.*

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

# *Proclaiming the Word*

**Prayer For Illumination** **Blanche Parsons**

**Scripture Reading:** Psalm 103: 1-5, 15-22

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

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 9: 35-38

**Sermon:** "Sailboat Church: Mission" **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

# *Thanksgiving*

**✠Hymn 343** *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*
GERMANY

**✠Affirmation of Faith** (From A Brief Statement of Faith) **Carrie Adams**

***The Brief Statement of Faith*** *was written in the 1980s when the Presbyterian Church (USA) was formed by the reunion of the northern and southern strands of Presbyterianism that divided before the Civil War. The statement offers one of the fullest descriptions of the Holy Spirit found in our denomination's Book of Confessions, emphasizing the Spirit's work in our present-day world.*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Offering**

**Offertory** *Deep River*
Spiritual; arr. H.T. Burleigh

**Meredith Wilson, *mezzo soprano***

*Deep river, my home is over Jordan,*
*Deep river, I want to cross over into campground.*
*Oh, don't you want to go to that gospel feast,*
*that promised land where all is peace?*
*Deep river, my home is over Jordan,*
*Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.*

✠**Response | Hymn 607** *Doxology*

✠**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

✠**Prayer of Intercession** **Carrie Adams**
**and 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.

✠**Hymn 370** *This is My Father's World*
TERRA BETA

## *Sending*

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

**Postlude** *Sortie*
César Franck

## *Sunday, July 23*

Next Sunday, July 23, while the Sanctuary Choir is on summer break, our guest musician will be soprano Gabrielle Corlette, who will sing G.F. Handel's "O Had I Jubal's Lyre" from the sacred oratorio "Joshua," based on the biblical story, and an exuberant setting of Psalm 27.

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**CHURCH STAFF**

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Shelia Smith
*Director of Food Services*

Marilyn Mills
Arthur Lewis
*Sexton(s)*

## Sanctuary Flowers

The Sanctuary Flowers are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Alexandra Katherine DeWitt,
daughter of Ruth Schmohl
and stepdaughter of John Schmohl.

# *Calendar of Events*

**TUESDAY, JULY 18**

**Women's Bible Study:** Tuesdays at 8 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams.

**Women's Bible Study:** Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.

**SATURDAY, JULY 22**

**Mobile Baykeeper Summer Blitz:** GSPC children and youth and their families are invited to join a cleanup event at Tricentennial Park from 8 a.m. to noon. The park cleanup will begin at 8 a.m. and will be followed by educational and fun activities for children of all ages. Refreshments will also be available. Contact: Sally Ericson (251-487-0734).

**TUESDAY, JULY 25**

**20s/30s Women's Bible Study:** 6 p.m. in the Guesnard House.

**ADDITIONAL NEWS AND NOTES**

**Supper Clubs:** Get to know GSPC members better by signing up to be a part of the Supper Clubs. Please call or leave a message with Blanche Parsons (251-348-7037) or Linda Reynolds (251-625-0305) by July 31 if you would like to participate as either a fulltime or substitute member.

**Baytreat Summer Rentals:** Baytreat is available for rentals this summer. For information, contact Shelley Springer at shelley@shelleyspringer.com or 251-605-0695.

**Sanctuary Flowers:** 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.

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