



## Welcome to Worship

### GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 18, 2024 | 10:30 A.M.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

**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.

## Gathering

### PRELUDE

*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

arr. Lani Smith

### WELCOME

**REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

### INTROIT

*Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing*

Gordon Young

**The Sanctuary Choir and Gabrielle Corlette, Meredith Wilson, Jacob Mohr and Jasaan Roberts, solo quartet**

Now let us all praise God and sing our great redeemer's praise. That we may all with one accord, our joyful voices raise. Sing Alleluia! All ye servants of the Lord, praise Him forever. Sing Jehovah's mighty power, sing of His righteousness.

### ⌘CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

**REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

Come, thou Fount of every blessing! Tune my heart to sing your grace.

**Streams of mercy, never-ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.**

Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above,

**Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!**

With grateful hearts, let us worship God!

### ⌘HYMN 166

*Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days*

ST. FLAVIAN

### ⌘PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Loving God,

You call us by name. You join us in the deep waters of life. You invite us to drop our nets and follow you, but so often we lose our way, doubt your promises, and lose sight of your will for us. Forgive us for drowning out your voice with our own. Forgive us for assuming that we can tackle deep waters by ourselves. Forgive us for forgetting that you will never stop climbing into our boat. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

(silence)

In your mercy, Lord, turn our hearts, our minds, and our spirits toward you, for you are the Lord our God, and we pray in your name. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### RESPONSE: 475

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (Verse 1)*

NETTLETON

## *Proclaiming the Word*

**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.

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

JOHN MOSES

### SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 25: 1-10

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

### SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 5: 1-11

### SERMON: "Jesus Sought Me"

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

## *Thanksgiving*

### HYMN 223

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

HAMBURG

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

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; arr. Nemec

### OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*  
John Rutter

*The Sanctuary Choir; Jasaan Roberts, guest conductor*

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.

**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.**

**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.

**✖RESPONSE | HYMN 607**

**Doxology**  
OLD HUNDREDTH

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**✖HYMN 649**

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*  
AMAZING GRACE

*Sending*

**✖BENEDICTION**

**REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

**POSTLUDE**

*Allegro Maestoso (Hornpipe, Water Music)*  
G.F. Handel

*Sunday, February 25*

Next Sunday, February 25, we will continue our “Wandering Heart” worship series. The Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar will preach a sermon titled “Rescue Me” from Psalm 22: 23-31 and Matthew 14: 22-33. Choral worship music includes two Lenten favorites: Gilbert Martin’s “When I Survey” and David de Vidal’s “Surely He Bore Our Griefs.”

Our annual congregational meeting will be at the end of worship. We will receive the annual report and vote on terms of call for the Rev. Lamar.

*The “Wandering Heart” Lenten series*

The “Young Worshippers Challenge” for our elementary-age worshippers can be found at the front of the sanctuary.

“Wandering Heart” Lenten devotionals are available at every entrance.

Children’s worship bags are available at the entrances.

Below is a poem from A Sanctified Art, written by the Rev. Sarah A. Speed, who serves as the associate pastor at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City.

***All This Time***

I put my headphones in.	God allows music to carry
I walk quickly.	and laughter to rise,
I look toward the ground.	all so that I might notice.
I create one million barriers	And when I do notice,
of independence,	the unfurling that begins in my soul
but still God seeks after me.	is slow and holy and burning.
God leans a rainbow over the sky.	I am not alone.
God sends sun after the rain.	God has been chasing after me
God blankets the earth with wildflowers.	all this time.



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#### CHURCH STAFF

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**MARILYN MILLS**  
**ARTHUR LEWIS**  
*Sexton(s)*

*Send news for the e-newsletter or bulletin to Sally Ericson at [sallyericson23@gmail.com](mailto:sallyericson23@gmail.com).*

## Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gloria Crichton McGehee by Ceil and Tom McGehee.

## *Calendar of Events*

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

**Circles of Hope and Joy:** The Circles of Hope and Joy will have a joint meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Guesnard House. Join us for fellowship and Bible study. If you are able, please bring a snack or drink to share.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

**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:** Invite your friends and family to lunch! The guest speaker will be Jo Bonner, President of the University of South Alabama. Lunch is served at noon and the presentation begins at 12:30 p.m. Lunch is \$12 and includes coffee, tea and dessert. Here is the list of upcoming speakers:

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 former 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

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

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

**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.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

**Two Pastors and a Rabbi:** Interfaith Bible Study at First Baptist Church, 806 Government St., 5:30-7 p.m.

## 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.