Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 21, 2024 | 10:30 A.M.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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 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.*

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.*

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.*

Gathering

PRELUDE *Great is Thy Faithfulness*
arr. Dan Miller

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Christ, We Do All Adore Thee*
Theodore Dubois

The Sanctuary Choir

Christ, we do all adore thee, and we do praise thee forever.
For on the Holy Cross has thou the world from sin redeemed.

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Based on Psalm 27*)

The LORD is my light and my salvation. Whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life. Of whom shall I be afraid?
One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after.
To live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life and to behold the beauty of the LORD,
We gather in worship to seek the face of the Lord through song and prayer.
With grateful hearts, let us worship God!

✠**HYMN 54** *Make a Joyful Noise to God!*
DIX

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*Unison*)

Almighty God, we confess that we have not been faithful to you in our thoughts and actions. We have been selfish in our desires and quarrelsome in our relationships. We have allowed fear to divide us from those who seem different and let distrust separate us from our brothers and sisters. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

(silence)

Shine your light into our darkened hearts. Save us from our divisive ways. Unite us in the same mind as Jesus Christ, and send your Spirit to guide us in paths of righteousness. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

✠**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**
✠**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

✠Response | Hymn 634 *To God Be the Glory (Refrain)*
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination **Linda Reynolds**

Scripture Reading: Psalm 62: 5-12

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

Scripture Reading: Mark 1: 14-20

Sermon: "The Leader We Will Follow" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Children ages three *and older are invited to the front for the Children's Sermon. Children ages 3-K 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.*

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 250 *In the Bulb There Is a Flower*
PROMISE

For more than 1,000 years, *the church has used the Apostles' Creed to affirm its faith in Jesus Christ. When we say this creed together, we are joined with generations of Christians who have come before us in declaring foundational doctrines of our faith in Christ.*

✠Affirmation of Faith: 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!*
Eugene Butler

Offering

Offertory *O Worship the King*
LYONS; arr. Ted Cornell

The Sanctuary Choir

Text: No. 41 in The Hymnal, Stanzas 1,2, 4 and 5

✠Response | Hymn 609 *Doxology*
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.*

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 300 *We Are One in the Spirit*
THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

Sending

✠Benediction **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude *Allegretto (Water Music, HWV 348)*
G.F. Handel

Sunday, January 28

Join us on Sunday, January 28, as the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar continues her sermon series "Introducing Jesus" as she preaches on "The One Who Amazes" with scripture from Mark 1:21-28 and Psalm 111:1-10. Choral music includes Allen Pote's "God is Our Refuge and Strength."

Looking ahead: On Sunday, February 4, Mobile Symphony cellist Dr. Andrea Beltran Landers will join us as well as guest preacher Dr. Julian Walthal. Also, the sacrament of Holy Communion will be included in our worship.

On Sunday, February 11 (Joe Cain Sunday), we will have a joint worship service at First Baptist Church at 9 a.m. The Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar, the Rev. Trey Doyle, and Rabbi Edward Boraz will lead the service.



300 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36602
251-432-1749 | gspcmobile.org
Member PC (USA)

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar
Pastor and Head of Staff
rebekah@gspcmobile.org

Chris Nemec
Director of Music and Organist
chris@gspcmobile.org

Meredith Johnston
Office Administrator
meredith@gspcmobile.org

Dawn Hearn
Bookkeeper
dawn@gspcmobile.org

Barbara Williams
Property Manager and Hostess
barbara@gspcmobile.org

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 Sally Ericson at sallyericson23@gmail.com.

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given
by the Presbyterian Women to the glory of God
and in remembrance of
the women of the church who died in 2023.

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

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.

Tuesday Lunch and Learn: Come to lunch! **Cart Blackwell**, curator at the Mobile Carnival Museum, will be the guest speaker. Lunch is served at noon and Cart will speak at 12:30 p.m. Lunch is $12 and includes coffee, tea and dessert. Invite your friends and family to lunch! Here is the upcoming schedule of speakers:

Jan. 30: Chris Curry, President, Mobile Airport Authority
Feb. 6: Glenda Snodgrass, information security expert, the Net Effect
Feb. 20: Jo Bonner, President, University of South Alabama
Feb. 27: Keith Blackwood, Mobile District Attorney
March 5: Lucy Gafford, Executive Director, Mobile Arts Council
March 12: John Driscoll, Director and CEO, Alabama Port Authority
March 19: Alan Sealls, author and Chief Meteorologist at NBC-15
April 2: Champ Napier, client advocate, Mobile County Public Defender's Office
April 9: Simone Eli, sports director and anchor, WKRG
April 16: Owen Bailey, CEO, USA Health
April 23: Jon Carfagno, Executive Director, Mobile Museum of Art
April 30: Elizabeth Stevens, President and CEO, Downtown Mobile Alliance

Young Women's Bible Study: The 20s/30s Young Women's Bible Study will meet at 6 p.m. in the Guesnard House.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

Choir 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.

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.