



GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, July 31, 2022 | 10:30 A.M.

EIGHTH 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

March in E Flat

PHILIP G. KRECKEL

WELCOME

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

MINUTE FOR MISSION

BO PERRY

✠CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)*

We have gathered in faith to worship Almighty God.

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever.

The Lord has redeemed us, has been present with us in times of trouble, has gathered us together to worship and serve in Christ's name.

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever.

Let us thank the Lord for his steadfast love and for God's wonderful works.

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever.

Let us worship God.

✠HYMN 1

Holy, Holy, Holy

NICAEA

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION *unison*

Almighty God, we come to you in humility, knowing the many ways we have sinned against you and against our neighbor. It is easier to be selfish, to ignore the needs of others, to focus on our own needs and the needs of those we love. We are overwhelmed by the problems of our world and afraid to take risks to serve as you ask. Forgive us, Lord. Turn our cowering into courage, our desire into deeds, our ignorance into integrity. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

Children ages 3 and older are invited to come forward during the Children's Sermon. Following the time with children, they may return to sit with their parents. Wee Worship is currently on Summer break and will resume once school has started back in the Fall. Children's Bulletins are available at the front of the sanctuary.

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠RESPONSE | HYMN 578

O Lord, Have Mercy

*Kyrie eleison
Oré poriajú verekó*

Capo 2: (G) A (C) D (D) E (G) A

1 O Lord, have mer - cy; O Lord, have mer - cy; O
2 O Christ, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy; O

F# Bm E A

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.
Christ, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

Proclaiming the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

DEWEY PARSONS

FIRST READING

Luke 12: 13-21

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

REV. ALEXANDRA HUTSON

SECOND READING

JUDGES 4:1-24

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

SERMON "SUNDAY SCHOOL STORIES: DEBORAH AND Jael"

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

Thanksgiving

✠ HYMN 816

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee
WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

✠ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *unison* Apostles' Creed

REV. ALEXANDRA HUTSON

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ
his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy
Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the
dead; he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of
God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

OFFERING

MEDITATION

Andante Mosso
J. Bernards

✠ RESPONSE | HYMN 607

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all bless—ings flow; praise God all crea—tures
here be— low; Praise God a—bove ye Heav’n— ly host;
Praise Fa—ther, Son, and Ho— ly Ghost. A— men

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. Amen

Sending

✠HYMN 757

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples
KINGSFOLD

✠BENEDICTION

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

POSTLUDE

Gloria, Laus et Honor
THEME FROM MICHAEL HAYDEN

Thank you to Stephen Prager for serving as our guest organist today.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 12:13-21

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴ But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸ Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰ But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

Judges 4:1-24

4 The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. ² So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. ³ Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help, for he had nine hundred chariots of iron and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years. ⁴ At that time Deborah, a prophet, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. ⁵ She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. ⁶ She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Position yourself at Mount Tabor, taking ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. ⁷ I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops, and I will give him into your hand.' " ⁸ Barak said to her, "If you will go with me, I will go, but if you will not go with me, I will not go." ⁹ And she said, "I will surely go with you; nevertheless, the road on which you are going will not lead to your glory, for the LORD will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman." Then Deborah got up and

went with Barak to Kedesh. ¹⁰ Barak summoned Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh, and ten thousand warriors went up behind him, and Deborah went up with him. ¹¹ Now Heber the Kenite had separated from the other Kenites, ^[a] that is, the descendants of Hobab the father-in-law of Moses, and had encamped as far away as Elon-bezaananim, which is near Kedesh. ¹² When Sisera was told that Barak son of Abinoam had gone up to Mount Tabor, ¹³ Sisera called out all his chariots, nine hundred chariots of iron, and all the troops who were with him, from Harosheth-ha-goiim to the Wadi Kishon. ¹⁴ Then Deborah said to Barak, "Up! For this is the day on which the LORD has given Sisera into your hand. Has not the LORD gone out before you?" So Barak went down from Mount Tabor with ten thousand warriors following him. ¹⁵ And the LORD threw Sisera and all his chariots and all his army into a panic ^[b] before Barak; Sisera got down from his chariot and fled away on foot, ¹⁶ while Barak pursued the chariots and the army to Harosheth-ha-goiim. All the army of Sisera fell by the sword; not one was left. ¹⁷ Now Sisera had fled away on foot to the tent of Jael wife of Heber the Kenite, for there was peace between King Jabin of Hazor and the clan of Heber the Kenite. ¹⁸ Jael came out to meet Sisera and said to him, "Turn aside, my lord, turn aside to me; have no fear." So he turned aside to her into the tent, and she covered him with a rug. ¹⁹ Then he said to her, "Please give me a little water to drink, for I am thirsty." So she opened a skin of milk and gave him a drink and covered him. ²⁰ He said to her, "Stand at the entrance of the tent, and if anybody comes and asks you, 'Is anyone here?' say, 'No.' " ²¹ But Jael wife of Heber took a tent peg and took a hammer in her hand and went softly to him and drove the peg into his temple, until it went down into the ground—he was lying fast asleep from weariness—and he died. ²² Then, as Barak came in pursuit of Sisera, Jael went out to meet him and said to him, "Come, and I will show you the man whom you are seeking." So he went into her tent, and there was Sisera lying dead, with the tent peg in his temple.

²³ So on that day God subdued King Jabin of Canaan before the Israelites. ²⁴ Then the hand of the Israelites bore harder and harder on King Jabin of Canaan, until they destroyed King Jabin of Canaan.

GSPC NEWS

SUMMER OF SUNDAY SCHOOL STORIES

July 31: Deborah and Jael
Aug. 7: Samson and Delilah
Aug. 14: Jonah & the Whale

Aug. 21: Daniel & the Lions
Aug. 28: Queen Esther
Sept. 4: Ezekiel & Dry Bones

Parents' Night Out:

The Rev. Alexandra Hutson and the GSPC Youth will host a Parents' Night Out on Friday, August 5, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Nursery will be available for younger children as well. Parents are invited to drop their children off for dinner and a movie and then go out to enjoy a night without kids in downtown Mobile! The movie is "Lilo and Stitch." Youth volunteers are welcome. To sign up, visit gspcmobile.org, or check the GSPC Mobile Facebook page.

Youth Retreat: GSPC Youth will have a joint retreat with Spring Hill Presbyterian Youth on August 6-7 at Baytreat.

Back to School: If you'd like to donate supplies to Barton Academy for Advanced World Studies, here are needed items for the school's Hygiene Closet: Clorox wipes, tissue, deodorant, black socks, paper towels, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

Metro Jail Ministry: The Mobile Area Interfaith Conference (MAIC) is a non-profit agency that provides services for inmates in Metro Jail and released inmates returning to the community. MAIC currently has an urgent need for white underwear and used glasses. Additional needed items include personal hygiene products for men and women, including full size shampoo and conditioner (must be able to see through the containers); full size deodorant (no roller balls), soap, toothpaste, white cotton socks (no anklet style); clothing, including men's white cotton briefs or boxers (no snaps), white cotton T-shirts with sleeves (men and women use these, so all sizes welcome), women's white cotton underpants (all sizes), women's white cotton bras (all sizes); reading material, including Bibles (softbound only, large print editions especially needed), magazines with neutral content; and books (soft bound only, with mild non-violent content, non-fiction also appreciated).



GSPC Youth had a great time at Montreat Middle School Conference!

GSPC Youth volunteered at Dumas Wesley Community Center last week.



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 Morrisette, 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 Morrisette

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 Debbie's, 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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SHELIA SMITH
Director of Food Services

MARILYN MILLS
ARTHUR LEWIS
Sextons

The Flowers placed in the Sanctuary are
Given to the Glory of God.

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.

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.

WEE WORSHIP

This ministry is on hiatus during the summer months.

If you have news items to share in the e-newsletter or the bulletin, please email the information to Heather Hamilton (heather@gspcmobile.org) and Sally Ericson (sallyericson23@gmail.com).

If you would like to have flowers placed in the Sanctuary in honor or in memory of loved ones, please consider placing them during the summer months. We have plenty of open Sundays, and would love to have beautiful floral offerings throughout the summer. To place flowers, 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.