



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.

Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

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.

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.

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.

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠RESPONSE: 475

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

Proclaiming the Word

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

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.

I walk quickly.

I look toward the ground.

I create one million barriers

of independence,

but still God seeks after me.

God leans a rainbow over the sky.

God sends sun after the rain.

God blankets the earth with wildflowers.

God allows music to carry

and laughter to rise,

all so that I might notice.

And when I do notice,

the unfurling that begins in my soul

is slow and holy and burning.

I am not alone.

God has been chasing after me

all this time.



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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.