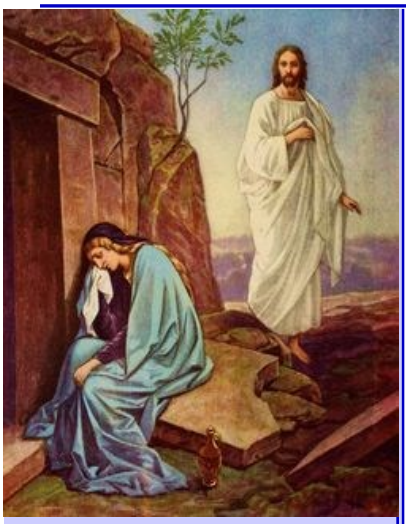


Welcome to worship! *We are glad you are here. If you need any assistance, please notify an usher. Please take a moment to register your attendance with us by using the friendship register located in each pew. We welcome the opportunity to learn more about you.*

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.*

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.*

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, April 9, 2023 | 10:30 A.M.

EASTER SUNDAY

Gathering

PRELUDE

Morning Has Broken
arr. Diane Bish

Intermezzo (Cavalleria Rusticana)
Pietro Mascagni

Sonata No. 10 (K. 245)
W.A. Mozart

The Strings, Timpani and Organ

WELCOME — **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Thriving Congregations — **JOHN BROWNING**

✠CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia! Christ has risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

This is the day that the Lord has made!

We will rejoice and be glad in it!

Christ has risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Alleluia! Let us worship God.

✠HYMN 232 — *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*
EASTER HYMN

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All-powerful God,

We confess that even on this holy day, we are unable to believe the good news. Some days our faith in the resurrection is shaky, and too often our commitment to you is half-hearted. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

(silence)

Forgive us, Lord. Transform us. Give us faith to love and serve in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior. 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.*

In the ***Prayer for Illumination****, we ask for the word of God to be revealed to us so that we can lead more faithful lives.*

Children ages three *and older are invited to the front for the Children's Sermon. Children ages three through kindergarten may leave with volunteers for Wee Worship for the remainder of the service. The sign-in sheet for parents of Wee Worship children is on the front row.*

The nursery is available for ages infant through kindergarten.

Children's worship packets *are available at the front of the sanctuary.*

✠Assurance of Pardon

✠Passing of the Peace

✠Response: Hymn 587 *Celtic Alleluia*

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination **Sarah Otts**

Scripture Reading: Acts 10: 34-43

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

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

Scripture Reading: John 20: 1-18

The Word of the Lord.

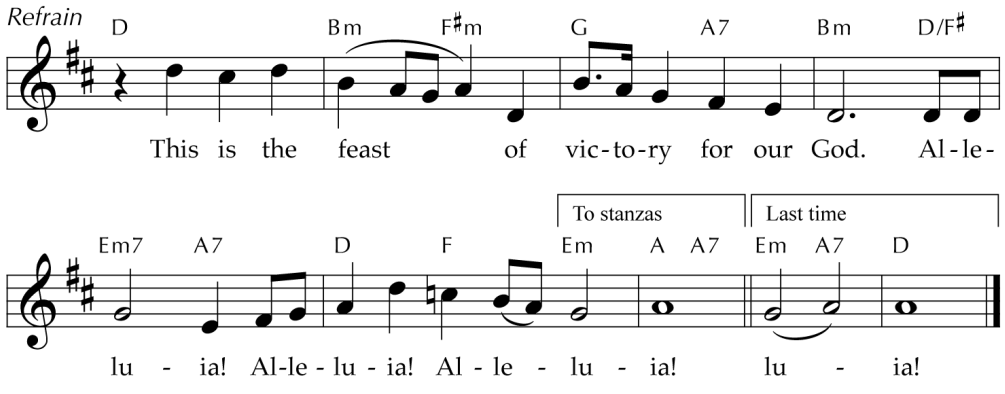
Thanks Be to God!

Sermon: "While It Was Still Dark" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 513 *This Is the Feast of Victory*
FESTIVAL CANTICLE

Please join the choir in singing the refrain after each verse.



Although not written by apostles, the Apostles' Creed *reflects the theological formulations of the first century church. The creed's structure may be based on Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In a time when most Christians were illiterate, oral repetition of the Apostles' Creed helped preserve and transmit the faith.*

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.

Offering

Offertory

Since By Man Came Death (Messiah)
G.F. Handel

The Sanctuary Choir

Since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. (1 Corinthians 15:21-22)

✠Response | Hymn 607

Doxology
OLD HUNDREDTH

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

"I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God. It changes me." — C.S. Lewis

This prayer is a time to bring our joys and pains to God and to pray together as Jesus taught us.

Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar

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 benediction *is both a charge with which to leave the worship service and blessing to take into the world and the week ahead.*

✠Hymn 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!
HYMN TO JOY

Sending

✠Benediction

Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar

✠Choral Benediction *Hallelujah Chorus (Messiah)*
G.F. Handel

Postlude *Te Deum*
Marc-Antoine Charpentier

Guest Instrumentalists

We welcome our instrumentalists in worship today: Elizabeth French, Ashley Lamar, violins; Katherine Hill, viola; Jose Sunderland, 'cello; and Laura Noah, timpani.

Sunday, April 16

Join us next Sunday, April 16, as we continue our Easter journey. The Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar will begin a new sermon series, "Being the Church." Each week we will explore a practice of the early church that we continue today. Next Sunday's sermon is "Discerning Faithfully", with scripture from Acts 15:1-21. Choral music will include Clifford McCormick's "If God Be For Us" (based on Romans 8:30-32) and our new baritone staff singer, Jasaan Roberts, will sing Samuel Liddle's "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings" (Psalm 84).

Easter Lily Dedications

In Memory of	Given By
Mary Knox and Theo Middleton	Their Grandchildren
Marion Adams	His Grandchildren
Dan Haas	His Children and Grandchildren
Don Bryan and Joel David Bryan	Sara Bryan
Alan Ashworth	Anonymous
S.P. Crockett, Jr., and Vivian T. Parks	Charlotte Crockett
Edward Ogburn	His Covenant Class, where he was such a wonderful Sunday School teacher
Louise Oswalt	Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Hutchison III
Dr. Hugh G.K. English, Dr. Elizabeth English, Mrs. Anne Carter Irvine	Sallye and George Irvine and their children
Rebecca Anderson Ivy and Richard Ivy	Toby and Corinne Lorge, Mickie, Susan and Becca
Dibber and John Lutz	Stella and Charlie Jackson

Easter Lily Dedications

In Memory of	**Given By**
Dr. Mac and Mrs. Mary McDaniel	Lynn McDaniel
Dr. and Mrs. Rayford Smith, Jr. and Dr. and Mrs. Paul D. McGehee, Jr.	Ceil and Tom McGehee
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Paul Linhart, Mr. and Mrs. J. Elliott Moses	Marilyn and John Moses
Fred and Molly Crown, Rudy and Florence Nordmann, Fred Crown, Jr.	Rudy and Molly Nordmann
Steve Morrison and Martelle Scott	Dorothy Morrison and Ava Stinson
John Anderson, Sally and John Morrisette	Their Grandchildren, Elizabeth and Henry Morrissette
Elizabeth and Oscar Parsons, Margaret and Thomas Gainer, and Thomas Gainer, Jr.	Blanche and Dewey Parsons
Margaret and Bob Adams, Catherine and Wade Perry	Mary Elizabeth and Bo Perry
Mary Semple Riis and Erling Riis, Jr., James Kenneth Bounds The saints of GSPC	Nicole and Buzzy Riis
Marilyn and Stova McFadden, Lucy and Clyde Rouse	Beth and Robert Rouse
Ruth V. Kirk, Mary Kirk Kelly	Ruth D. Schmohl
Joel and Fran Danley	Blair Schoenvogel
Martha Coleman, Ione G. Tissington, Arthur B. Tissington, III, Arthur (Bud) Tissington, and H. Randall Jones	Martha Tissington and the H.R. Jones Family
Carolyn Daffin, Brenda Cornell	Dave and Sandy Thomason

Easter Lily Dedications

In Memory of	Given By
Ellen Neugent Toland	Ashley and Frank Trice and Family
Paula Weldon, George and Kathleen Weldon, Stanley and Frances Taylor	Scott, Taylor and Sadie Weldon
Daniel Brannan Haas and Dr. and Mrs. Theo Frank Middleton	Barbara Haas
Edward McMurphy and Theo Middleton Jr.	Knox McMurphy
Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Gill	Ted and Linda Burke

In Honor Of	Given By
Ann Adams	Her Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren
Ma'on and Laura Adams	Their Grandchildren
Barbara Haas	Her Grandchildren
Harriet Boster	Her Grandchildren and Great-Grandgirls
Martha Tissington	Charlotte Crockett
Betsy Otts	Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Hutchison III
Our extra Grandmother, Faye "Nucker" Anderson	Sallye and George Irvine and their children
Faye Anderson	Her grandchildren, Elizabeth and Henry Morrissette
Joe and Gail Buzhardt, Nash Noble, Will and Hannah Majure	Bill and Beth Majure
Ava Stinson	Her YaYa
Pastors and Staff of GSPC, Elaine Shealy, Sunday School teachers and youth leaders	Nicole and Buzzy Riis







GSPC News

April 16 Congregational Luncheon: The GSPC "Thriving Congregations" team has recently returned from Montreat and wants to give a report and tell you how you can be involved. Please plan to stay for lunch after worship on April 16. You may RSVP in the church office. Lunch is $5 and $15 per family.

Reminder to GSPC Youth: We will meet briefly after worship on Sunday, April 16, to plan the Youth Sunday Service, which will be held on Sunday, April 30. Please contact Sally Ericson if you would like to volunteer for a particular part of the service.

Interfaith Bible Study: All are invited to join us at the next session of "Two Pastors and a Rabbi," which will be held at GSPC on Monday, April 24, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Family Nature Walk: The next walk will be on Sunday, April 23, at Magnolia Cemetery. This will be a history tour led by Tom McGehee.

Please Note: Office Manager Heather Hamilton will be out of the office from April 17 to April 30. If you need assistance during that time, please contact Barbara Williams.



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Member PC (USA)

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar
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Rev. Alexandra Hutson
Associate Pastor
alexandra@gspcmobile.org

Chris Nemec
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Heather Hamilton
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Dawn Hearn
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dawn@gspcmobile.org

Barbara Williams
Property Manager & Hostess
barbara@gspcmobile.org

Sally Ericson
Communications
sallyericson23@gmail.com

Shelia Smith
Director of Food Services

Marilyn Mills
Arthur Lewis
Sexton(s)

Send news for the e-newsletter or bulletin to Heather Hamilton at heather@gspcmobile.org, or to Sally Ericson at sallyericson23@gmail.com.

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of
Dr. Massey Mott Heltzel and Rosalie Hay Heltzel
by Sally and David Pearsall and Jeanie and David Lindsey.

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

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.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

Men's Bible Study: Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Library. Contact: Bo Perry.

Handbell Choir Rehearsal: 5:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: 6 p.m. in the Choir Room.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

Sunday Book Study Group: Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the library.

Talking Heads Sunday School class: This class meets in the Heltzel Room.

Sunday School for children and youth: These classes meet at 9:30 a.m.

Wee Worship: Sundays at 10:45 a.m. for ages 3 to kindergarten.

Congregational Luncheon: Noon in Fellowship Hall, immediately following worship.

Youth Sunday Planning Meeting: 11:45 a.m. in the Library.

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

Family Nature Walk: This will be a history tour at Magnolia Cemetery, led by Tom McGehee. We will meet at the cemetery immediately following worship.

MONDAY, APRIL 24

Interfaith Bible Study: 5:30-7 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at GSPC.

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.

Worship has continued on this site since 1836, when the sanctuary, now a National Historic landmark, was completed.