Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 7, 2024 | 10:30 A.M.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD
ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

Gathering

PRELUDE *The Shepherd's Farewell (L'Enfance du Christ)*
Hector Berlioz

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Tuesday Lunch and Learn Series **BUZZY RIIS**

✠CALL TO WORSHIP **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

The voice of the Lord resounds upon the water.
The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.
The Son of God is named, "Beloved."
And all who worship him shout out, "Glory to God!"
The Lord is strong and majestic.
Let us worship God in spirit and truth.

✠HYMN 32 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*
ELLACOMBE

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,

We are precious in your sight, yet we often forget that we are your beloved. We confess that our love is fickle and inconstant. We follow selfish goals and deny that our way of life harms others and hurts your world. We are sorry and we want to change. Forgive us, Lord, and hear our silent prayers of confession.

(Silence)

Create in us a clear heart, strengthen our resolve, reconcile us one to another, and bless us with your peace. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠PASSING OF THE PEACE

✠RESPONSE: 34 *To God Be the Glory*
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

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.*

Children ages three *and older are invited to the front for the Children's Sermon. Children ages 3-K 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.*

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

Scripture Reading: Psalm 29: 1-11

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

Scripture Reading: Mark 1: 4-11

Sermon: "The Baptized One" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 159 *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem*
KINGSFOLD

✠Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

✠Response *Amen!*
MARTY HAUGEN

Offering

Offertory *I Believe in God the Father*
GENEVAN 42

The Sanctuary Choir

Text: No. 481 in The Hymnal

✠Response | Hymn 609 *Doxology*
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

Ordination and Installation of Officers

Statement on Ordination and Installation **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**
Constitutional Questions to Officers **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**
Questions to the Congregation

Do we, the members of the church, accept these members as ruling elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to pray for them, encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

We do.

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.*

Ordination Prayer and Laying on of Hands **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Welcoming of New Officers **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Communion Meditation *Communion in G*
Louis Lefébure-Wély

Prayer After Communion **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

✠Hymn 69 *I, The Lord of Sea and Sky*
HERE I AM

Sending

✠Benediction **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude *Tu Solus Altissimus (Thou Alone Are Most High)*
Alexandre Boëly

Sunday, January 14

Join us on Sunday, January 14, as the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar continues the "Introducing Jesus" winter sermon series with a sermon titled "The Unexpected King," with Scripture references from Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 and John 1:43-51. Choral music includes Andraé Crouch's rousing gospel setting of "Soon and Very Soon."



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CHURCH STAFF

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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 Paula Weldon
by Scott, Sadie, and Taylor.

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

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.

Tuesday Lunch and Learn: The first speaker of the new year will be J.D Crowe, political cartoonist at al.com. Lunch is served at noon and J.D. will speak at 12:30 p.m. Lunch is $12 and includes coffee, tea and dessert. Invite your friends and family to lunch! Here is the schedule:

Jan. 9: J.D. Crowe, political cartoonist and author
Jan. 16: Cam Marston, author and radio talk show host
Jan. 23: Cart Blackwell, Education Curator, Mobile Carnival Museum
Jan. 30: Chris Curry, President, Mobile Airport Authority
Feb. 6: Glenda Snodgrass, information security expert, the Net Effect
Feb. 20: Jo Bonner, President, University of South Alabama
Feb. 27: Keith Blackwood, Mobile District Attorney
March 5: Lucy Gafford, Executive Director, Mobile Arts Council
March 12: John Driscoll, Director and CEO, Alabama Port Authority
March 19: Alan Sealls, author and Chief Meteorologist at NBC-15
April 2: Champ Napier, client advocate, Mobile County Public Defender's Office
April 9: Simone Eli, sports director and anchor, WKRG
April 16: Owen Bailey, CEO, USA Health
April 23: Jon Carfagno, Executive Director, Mobile Museum of Art
April 30: Elizabeth Stevens, President and CEO, Downtown Mobile Alliance

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

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.

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.