

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.*

The ***Call to Worship*** *is adapted from Romans 5:1-5.*

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.*

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, March 12, 2023 | 10:30 A.M.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Gathering

PRELUDE *Have Mercy upon Me, O Lord!*
(Erbarm dich mein, o Herre Gott, BWV 721)
J.S. Bach

INTROIT *Aria*
Cynthia Dobrinski

The Handbell Choir

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

✠CALL TO WORSHIP

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Through Christ, we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand.

We boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

For hope does not disappoint us. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

In hope, let us worship God!

✠HYMN 166 *Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days*
ST FLAVIAN

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,

Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. Forgive us, Lord, and hear our silent prayers of confession.

(silence)

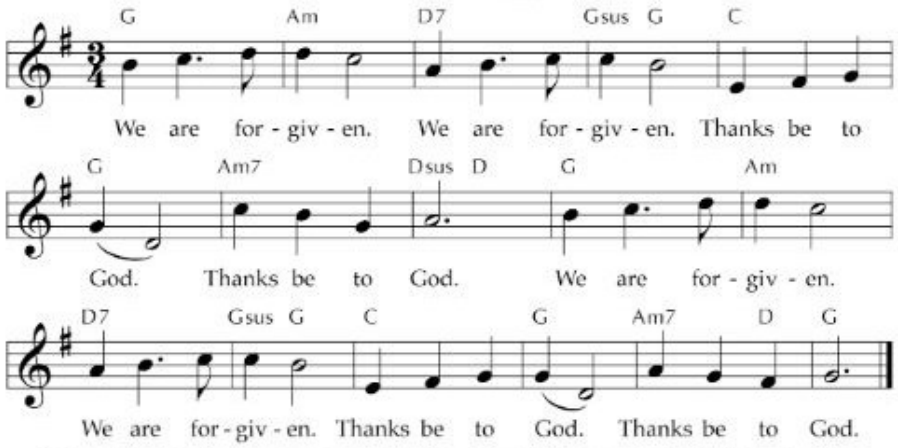
In your mercy, Lord, you offer us the gift of living water and the gift of eternal life. Through the mercy of your grace, give us this living water so that we may never thirst again. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.

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.*

✠Assurance of Pardon

✠Passing of the Peace

✠Response *We Are Forgiven*
WE ARE FORGIVEN



To sing, rather than simply say, a response to the Declaration of Forgiveness has the effect of making the moment both more affirmative and more corporate. The musical repetition of the two sentences also strengthens awareness of what it means to be assured of God's pardon.

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination **Buzzy Riis**

Scripture Reading: Psalm 95

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

Children's Sermon **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Daniel Haas Adams *is the grandson of Barbara Haas and Ma'on and Laura Adams. He is the great-grandson of Ann Adams.*
We baptize infants because of our conviction that God always acts first. God claims us before we can ever claim God. It is only through God's grace that we participate in this sacrament and in the life of faith.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Daniel Haas Adams

Born September 15, 2022

Son of Strickler and Carrie Adams

✠Baptism Hymn 486 *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*
KINGDOM

Scripture Reading: John 4: 5-42

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

Sermon: "Thirst" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 216 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*
ST CHRISTOPHER

Although not written by apostles, *the Apostles' Creed reflects the theological formulations of the first century church. The creed's structure may be based on Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In a time when most Christians were illiterate, oral repetition of the Apostles' Creed helped preserve and transmit the faith..*

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

The Apostles' Creed

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.

✠Response *Amen!*
Marty Haugen

Offering

Offertory *Behold the Lamb*
Rambo; arr. Clydesdale

The Sanctuary Choir

Behold the lamb, slain from the foundation of the world, for sinners crucified, O, holy sacrifice, behold the lamb. Crown Him, worthy is the lamb. Praises, heaven and earth resound. Behold the lamb!

✠Response | Hymn 607 *Doxology*
OLD HUNDREDTH

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of Intercession

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 649 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*
AMAZING GRACE

Sending

✠Benediction **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude *Allegro (Symphony No. 6, Op. 42, No 2)*
Charles-Marie Widor

Scripture Readings

Psalm 95

[1]O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
[2]Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
[3]For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
[4]In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
[5]The sea is his, for he made it,
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.
[6]O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
[7]For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.
[8]O that today you would listen to his voice!
Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,
[9]when your ancestors tested me, and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.
[10]For forty years I loathed that generation
and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways."
[11]Therefore in my anger I swore,
"They shall not enter my rest."

Scripture Readings

John 4: 5-42

5So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near
the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son
Joseph. 6Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out
by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about
noon.

7A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus
said to her, "Give me a drink." 8(His disciples had
gone to the city to buy food.) 9The Samaritan woman
said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of
me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things
in common with Samaritans.) 10Jesus answered her,
"If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is
saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have
asked him, and he would have given you living
water." 11The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no
bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that
living water? 12Are you greater than our ancestor
Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his
flocks drank from it?" 13Jesus said to her, "Everyone
who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14but
those who drink of the water that I will give them
will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will
become in them a spring of water gushing up to
eternal life." 15The woman said to him, "Sir, give me
this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to
keep coming here to draw water."

16Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come
back." 17The woman answered him, "I have no
husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying,
'I have no husband'; 18for you have had five
husbands, and the one you have now is not your
husband. What you have said is true!" 19The woman
said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. 20Our
ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say
that the place where people must worship is in
Jerusalem." 21Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me,
the hour is coming when you will worship the Father
neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22You
worship what you do not know; we worship what we
know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23But the hour is
coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers
will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the
Father seeks such as these to worship him. 24God is
spirit, and those who worship him must worship in
spirit and truth." 25The woman said to him, "I know
that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When
he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." 26Jesus
said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

27Just then his disciples came. They were astonished
that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said,
"What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with
her?" 28Then the woman left her water-jar and went
back to the city. 29She said to the people, "Come and
see a man who told me everything I have ever done!
He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" 30They left the
city and were on their way to him.

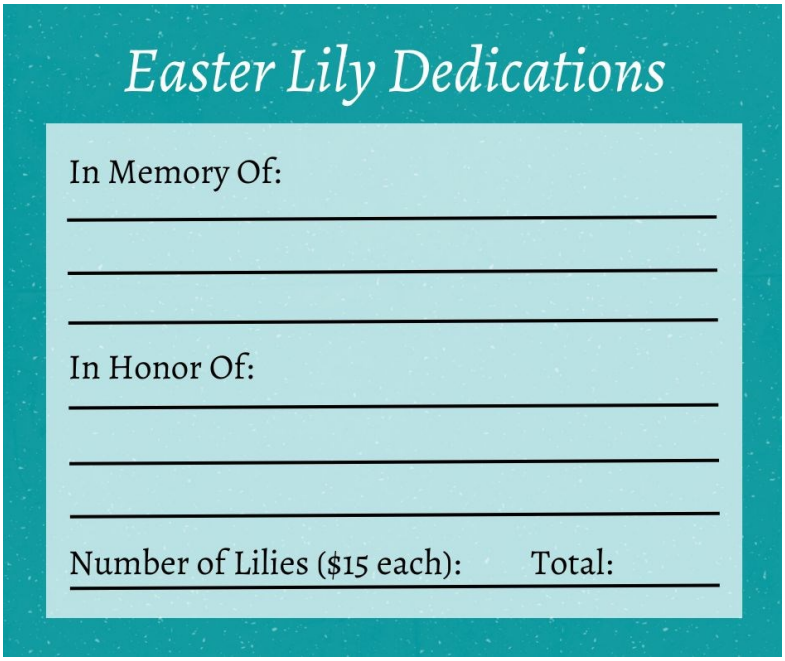
31Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi,
eat something." 32But he said to them, "I have food to
eat that you do not know about." 33So the disciples
said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him
something to eat?" 34Jesus said to them, "My food is
to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his
work. 35Do you not say, 'Four months more, then
comes the harvest?' But I tell you, look around you,
and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. 36The
reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering
fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may
rejoice together. 37For here the saying holds true,
'One sows and another reaps.' 38I sent you to reap
that for which you did not labor. Others have
labored, and you have entered into their labor."

39Many Samaritans from that city believed in him
because of the woman's testimony, "He told me
everything I have ever done." 40So when the
Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with
them; and he stayed there for two days. 41And many
more believed because of his word. 42They said to the
woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that
we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we
know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

GSPC News







Two Pastors and a Rabbi: The next installment of the Interfaith Bible Study is set for Monday, March 13, at 5:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 806 Government Street. This continuing study is led by the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar, Rabbi Edward Boraz of Springhill Avenue Temple, and the Rev. Trey Doyle of First Baptist Church. Please RSVP to Heather Hamilton if you plan to attend.

Easter Lilies: It's time to order Easter lilies in honor of or in memory of loved ones. Please use the form printed below, or call the church office during business hours. The deadline is Tuesday, April 4.

Easter Egg Hunt: Mark your calendars for the GSPC Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8, at 10 a.m. in Washington Square. It's going to be an eggs-cellent time of fun and fellowship!

Donation Day: The Presbyterian Home for Children in Talladega recently opened its new, 20,000-square-foot Thrift Store, which will provide expanded job skills training for the residents of the Home as well as the local deaf and blind citizens through a partnership with the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind. Spring Hill Presbyterian Church will host a **Donation Day on Saturday, March 18, from 9 a.m. to noo**n, after which the donations will be transported to Talladega that same day. (There will be no drop offs or storage at SHPC before or after those designated times.) Please consider donating furniture, home decor, unique one-of-a-kind items, electronics, appliances (small or large in good working condition), and tools of all kinds. (Clothing items are not needed at this time). For details, please contact Ted Autterson at 251-510-5184 or ted.autterson@gmail.com.

Church Officers

SESSION

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

Class of 2025

Eddy Hawkins, Margaret Vidmer Hutchison, George Irvine, Harris Oswalt, Nicole Riis, Duke Walker

Clerk of Session: Henry Morrissette

DIACONATE

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

Class of 2025

Clint Akers, Lisa Goodloe, Meg Heusser, Corinne Lorge, Lynn McDaniel, William Peebles

Chair of the Diaconate: Lisa Goodloe

Urban Ministry

JELLY AND SNACKS FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

Our 45 Meals on Wheels recipients receive 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 and 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.

MCKEMIE PLACE

GSPC has agreed to provide lunch for up to 45 residents at McKemie Place on the second Friday of each month. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered for this mission over the last year. We are in need of volunteers to provide, prepare, and serve lunches on April 14 and May 12. If you can help with this mission on either of these dates, please contact Lisa deShazo at 251-591-1077.

MOBILE AREA INTERFAITH CONFERENCE

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 has an urgent need for white underwear (see details below) and used glasses. Here is a partial list of items:

- 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), full size soap, full size 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 such as food, decorating, self-improvement, health, shopping, geography, history, etc., and books (soft bound only, with mild non-violent content, non-fiction also appreciated).

BLANKET MINISTRY

All are invited to donate baby blankets to be delivered to the Mostellar Clinic. Donations may be left in the "Baby Box" at the Jackson Street Foyer, or you may order from Amazon and request delivery to the church.



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Member PC (USA)

CHURCH STAFF

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Sally Ericson
Communications
sallyericson23@gmail.com

Shelia Smith
Director of Food Services

Marilyn Mills
Arthur Lewis
Sexton(s)

Send news for the e-newsletter or bulletin to Heather Hamilton at heather@gspcmobile.org, or to Sally Ericson at sallyericson23@gmail.com.

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Sally and John Morrissette
and John Anderson
and in honor of Faye Anderson
by their Grandchildren, Elizabeth and Henry Morrissette.

The flowers on the Baptismal Font are given in gratitude
by the family of Daniel Haas Adams
in celebration of his baptism.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

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

Talking Heads Sunday School class: This class meets in the Heltzel Room.

Sunday School for children and youth: These classes meet at 9:30 a.m.

Wee Worship: Sundays at 10:45 a.m. for ages 3 to kindergarten.

MONDAY, MARCH 13

Interfaith Bible Study: 5:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, 806 Government St.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

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.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

Men's Bible Study: Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Library. Contact: Bo Perry.

Handbell Choir Rehearsal: 5:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: 6 p.m. in the Choir Room.

MONDAY, MARCH 20

Circle of Joy and Circle of Hope: 5:30 p.m. joint meeting at Guesnard House. Jeanie Lindsey will lead the lesson. Please bring a dish or beverage to share.

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.