Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, August 31, 2025 | 10:30 A.M.

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.*

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

PRELUDE — *Elegy in D*
Ovid Young

INTROIT — *Day By Day*
Martin How

The Sanctuary Choir
Day by day, dear Lord of thee three things I pray: To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly.
Follow thee more nearly, day by day. (St. Richard of Chichester)

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsive)*

Our help is in the name of the Lord, maker of heaven and earth.
The Fountain of Living Water.
This is the day that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
We will worship the Lord with humility and gladness. Let us worship God.

✠**HYMN 307** — *God of Grace and God of Glory*
CWM RHONDDA

✠**CALL TO CONFESSION**

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.

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Responsive)*
In this time of silence, hear our silent prayers of confession …
O Lord in your mercy **... Forgive us, we pray.**

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

O Lord in your mercy, **Forgive us, we pray.**

Forgiving God, forgive what we have been; help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

O Lord in your mercy, **Forgive us, we pray. Amen.**

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.*

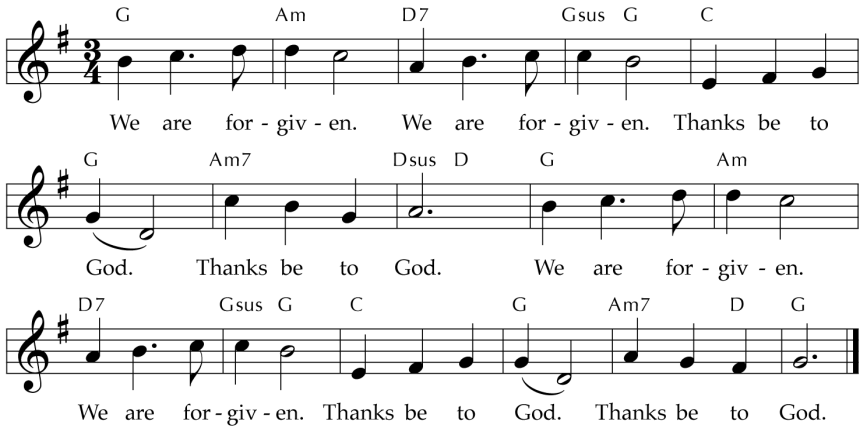
Children ages three *and older are invited to the front for the Children's Sermon. Children ages 3 through kindergarten may go to Wee Worship following the Children's Sermon. They may be picked up from the Sunday School classroom following worship. Children under 3 are welcome in the nursery. Older children 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 447 *We Are Forgiven*
WE ARE FORGIVEN



Welcome of New Members: Mac and Ginger Otts

✠Passing of the Peace

Proclaiming the Word

Sung Prayer for Illumination

✠Hymn 291 *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*
SPIRIT

First Reading: Jeremiah 2:4-13

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon **Rev. Anne H.K. Apple**
Wee Worship Leaders: Emily Watson and Charlotte Crockett

Second Reading: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Sermon: "Who Do We Invite?" **Rev. Apple**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 808 *When Memory Fades*
FINLANDIA

Prayer is a place we bring ourselves fully before God. *In the Prayer of Intercession, we hold the needs of our hearts and of the world before a powerful and loving 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.*

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.*

Join us next Sunday, September 7, for Rally Sunday and Holy Communion. The Rev. Anne H.K. Apple will preach on "The Potter" and with corresponding Scriptures of Psalm 139 and Jeremiah 18:1-11. For this special day, joining the Sanctuary Choir will be strings and timpani, as they present Cesar Franck's "Psalm 150," W.A. Mozart's "Laudate Dominum" and "Gloria" (Twelfth Mass), David N. Johnson's "O, Dearest Lord" and several instrumental pieces, including Diane Bish's "Morning Has Broken."

✠Affirmation of Faith (*Unison; adapted from A Brief Statement of Faith, 11.3*)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed

and blessing the children, healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.

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.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

✠Response *Three-fold Amen*
Eugene Butler

Call to Offering
and Presentation of Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings
Offertory *A Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester*
L.J. White

The Sanctuary Choir

O holy Jesus, most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly and follow thee more nearly. Amen.

✠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.

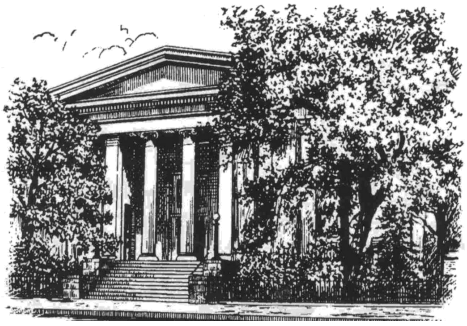
✠Prayer of Thanksgiving
Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

Sending

✠Hymn 310 *I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord*
ST. THOMAS

✠Benediction **Rev. Apple**

Postlude *Toccata*
David Hegarty



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CHURCH STAFF

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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 with love
to the glory of our Lord,
celebrating the 85th birthday of Dorothy Morrison
by her family.

GSPC News

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7: Rally Day

Young Adult Gathering: 5:30 p.m. at the home of Ellen and Charlie Jackson.

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.

NEWS AND NOTES

Call for Musicians: The Bell Choir and Sanctuary Choir currently have openings. The Bell Choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 5:15 to 5:45 p.m., and the Sanctuary Choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. For details, contact Chris Nemec at chris@gspcmobile.org.

Back-to-School Uniform Drive: The congregation is invited to provide assistance to students who need school uniforms. GSPC supports the uniform closet at Barton Academy. If you would like to assist these families, please submit a check to the church office, or through the offering, and put "Uniform Assistance" in the memo line.

Status Update on the Elevator: Attention! 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.