Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, September 15, 2024 | 10:30 A.M.

ORDINARY TIME

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 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 *O God, Beyond All Praising (Opus 32)*
Gustav Holst; arr. Eric H. Thiman

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Praise the Father*
arr. Anna Laura Page

The Handbell Choir

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Based on Psalm 62*)
For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is in the Lord.
God alone is my rock and my salvation. God is my fortress, and I shall not be shaken.
On God rests my deliverance and my honor. The Lord is my mighty rock. My refuge is in God.
Trust in the Lord at all times. Pour out your heart before him. God is a refuge for us.
Let us worship God!

✠**HYMN 327** *From All That Dwell Below the Skies*
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

Gracious God,
You created us at our birth and claim us at our baptism. We confess that we forget that we are children of God. We let others define who we are. We make choices that are not faithful to you. We do not always love you or our neighbors as we should. We ask for your forgiveness as we pray our own silent prayers of confession.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, Lord. Remind us who we are and whose we are. Lead us in righteous paths so that we are prepared to serve you each day. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

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.*

✠**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

✠**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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.*

✠**RESPONSE | HYMN 634** *To God Be the Glory (refrain)*
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

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.*

New 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.*

Henry Wyatt Arnold *is the grandson of Mark and Marcia Wyatt.*

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.*

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination **Beth Rouse**

Scripture Reading: Joshua 4:5-7

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

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Henry Wyatt Arnold

Son of Nick and Sage Arnold

Born April 29, 2024

✠Hymn 486 *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*
KINGDOM

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:1-20

Sermon: "Son of God" **Rev. Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 482 *Baptized in Water*
BUNESSAN

✠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 *Thanks Be to God, Alleluia!*
Swahili Folk Song; arr. Chris Nemec

Offering

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.*

Offertory

A Jubilant Song
Allen Pote

The Sanctuary Choir

Sing to the Lord a jubilant song, rejoice and sing and let the earth be glad, let the heavens be filled with joy, and a jubilant song. Sing alleluia to the Lord. Tell of His salvation from day to day. Shout His marv'lous works among the people, for great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised. Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another. Before the mountains were made, or the land and the sea were born, from age to age you are God, and we pray for the coming of your Kingdom. We shall rejoice, we shall be glad all the days of our lives.

✠Response | Hymn 606

Doxology
OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 838

Standing on the Promises
PROMISES

Sending

✠Benediction

Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar

Postlude

Jubilation
Phil Lehenbauer

This week's memory verse:
For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.
John 3:16

Sunday, September 22

Next Sunday, the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar continues her sermon series, "How Firm a Foundation," with an exploration of the Parables. Scripture references will be from Luke 15. Music includes Ralph Vaughan Williams' venerable "O How Amiable" sung by the Sanctuary Choir, which includes one verse of "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" for congregation and choir.



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CHURCH STAFF

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Arthur Lewis
Sexton(s)

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Robert N. Durant
by his daughters.

The flowers on the baptismal font are given to the glory of God
and in celebration of the baptism of Henry Wyatt Arnold,
and in loving memory of Henri Jean Arnold;
Stova and Marilyn McFadden; and Ralph and Ruby Wyatt.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15
After-Church Bowling Party: Eastern Shore Bowling Lanes; grades 1-5. For details, please contact Bradley Daugherty.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
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 as discussion leader. Everyone is welcome.

Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.

Tuesday Lunch and Learn: Come to lunch! Our guest speaker will be **Kayla Byrne** of the Mobile Chamber. Lunch is served at noon and the presentation begins at 12:30 p.m. The cost is $12. View the full schedule on gspc.org.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
Choir Rehearsals: Handbells, 5:15 to 5:45 p.m. in the sanctuary; Choir, 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the choir room. If you're interested in participating in GSPC's music ministries, please contact Chris Nemec.

Men's Bible Study: 6 p.m. in the Library and via Zoom. Contact: Bo Perry.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
"Two Pastors and a Rabbi" Bible Study: The Interfaith Bible Studies resume on Thursday, September 19, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Springhill Avenue Temple. All are welcome to join the Bible study, led by Rabbi Ed Boraz, the Rev. Trey Doyle of First Baptist Church, and the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar. In addition, the congregation is invited to a special Shabbat Service with Rabbi Boraz at Springhill Avenue Temple at 6 p.m. on **Friday, September 20.**

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Volunteers Needed: The church office welcomes volunteers during the week, especially between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Volunteers assist with monitoring the Jackson Street entrance and answering the phone. They may also assist with special projects. If you are able to volunteer, please contact Meredith Johnston.

Flower Dedications: If you would like 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.

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.