

"Jesus and the Lamb" By Katherine Brown

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 8, 2022 | 10:30 A.M.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME **REV. ALEXANDRA HUTSON**

✠CALL TO WORSHIP (PSALM 23) *responsive*

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.
Let us worship God.

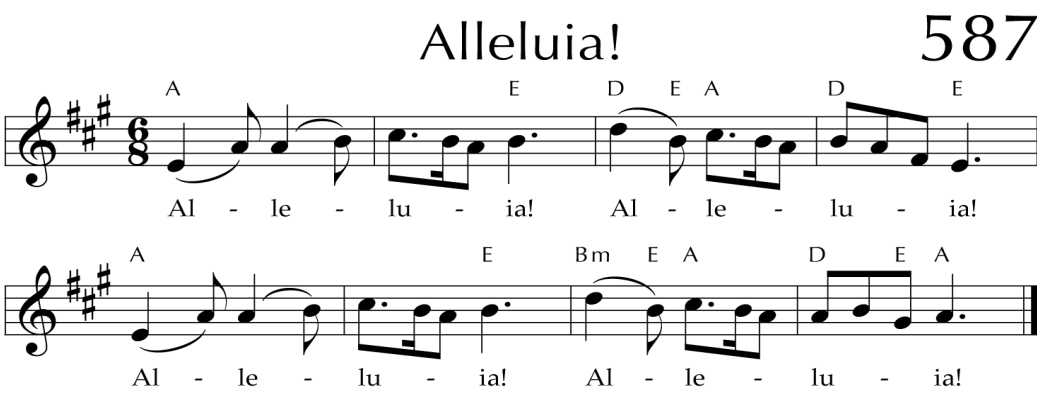
✠HYMN 35 *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*
LOBE DEN HERREN

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

Holy God, we confess that we have strayed from your paths of relationship and peace, and we have dishonored you, ourselves, and your creation; we repent of these hurtful ways. Forgive us, we pray, as we learn to forgive others and guide our feet into the way of peace. AMEN.

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON **ALEXANDRA HUTSON**

✠Response | Hymn 587 CELTIC ALLELUIA



Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination **Bligh Jones**

First Reading Psalm 23: 1-6

The Word of the Lord. Old Testament pp.474-475

Thanks Be to God!

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

Second Reading John 10:22-30

The Gospel of the Lord. New Testament p.98

Thanks Be to God!

Sermon **"My Sheep Hear My Voice"** **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

Thanksgiving

Hymn 803 *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*
RESIGNATION

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.*

Written in 1967, the Confession of 1967 was adopted into the Book of Confessions in 1983. The Confession recovered key insights of the Protestant Reformation, drawing on the thought of Karl Barth. It was written to challenge the church to think anew about the authority and role of confessions.

✠Affirmation of Faith *unison* — Rev. Alexandra Hutson

(Confession of 1967)

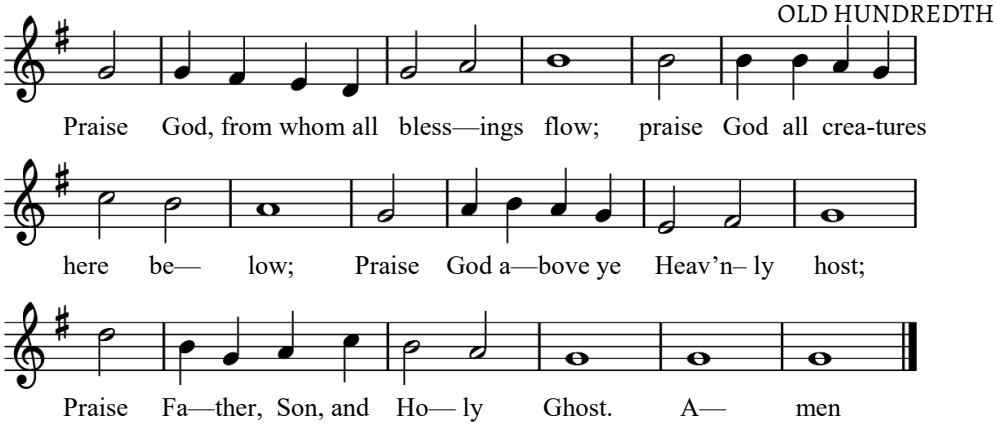
In Jesus Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself. Jesus Christ is God with humankind. He is the eternal Son of the father, who became human and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation. He is present in the church by the power of the Holy Spirit to continue and complete his mission. This work of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is the foundation of all confessional statements about God, humanity and the world. Therefore, the church calls all people to be reconciled to God and to one another. The risen Christ is the savior of all people. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as God's reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which began with the apostles and continues through all generations.

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 839 *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine*
ASSURANCE

✠Benediction **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

Postlude

Thank you to our guest pianist, Scott Jolly

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;

3 he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths

for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I fear no evil;

for you are with me;

thy rod and thy staff —

they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

6 Surely goodness and mercy

shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

my whole life long.

John 10: 22-30

22 At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, 23 and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. 24 So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." 25 Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; 26 but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. 27 My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. 30 The Father and I are one."



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

Tuesday, May 10: Central Presbyterian Food Pantry

On May 10, GSPC has the opportunity to volunteer with our friends at Central Presbyterian Church for their weekly drive-thru food pantry. If you are able to help, please report to Central at 8:30 a.m. There will be a short meeting about 8:45 with instructions for volunteers. The food distribution will begin about 9 a.m. Central Presbyterian is serving about 600 families per week and needs as many volunteers as possible. Join us!

Thursday, May 12, noon: The Mobile Area Interfaith Conference

MAIC is hosting a luncheon to recognize their volunteers at GSPC in the Fellowship Hall at noon. The MAIC's current mission is providing pre-release and post-release services for those at Metro Jail. This organization grew from the Downtown Conference of Churches that GSPC founded after Hurricane Frederic in 1979. It focused then on feeding ministries that eventually spun into what is now Feeding the Gulf Coast. Later it focused on homelessness that spun into what is now Housing First. The organization is starting some new initiatives with GED and job readiness training for those who are in jail and those who have been released. Please RSVP to Lisa deShazo or Rev. Rebekah Lamar, who currently serves on their board, if you would like to attend this luncheon. The Urban Ministries Committee is excited to be working with this organization that GSPC helped start over 40 years ago!

Tuesday, May 17, 6 p.m.: Barton Academy for Advanced World Studies

Dr. Susan Henderson, the Music Director at Barton Academy, invites the congregation of GSPC to attend a music concert in the GSPC Sanctuary at 6 p.m. The concert will showcase the musical talents of their Choir, Orchestra, and Band students.

SATURDAY, MAY 14: END-OF-THE-YEAR PARTY



The Children of the Church will have a pool party on Saturday, May 14, from 2 to 5 p.m. at Woodland Swim Club, 446 Cottage Hill Road.
Please RSVP to the Rev. Alexandra Hutson at alexandra@gspcmobile.org.

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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CHURCH STAFF

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Dawn Hearn
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Shelia Smith
Director of Food Services

Marilyn Mills
Arthur Lewis
Sexton(s)

THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF DIBBER LUTZ BY HER CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN, AND GREAT GRANDCHILDREN.

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: Richard Otts, Jasper Reaves

Wee Worship / Nursery: Charlotte Crockett, Lisa deShazo, Nicole Riis