Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 26, 2025 | 10:30 A.M.

ORDINARY TIME

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.*

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.*

Gathering

PRELUDE *To God Be the Glory*
Arr. Stephen Nielson

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *The Lord's Prayer*
Albert Hay Malotte

Carter Hale, Jr., *boy soprano*

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*From I John 3:16-24)*
This is the Lord's commandment,
That we should believe in the name of Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.
All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them.
And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.
Let us love not in word and speech, but in deed and truth.
Let us worship God together.

✠**HYMN 761** *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*
BEECHER

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

Holy God,

You call us to follow you, but too often we follow others who are not worthy of our devotion. Forgive us when we mistake other voices for yours, and for the times we rely on our own wisdom instead of trusting you. Hear our silent prayers.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, Lord. Forgive us when we ignore your gracious care. Help us to discern your voice and follow in your path. With gratitude for your sacrificial love, we pray in Christ's name. Amen.

✠**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

✠**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***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.*

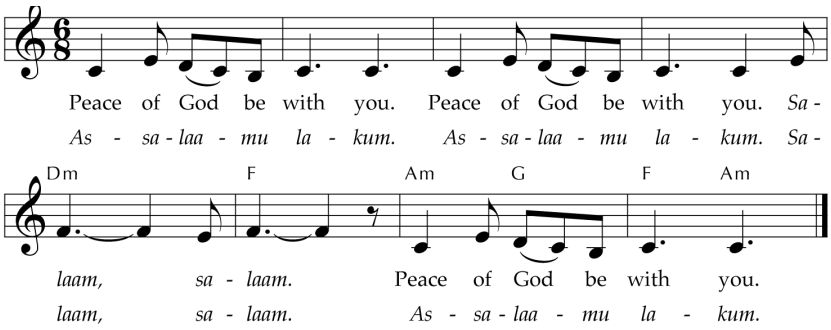
***Wee Worship sign-in slips** are available next to the bulletins at the front and back of the church as well as in the children's worship totes. Children may bring these filled out slips with them when they go to Wee Worship.*

***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.*

***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.*

✠Response | Hymn 448 *Peace of God Be with You*
AS-SALAAMU LAKUM

The Response will be sung twice.



Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination **James Lamar**

Scripture Reading: Psalm 23

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

Scripture Reading: Luke 10:11-18

Sermon: "I AM The Good Shepherd" **Rev. Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 801 *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*
CRIMOND

✠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 *Amen*
Peter Lutkin

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.*

Offering

Offertory — *I'll Walk With God*
Nicholas Brodszky

The Sanctuary Choir; Gabrielle Corlette, *soprano soloist;* Jacob Mohr, *tenor soloist*

I'll walk with God, from this day on, His helping hand I'll lean upon. This is my prayer, my humble plea, may the Lord be ever with me. There is no death though eyes grow dim, there is no fear when I'm near to Him. I'll lean on Him forever and He'll forsake me never. He will not fail me as long as my faith is strong, whatever road I may walk along. I'll walk with God, I'll take his hand. I'll talk with God, He'll understand. I'll pray to Him each day, to Him, and He'll hear the words that I say. His grace reveals the paths I've trod, now I'll never walk alone while I walk with God.

✠Doxology | 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

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 802 — *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*
ST. COLUMBA

Sending

✠Benediction — Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar

Postlude — *Psalm XIX (The Heavens Declare)*
Benedetto Marcello

Sunday, February 2

Join us next Sunday, when the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar continues the sermon series "Know Who I AM," which will come from Jesus's "I AM" statements in the gospel of John. The sermon will be from John 9 and titled "I AM the Bread of Life." Music includes Franz Schubert's beloved "Holy Is the Lord" (Sanctus) and Victor Johnson's setting of the Latin text "Ubi Caritas et Amor (Where There Is Charity and Love)."



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Submit items for the bulletin and newsletter 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 Martelle Scott
and of the remarkable examples of God's love
that she shared with so many.

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28
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. Everyone is welcome.
Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.
Tuesday Lunch and Learn: Noon-1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall with guest speaker Cart Blackwell, Curator of the Mobile Carnival Museum. Lunch is $12 and includes dessert.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29
Choir rehearsals: Handbells, 5:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary; Choir, 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the choir room.
Men's Bible Study: 6 p.m. in the Library and via Zoom. Contact: Bo Perry.
20s/30s Young Women's Bible Study: 6 p.m. in the Guesnard House.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30
Interfaith Bible Study: 5:30-7 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room at GSPC.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1
Eastern Shore Chamber Music Concert: 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. GSPC is hosting the Eastern Shore String Trio's free concert as part of the 2025 Winter Series of the Eastern Shore Chamber Music Festival. Music will include the beloved cello solo "The Swan" by Camille Saint-Saens, with Chris Nemec accompanying on the piano. Contact Chris for additional information at chris@gspcmobile.org. Donations are welcome.

ADDITIONAL NEWS AND NOTES

Helping local schools: GSPC is collecting donations of outerwear and uniforms for students at Calloway-Smith Middle and Florence Howard Elementary Schools. This initiative is a partnership with The Fuse Project.

Cold-weather clothing drive: GSPC is collecting gently worn cold-weather clothing items for men, women and children, such as coats, sweaters, hats, gloves and scarves. Socks are a much-needed item for those in shelters. These items will be given to various agencies that distribute clothing to those in need. There is a box for these donations in the Jackson Street Foyer.

Sanctuary flowers: 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.