*Welcome to Worship*

# Government Street Presbyterian Church

**Sunday, May 17, 2026 | 10:30 a.m.**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

## *Preparation for Worship*

*"Children are the living messages we send to a time we will not see."*
**Neil Postman**

**Prelude** *When the Saints* arr. Tammy Waldrop
*Variations on Llanfair* arr. Michael Bedford
**The Handbell Choir**

**Welcome** **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

**Presbyterian Women Presentation**

**Introit** *The Peace of God*
John Rutter

**The Sanctuary Choir**

The peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen. (Book of Common Prayer, 1662)

✠**Call to Worship** *(Responsive)* **Ann Thomas Lamar**

Christ is risen! Alleluia!
**Christ is risen indeed!**
Christ is risen! Alleluia!
**We have been transformed by this good news.**
Christ is risen! Alleluia!
**We gather expecting the unexpected.**
Christ is risen! Alleluia!
**With joy and praise, let us worship God!**

✠**Hymn 372** *O for a World*
AZMON

✠**Prayer of Confession** *(Unison)* **Becca Lorge**

We confess, O God, that we get stuck in our ways. You bring new life, but we cling to old patterns. You offer unexpected grace, but we prefer expected routines. We forget to look for you in the faces of the vulnerable. We ignore your call to carry resurrection hope to a hurting world. Forgive us, Lord, and hear our silent prayers of confession.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, Lord. Help us have the courage to follow up, believing where we have not seen. Guide our future as you have guided our past. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.

***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.*

***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.*

**✠Assurance of Pardon** **Ellen Trice**

**✠Passing of the Peace**

**✠Response | Hymn 587** *Alleluia!*
CELTIC ALLELUIA

## *Proclaiming the Word*

**Prayer for Illumination** **Margaret Otts**

**First Reading**: I Timothy 4:6-12

The Word of the Lord.
**Thanks be to God.**

**Children's Sermon** **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**
Wee Worship leaders: Emily Watson and Shawn Walker

**Second Reading:** Acts 16:11-16

**Reflection** **Mickie Lorge**

## *Thanksgiving*

**✠Hymn 410** *God Is Calling through the Whisper*
W ZLOBIE LEZY

**Affirmation of Faith** *(The Apostles' Creed)* **Sam 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.

**Choral Response** *Threefold Amen*
EUGENE BUTLER

**Offering** **Sam Lamar**

**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.

***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.*

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. (Based on Psalms 90 & 96)

**✠Response | Hymn 609** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**✠Prayer of Thanksgiving** **Susan Lorge**

**Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer** **Anders Trice**

## *Sending*

**✠Hymn 318** *In Christ There Is No East or West*
ST. PETER

**✠Benediction** **Rev. Lamar and Mickie Lorge**

**Postlude** *Psalm 19 (The Heavens Declare the Glory of God)*
Benedetto Marcello

## *Sunday, May 24*

*Next Sunday is Pentecost and the congregation is invited to wear red to celebrate the day the Holy Spirit was given to the church. We will continue our sermon series, "Expect the Unexpected" with a sermon from Acts 2, titled "Just Waiting." Music includes Mark Patterson's arrangement of the Spiritual "Give Me Jesus" which will include soprano soloist Kelly Connor, and a setting of an "Alleluia" text by William Boyce.*

## *Prayer Requests*
## *Share Your Joys and Concerns*

*Your GSPC family would like to pray and rejoice with you. Please share your joys and concerns so that we can share them with our church family in the weekly newsletter. Your prayer requests can be general requests for a family, community, country, or world. They can be personal, for someone in the church, or someone you know. If you are making a request for someone else, please make sure they are comfortable being included and named. You can always omit a name and make a general request for prayers or celebrations. Please scan the QR code to access the Prayer Request form. Each prayer request will remain on the list for one month and then be removed. If you would like to have a request added back or updated, please email Paula Spath at paula@gspcmobile.org.*

**Prayers for Healing:**

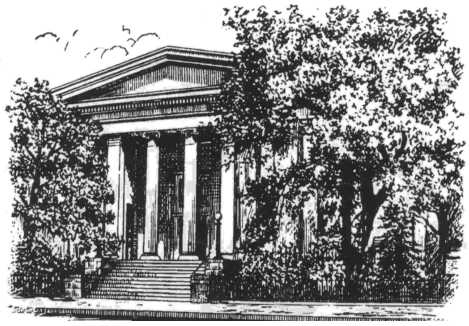
- Gunner, grandson of family friends of Neal and Sherrie Horner, who is facing surgery
- Sarah Hale, mother of Carter Hale, who is back at Palm Gardens Nursing Home on hospice care.
- Bill Cutts, recovering at home after hospitalization
- John Peebles asks for prayers for his friend who has recently had gastrointestinal surgery.
- Dorothy Morrison, recovering at home after hospital stay
- Della Hoffman, granddaughter of Neal and Sherrie Horner, is currently in Children's and Women's hospital with bacterial pneumonia. They have her stabilized .
- Ceil McGehee, recovering from surgery on 5/12
- Molly Nordmann, that her cancer treatment goes well.

**Prayers of Gratitude:**

Bligh Jones offers prayers of thanksgiving for Chris Nemec for his time serving and bringing beautiful music to GSPC.

**Prayers for safety and strength:**

- Lynn McDaniel asks for prayers for all homeless people and homeless animals to find a safe home.
- George Irvine asks for prayers for his daughter-in-law, Annie Irvine, for her to have a safe delivery of June Elizabeth Irvine, his granddaughter.
- Prayers for the people of Gaza, especially the young



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## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar
*Pastor and Head of Staff*
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Willie Mae King
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Marilyn Mills
Arthur Lewis
*Sexton(s)*

### Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given to the Glory of God in honor of our family,
by Brenda and Chandler Ogburn.

## *Calendar of Events*

**TUESDAY, MAY 19**
**Women's Bible Study:** Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.
**Session Meeting:** 5:30p.m. in the Library

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 20**
**Music Rehearsals:** Choir, 6-7:30 p.m.
**Men's Bible Study:** 6 p.m. in the Library. Contact: Bo Perry.

**THURSDAY, MAY 21**
**Mission Committee Meeting:** 3:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
**Barton Academy Graduation:** 5:30p.m. in the Sanctuary

**SUNDAY, MAY 24**
**Pentecost Sunday:** Wear read to celebrate!

**NEWS AND NOTES**

**The balconies** are now open.

**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. Volunteers are needed on July 10. Please call Lisa DeShazo at 251-591-1077 or Mary DeWitt Dukes at 504-920-1918 if you are able 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.

**Water bottles needed:** Please donate reusable water bottles for distribution at the courtyard water fountain. You may bring your donations to the church office.

**Meals on Wheels:** One of our recipients is in need of clothing. She is an elderly lady, particularly needing a bathrobe, pants, longer shorts, or capris for the summer. Please note she is under 5ft tall if donating clothing. If you would like to make a donation or have any questions, please contact Lisa deShazo at 251-591-1077.

### 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.