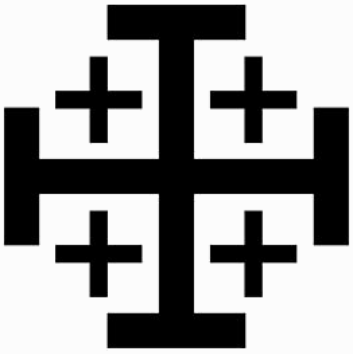
Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, March 9, 2025 | 10:30 A.M.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

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 *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Cantata 147)*
J.S. Bach

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Near the Cross*
arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

The Handbell Choir

✠CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Philippians 3)* **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

Arise! the season of Lent, we deepen our commitment to Christ.
We want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection.
We remember that our righteousness comes through Christ alone and seek to live a life worthy of this calling.
We want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection.
We gather to worship in Christ's name as we press on toward this goal.
We want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection.
With boldness,
with thanksgiving,
with humility,
with perseverance,
with peace,
and with compassion,
let us worship God!

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

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.

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION *unison* **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

Holy God,
We confess that we often proclaim your good news with a murmur instead of a shout. We wait for others to do the hard work of loving our neighbors. We find excuses that allow us to prioritize our comfort rather than sacrifice. We grow weary of this calling, and ignore your claim on our lives. Forgive us, Lord, and hear our silent prayers.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, O God, and give us courage to share the good news of Jesus Christ with boldness. Give us the clarity we need to follow you in faith. 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

First Reading Joshua 1:1-2, 5-9

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks Be to God!

Children's Sermon **Bradley Daugherty**

Second Reading: Acts 28:16-31

Sermon: "Boldness" **Rev. Lamar**

✠Hymn 215 *What Wondrous Love Is This*
WONDROUS LOVE

✠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 *Three-Fold Amen*
Eugene Butler

Offering
Offertory *Dona Nobis Pacem*
Guilio Caccini

The Sanctuary Choir
Translation: Grant us peace.

✠Doxology | Hymn 606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
OLD HUNDREDTH

✠Prayer Of Thanksgiving

When we gather for Communion, *the Spirit draws us into Christ's presence and unites us with Christians in every time and space. We join with the baptized faithful in heaven and on earth in offering thanksgiving to the triune God. We affirm the promises of our baptism and recommit ourselves to love and serve God, one another, and our neighbors in the world.*

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.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Breaking of the Bread
Communion of the People
Communion Meditation *Sicilienne (Opus 78)*
Gabriel Fauré

Sending

✠Hymn 223 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*
HAMBURG

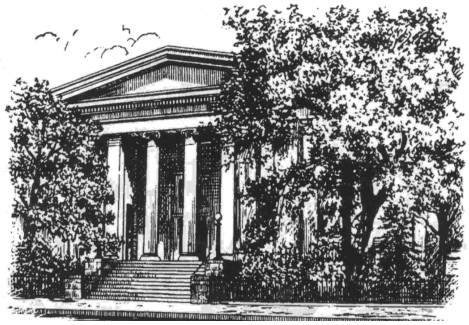
✠Benediction *(from Philippians 4)* **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar and congregation**

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say: Rejoice!
Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Finally, whatever is true, whatever is honorable,
whatever is just, whatever is pure,
whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable,
if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise,
think about these things.

Postlude *Toccata Giocoso*
Gilbert Martin

Sunday, March 16

Join us next Sunday, March 16, Rev. Lamar will continue her Lenten sermon series, "Marks of a Disciple" and will preach from Philippians 1:1-11. Her sermon is titled, "Thanksgiving." Music includes Arcangelo Corelli's beautiful setting of the 13th century text "Ave Verum Corpus" and the Lenten anthem "Behold the Man" by Jerry Owens.



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Sexton(s)

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marion Adams, Jr. by Ann, their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, MARCH 9
Second Sunday Luncheon: The congregation is invited to enjoy lunch together in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the worship service.

MONDAY, MARCH 10
Circles of Hope and Joy: The Circles of Hope and Joy will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Guesnard House. All are welcome to join us for an evening of fellowship and Bible study. If you are able, please bring a beverage or snack to share.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11
Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 9 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams. The group is studying the Gospel of Matthew with the Rev. George Sinclair. Everyone is welcome.
Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.
Tuesday Lunch and Learn: Get an update about the University of South Alabama's Stokes School of Marine and Environmental Sciences from our guest speaker, Sean Powers, Director. Lunch is served at noon and the presentation begins at 12:30 p.m. The lunch costs $12.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12
Choir Rehearsals: Handbells, 5:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary; Choir, 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the choir room.
Men's Bible Study: 6 p.m. in the Library and via Zoom. Contact: Bo Perry.

COMING UP

TUESDAY, MARCH 25
GSPC Book Club: 5:30 p.m. in the GSPC Library. We will discuss GSPC cookbooks that have been published over the years. This will provide an opportunity for commentary and reminiscing about GSPC recipes, going back to the late nineteenth century. We will also take a look at other locally published cookbooks, some available through the Mobile Public Library. Please RSVP to Meredith Johnston.

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.