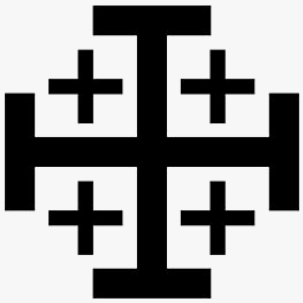


Welcome to worship! *We are glad you are here. If you need any assistance, please notify an usher. Please take a moment to register your attendance by using the friendship register located in each pew. We welcome the opportunity to learn more about you.*

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, March 24, 2024 | 10:30 A.M.

PALM SUNDAY

Gathering

PRELUDE *Simple Gifts*
arr. Aaron Copland

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Hosanna to the Son*
Jody W. Lindh

The Children's Choir

Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Glory, glory be to God on high. The people heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, riding on a donkey's colt. He came, palm branches spread before Him. The disciples didn't understand what was happening at first. But when Jesus the King was glorified, then they remembered, it had all been written.

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*responsive*)

The sounds of children singing ring in our ears and lift our hearts. Even as we know what this holy week will bring, we still feel the joy of the praises and the palms, the king riding on a donkey and the cloaks lining the streets. We know the joy of God's presence even as the steps of our Lenten journey become shadowed by the cross. Today, we sing with joy and today we worship in hope. Let us sing songs of loudest praise.

Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

We are Christ's forgiven disciples. Let us sing songs that are unashamed.

Hosanna! Blessed is the king of Israel!

Each step takes us closer to the cross, but we walk with courage and faith. Let us sing songs without fear.

Hosanna! Blessed is the one who tells us, "Do not be afraid."

We enter this holy week knowing it holds the deepest of sorrows and the highest of joys. Let us sing songs to the God of tomorrow and today.

Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Let us worship the One worthy to be praised.

✠**HYMN 196** *All Glory, Laud and Honor*
VALET WILL ICH DER GEBEN

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

Holy God, we want to run into the streets and sing your praise! We want to be bold and unashamed of the good news of the gospel. But too often we find ourselves standing against the wall, staying quiet, letting others carry the song. Forgive us for the moments when we could lead the parade, but instead stand on the sidelines. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

(silence)

Show us which songs are ours to sing. Show us which parades are ours to lead. Give us the courage and conviction to do both. With hope in the name of Christ, we pray. 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.*

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.*

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.

✠Assurance of Pardon

✠Passing of the Peace

✠Response | Hymn 475 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (verse 1)*
NETTLETON

Come thou fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy 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!

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination **Jeanie Schottgen**

Scripture Reading: Psalm 118: 1,2, 26-29

Children's Sermon and presentation of "Young Woshipper's Challenge" Awards **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Scripture Reading: John 12:12-19

Sermon: "Songs of Loudest Praise" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 205 *Live in Charity*
UBI CARITAS

The hymn will be sung four times.

✠Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

✠Response *Seven-fold Amen*
Peter Lutkin

Offering

Offertory *The Palms*
Jean Baptiste Faure

The Sanctuary Choir

O'er all the way, green palms and blossoms gay are strewn this day in festal preparation. Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away, E'en now the throng to welcome Him prepare. Join all and sing, His name declare. Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation: Hosanna! Praise to the Lord! Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation! His word goes forth, and people by its might Once more regain freedom from degradation, Humanity doth give to each his right, While those in darkness are restored to light. Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem, of all thy sons sing the emancipation. Through boundless love the Christ of Bethlehem brings faith and hope to thee forever more.

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 *Doxology*
OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of Intercession And the Lord's Prayer

✠Hymn 197 *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*
ELLACOMBE

Sending

✠Benediction **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**
Postlude *Improvisation on "All Glory Laud and Honor"*

Easter Sunday, March 31

Join us on Easter Sunday, as we celebrate the Risen Lord! The Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar will continue her sermon series with "Wandering Heart: And I Hope," referencing Luke 24 :1-1 2. Joining the Sanctuary Choir will be a string quartet and timpani as they provide music to uplift: Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" (*Messiah*), and "Hallelujah, Amen!" (*Judas Maccabeus*) and John Rutter's "I Am the Resurrection." Instrumental music includes an Aquarelle by Delius, the Rondo from Mozart's Serenade in G, and the Intermezzo from the Easter Scene from *Cavalleria Rusticana*.

Easter Lily Dedications

The Easter Lilies will be displayed on Easter Sunday, March 31,
and may be collected after the service.
Please turn this form in with the offering, or at the church office, by March 26.
Please make checks payable to GSPC.

Given by: _____

_____

In Memory of: _____

_____

In Honor of: _____

_____

Number of lilies ($13 each) *Total:*



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Member PC (USA)

CHURCH STAFF

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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 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 Cecile Howard Taylor Gardner, Charles Bancroft Taylor, Anne Bea Spillman Hood, and Ivy Anderson Hood by their family.

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 8 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams. The group is studying Romans.
Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

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.

Easter Events and Holy Week services

- Thursday, March 28: Maundy Thursday service, 6 p.m.
- Friday, March 29: Good Friday service, noon.
- Saturday, March 30: Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m. in Washington Square.
- Sunday, March 31: Easter Sunday service, 10:30 a.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.

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