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 a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and participates 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.*

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.*

Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, July 5, 2026 | 10:30 A.M.

ORDINARY TIME

Preparation for Worship

PRELUDE *Eternal Father, Strong to Save (Melita)*
John Bacchus Dykes

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

✠CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)*
We gather together seeking the Lord.
We gather together to sing God's praises.
Let us seek the Spirit as we worship together.

✠HYMN 336 *We Gather Together*
KREMSER

✠PRAYER OF PRAISE **SALLY PEARSALL**

✠HYMN 331 *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*
NATIONAL HYMN

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Unison)* **REV. LAMAR**
Gracious God, you offer us freedom, and yet we bind ourselves to things and patterns that hold us back. You taught us to love one another, but we continue to choose ourselves instead. You desire peace, but we fuel division and misunderstanding. Your will is justice, but we choose comfort instead. Forgive us, Lord, and hear our silent prayers of confession.

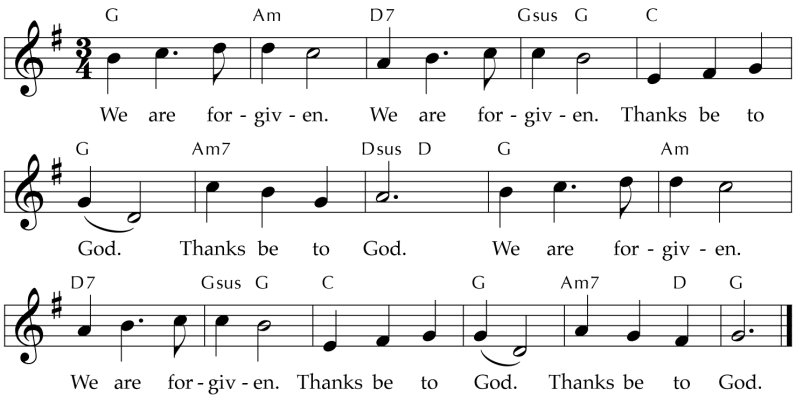
(Silence)

In your mercy, renew our spirit to serve you and live according to your will. Help us to love one another as you love us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠PASSING OF THE PEACE

✠RESPONSE | HYMN 447 *We Are Forgiven*
WE ARE FORGIVEN



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.*

Proclaiming the Word

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

Wee Worship leaders: Emily Watson and Katherine Ogburn

Prayer for Illumination **Sally Pearsall**

First Reading: Matthew 22: 15-22

✠Hymn 624 *I Greet Thee Who My Sure Redeemer Art*
TOULON

Second Reading: Galatians 5:1, 13-15 **Rev. Lamar**

✠Hymn 338 *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*
MATERNA

Third Reading: John 8:31-36 **Sally Pearsall**

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Thanksgiving

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.

✠Hymn 39 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*
FAITHFULNESS

Offering **Sally Pearsall**

Offertory *How Great Thou Art*

✠Response | Hymn 606 *Doxology*
OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

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.*

Prayer requests: *Please scan the QR code below to share your joys and concerns so that we may share them with our church family in the newsletter and bulletin.*

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

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

✠Hymn 507 — *Come to the Table of Grace*
TABLE OF GRACE

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 — *Let Us Break Bread Together*
Martha Sobaje

Prayer After Communion — **Rev. Lamar**

Sending

✠Hymn 340 — *This Is My Song*
FINLANDIA

✠Benediction
Postlude — *One Nation Under God*
Lani Smith

Thank you to Stephen Prager for serving as our guest organist today.

Sunday, July 12

Next Sunday, July 12, the Rev. Lamar will begin a new sermon series, "At the End," in which she will preach from the last words of the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke over the next three weeks. Next Sunday, she will preach from Mark 16:1-20 in a sermon titled "They Were Afraid." Special music will be provided by Jacob Mohr. Randy Sheets will be our guest organist.

Prayer Requests

Prayers for Healing:

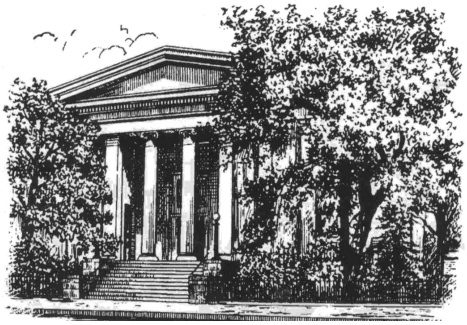
- Sarah Hale, mother of Carter Hale, who is at Palm Gardens Nursing Home on hospice care
- Bill Cutts, who is receiving hospice care at home
- Bill Chappelle, brother of Dorothy Morrison, who is at Thomas Hospital recovering from heart surgery
- Molly Nordmann, who is undergoing cancer treatment
- John Peebles requests continued prayers for his good friend, who is recovering from pancreatic surgery
- Shelley Hood, who is recovering at home after a hospital stay
- Shelia Smith, longtime Director of Food Services, who is recovering at home after a hospital stay
- Charlotte Crockett, who is receiving medical treatment in Tuscaloosa
- Prayers are requested for Ellen Sheedy, Sallye Irvine's cousin. Ellen lost her daughter, Margaret, in the Camp Mystic flood last summer. She is now pregnant with a baby girl. Please pray for a safe delivery and peace for her family as the first anniversary of the July 4 tragedy arrives.
- Prayers are requested for Dan English, Sallye Irvine's cousin and Ellen Sheedy's father, who is struggling with lung cancer.
- Sallye Irvine requests prayers for her lifelong friends, Julia and Jane Stephens. Please pray for Julie to have faith and hope, as she is very ill with cancer. Please pray also for her sister, Jane, who is her caregiver.

Prayers of Gratitude:

- Bligh Jones offers prayers of thanksgiving for Chris Nemec and for his time serving and bringing beautiful music to GSPC.
- Prayers are requested that GSPC will find a replacement for Chris and an assistant for Rebekah.

Prayers for Safety and Strength:

- We pray for Dorothy Morrison as she makes the move to assisted living at Seagrass Village in Daphne



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CHURCH STAFF

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Willie Mae King
Director of Food Services
williemae@gspcmobile.org

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
to the glory of God,
and in celebration of new life
by Linda Price and her family.

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, JULY 7
Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 9 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams.

SUNDAY, JULY 12
Second Sunday Luncheon: The congregation is invited to enjoy lunch together in Fellowship Hall after worship.

Reception for Rabbi Boraz, 3-5 p.m.: The congregation is invited to a reception in the Guesnard House to honor Rabbi Ed Boraz and his wife, Maggie, of Springhill Avenue Temple. The reception is being presented by GSPC and First Baptist Church.

SUNDAY, JULY 26
Sip 'n' See: The Congregational Care Committee will host a Sip 'n' See on July 26 after church in the Guesnard House. If you and yours have a precious baby that you would like to introduce to your GSPC family, please let the church office know, or contact LeAnne Tamblyn at 251-604-3826. (No gifts, please!)

NEWS AND NOTES

Officer nominations: The Nominating Committee asks for your prayerful consideration as you submit nominations for Elders, Deacons and Trustees in the Class of 2029. Please use the QR code here to make your nominations. Here is the list of current officers:

Elders: Class of 2026: Sage Arnold, Julie Otts, Sally Pearsall, Dave Trent, Scott Weldon
Class of 2027: Travis Goodloe, Neal Horner, George Oswalt, LeAnne Tamblyn, Meredith Wilson
Class of 2028: Casi Callaway, Kendall Dexter, Joy Gardner, John Peebles, Buzzy Riis
Clerk of Session: Bo Perry

Deacons: Class of 2026: David Ericson, Sallye Irvine, John McLeod, Knox McMurphy, Sandy Thomason, Richard Tippy
Class of 2027: John Ashbee, Amanda Dexter, Charlie Jackson, Marlene Jones, Dewey Parsons, Jeanie Schottgen
Class of 2028: Walt Ogburn, Betsy Otts, Elizabeth Ray

Trustees: Henry Morrissette, Chandler Ogburn, Julie Otts, Beth Rouse, Scott Weldon

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. Please call Lisa DeShazo at 251-591-1077 or Mary DeWitt Dukes at 504-920-1918 to volunteer.

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.

Calling all cooks: The Congregational Care Committee is asking for volunteers to help prepare food for Memorial Receptions, Take Them A Meal, and other GSPC events. If you are interested in preparing food for our congregation, please call the church office.

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.