

"Jesus teaching" By Joris Van Ostaeyen

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.*

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, May 15, 2022 | 10:30 A.M.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Gathering

PRELUDE *All My Heart Awakes with Gladness*
arr. WILBUR HELD

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

✠CALL TO WORSHIP *responsive*

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him all you shining stars.

Let them praise the name of the Lord.

For at his command they were created, and he established them for ever and ever.

Let all creation praise the Lord.

Let us worship God!

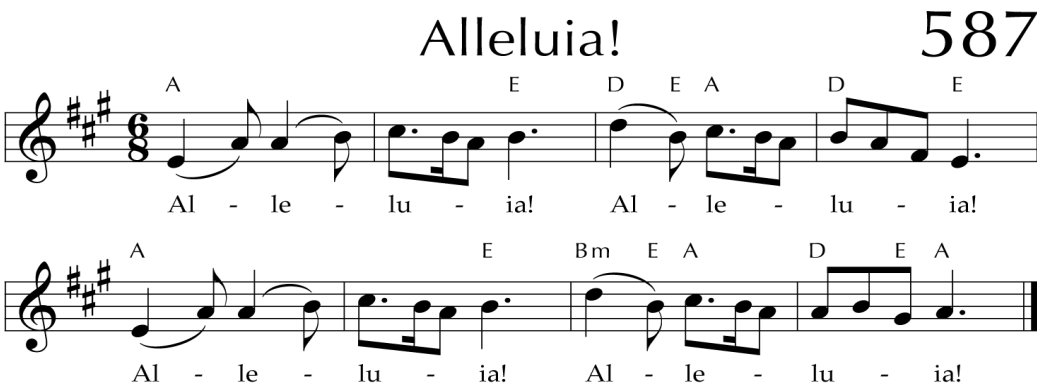
✠HYMN 610 *O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing*
AZMON

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

God of mercy, your command to love one another challenges us. We confess that we often respond with fear and judgement instead of grace and compassion. We place limits on how we love others even though your love for us is limitless. Forgive us our sins, and give us a true repentance that leads to life for all creation. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠Response | Hymn 587 CELTIC ALLELUIA



Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination **Ed Hawkins**

First Reading Acts 11: 1-18

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

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

Second Reading John 13: 31-35

The Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

Sermon "Everyone Will Know" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Thanksgiving

Hymn 317 *In Christ There Is No East Or West* McKee

Children ages three *and older are invited to the front. Those three years through kindergarten may leave with volunteers for Wee Worship for the remainder of the service. Sign-in for parents of Wee Worship children is on the front row.*

Nursery is available for ages infant through Kindergarten.

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

The Belhar Confession was written in 1978 *by Christians in South Africa as a theological response to apartheid. The central points of the confession are unity, reconciliation, and justice known to us in Christ. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) approved the Confession of Belhar as part of the Book of Confessions in 2016.*

✠Affirmation of Faith *unison* — Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar

(From the Belhar Confession)

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit, it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought; that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways;

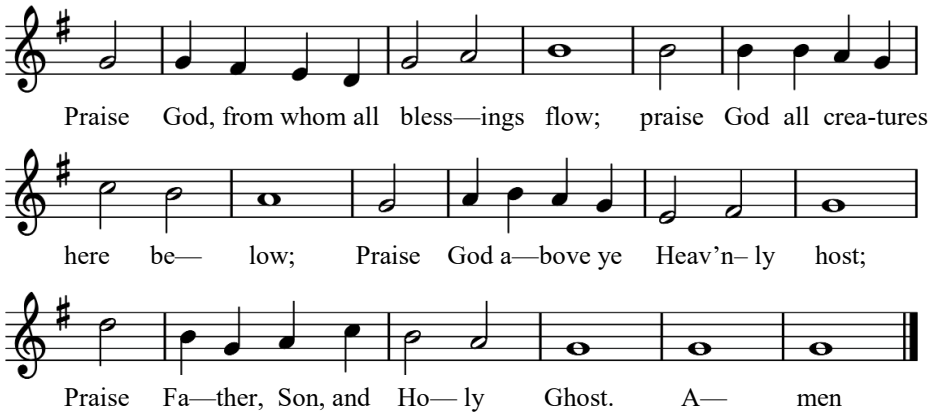
* in that we love one another;
* that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another;
* together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ;
* That we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.

Offering

Offertory

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

OLD HUNDREDTH



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of Intercession

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.

Sending

✠Hymn 301 *Come, Let Us Build a House* (first verse sung by choir)
TWO OAKS

✠Benediction **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude *Fuga in G*
Pachelbel

Thank you to our guest pianist, Nancy Graham

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 11:1-18

11 Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. [2] So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers[a] criticized him, [3] saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" [4] Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, [5] "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. [6] As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. [7] I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' [8] But I replied, 'By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' [9] But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' [10] This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. [11] At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. [12] The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us.[b] These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. [13] He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; [14] he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' [15] And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. [16] And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' [17] If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" [18] When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

John 13:31-35

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32 If God has been glorified in him,[a] God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33 Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."



VBS: JUNE 20-24



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT GSPC: JUNE 20-24

All are invited! The theme is "Passport to Peace." Children will travel through the world learning how to be peacemakers. They will make friends, sing fun songs, meet peacemakers in the Bible, do art projects and science explorations and play active games. Your children will practice strategies for experiencing peace inside and learn how to live at peace with others.

Please sign up for VBS on the church website: gspcmobile.org/vbs.

The Rev. Alexandra Hutson is seeking volunteers to assist with this event. If you can help, please email her at Alexandra@gspcmobile.org.

Coming up at GSPC

Sunday, May 15, 4-6 p.m.: Bowling Party for GSPC, Spring Hill Youth

The GSPC and Spring Hill Youth Groups will meet at Eastern Shore Bowling Lanes for an End-of-the-Year party this afternoon.

Tuesday, May 17, 6 p.m.: Concert by Barton Academy students

Dr. Susan Henderson, the Music Director at Barton Academy for Advanced World Studies, invites the congregation to a concert in the GSPC Sanctuary on May 17. The concert will showcase the talents of Barton Academy's choir, orchestra, and band students.

Sunday, May 22, 11:30 a.m.: Barbeque and Brews in the Parking Lot

Join us immediately after worship next Sunday to enjoy food and fellowship in the Jackson Street Parking Lot!

Sunday, June 5, 5 p.m.: GSPC Young Adults Gathering

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for an evening of fellowship at 6859 Bay Road. Details to come.



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 MINISTRY

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 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."



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Member PC(USA)

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar
Pastor & Head of Staff
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Rev. Alexandra Hutson
Associate Pastor
alexandra@gspcmobile.org

Barbara Williams
Interim 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
Sexton(s)

THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO
THE GLORY OF GOD
BY THE HALE FAMILY,
IN MEMORY OF THEIR BELOVED DAUGHTER,
MADELINE ELISE HALE

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Women's Bible Study
Tuesdays at 8 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams
Tuesdays at 10 a.m. via Zoom. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.

Men's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the library, in-person and on Zoom. Contact: Bo Perry

Sunday Book Study Group
Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the library

Presbyterian Women
P.W. Circle & Bible Study. Contact: Bligh Jones or Mary Elizabeth Perry

Sunday School
Sundays at 9:30 a.m., all ages

Wee Worship
Sundays during the service, ages 3 through kindergarten

Those Serving Today:

Sunday Assistants: Kym Carroll, Ashley Oswalt

Wee Worship / Nursery: The Rev. Alexandra Hutson, Allison Peebles