Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 8, 2026 | 10:30 A.M.

ORDINARY TIME

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.*

The congregation of Government Street Presbyterian Church*, as the people of God called to worship and work in downtown Mobile, pursue our mission to use our unique resources and opportunities to love, to honor, and to glorify God and to give hope, comfort, instruction and inspiration to all persons that they may become joyful disciples of Jesus Christ.*

Government Street Presbyterian Church, *founded in 1831, is known as the mother of Presbyterianism in southern Alabama. We are a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and participate in the work of the Presbytery of South Alabama.*

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.*

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.

Gathering

Preparation for Worship

"Our identity in Christ is not based on our performance, but on God's grace."
Henri Nouwen

PRELUDE *Praise the Father*
The Handbell Choir Christian Witt; arr. Page

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Eternal Life*
Olive Dungan

The Sanctuary Choir
Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love: for it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. (St. Francis of Assisi)

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsive)* **BO PERRY**
We gather in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
May the Holy Spirit be our guide.
We gather in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
May God bless our offerings of praise.
We gather in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
May the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, fill us and use us this Sabbath day.
Let us worship God.

✠**HYMN 10** *Sing Glory to the Name of God*
LASST UNS ERFRUEN

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Unison)* **REV. LAMAR**

Gracious God, we confess that we often define ourselves by what we accomplish and how we are seen. We trust our effort more than your mercy, our striving more than your grace. Forgive us for believing that we must prove our worth, justify our lives, or secure our place by what we do. Hear our silent prayers.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, Lord. Release us from the need to boast, and from the fear of falling short. By your grace, remake us—not as people who strive to be loved, but as people who live because we are loved. 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.*

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
✠Passing of the Peace

✠Response | Hymn 581 *Glory Be to the Father*
GLORIA PATRI

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination **Bo Perry**

First Reading: Ephesians 2:8-10

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**
Wee Worship Leaders: Emily Watson and Linda Reynolds

Second Reading: Philippians 3:2-11

Sermon: "Lies We Tell Ourselves: I Am What I Do" **Rev. Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 175 *Seek Ye First*
LAFFERTY

✠Affirmation of Faith *(The Apostles' Creed)* **Bo Perry**

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.

Choral Response *Amen*
Haugen/arr. Nemec

Offering

Offertory *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*
John Rutter

The Sanctuary Choir
The Lord bless you and keep you: the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.
(Numbers 6:24-26)

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.*

Visiting? Welcome to GSPC, *where we hope you'll find our worship meaningful, our fellowship warm and our ministry exciting. Come again! Be sure to sign the Registry booklet that you will find in your pew. If you are considering membership, we'd love to have you. You may join us through transfer of letter, re-affirmation of faith or profession of faith.*

✠Response | Hymn 609 *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving **Bo Perry**

Prayer of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer **Rev. Lamar**

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

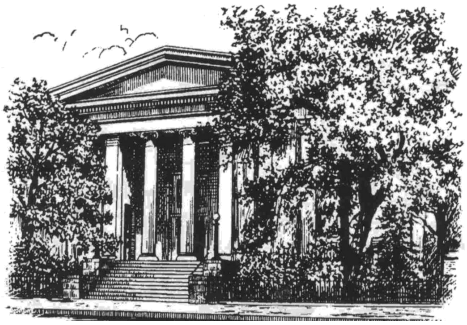
✠Hymn 550 *Give Praise to the Lord*
LAUDATE DOMINUM

✠Benediction **Rev. Lamar**

Postlude *Allegro Maestoso (Water Music)*
G.F. Handel

Sunday, February 15

On Sunday, February 15, GSPC will worship with First Baptist Church at 9 a.m. The Rev. Lamar, the Rev. Trey Doyle, and Rabbi Ed Boraz will preach.
We will begin the season of Lent with an Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, February 18, at noon in the sanctuary.



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CHURCH STAFF

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Send news for the e-newsletter or bulletin 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 John and Jean Moss and Sara Moss
by their family.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8
Second Sunday Lunch: The congregation is invited to enjoy lunch together in Fellowship Hall after the worship service.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Circles of Hope and Joy: The Circles of Hope and Joy will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Guesnard House for fellowship and Bible study. All are welcome.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10
Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 9 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams.
Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.
Tuesday Lunch and Learn: Come to lunch! Our guest speakers are Scott Wright and Stacey Driskell of Mobile Opera. Hear all about the upcoming productions of one of the nation's oldest opera companies! Lunch is served at noon and costs $10. The presentation will begin at 12:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11
Memorial Service for Don Winn: 10 a.m. in the sanctuary, with reception to follow.
Music Rehearsals: Handbells, 5:15-5:45 p.m.; choir, 6-7:30 p.m.
Men's Bible Study: 6 p.m. in the Library. Contact: Bo Perry.

NEWS AND NOTES

Transfiguration Sunday / Joe Cain Day: The worship service on Sunday, February 15, will be held at 9 a.m. at First Baptist Church. The service will be led by Rabbi Ed Boraz (Spring Hill Avenue Temple), the Rev. Trey Doyle (FBC), and the Rev. Lamar. Passes to help those traveling downtown for worship will be available in the sanctuary and in the church office.

Mardi Gras Holidays: The church office will be closed on Lundi Gras and Mardi Gras, February 16-17.

McKemie Place: Each month on the second Friday, volunteers provide a light lunch for about 24 residents at McKemie Place, a shelter for homeless women. Volunteers are needed on March 13. Please call Lisa DeShazo at 251-591-1077 or Mary DeWitt Dukes at 504-920-1918 if you are able to help with this mission at GSPC.

Driver needed: The Meals on Wheels ministry needs a driver for the Northern Route on Wednesday mornings. Please contact Lisa deShazo at 251-591-1077.

Flower Dedications: To place flowers in the Sanctuary in memory of or in honor of a loved one, 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.