Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 25, 2026 | 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 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 known as the mother of Presbyterianism in southern Alabama. We are a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and participate 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.

Gathering

Preparation for Worship

"Be united with other Christians. A wall with loose bricks is not good.
The bricks must be cemented together."
Corrie ten Boom

PRELUDE *Two Fanfares and Flourishes*
Michael McCabe

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*
Eugene Butler

The Sanctuary Choir
Text: No. 363 in The Hymnal, stanzas 1 and 3

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsive)* **BETH ROUSE**

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.
There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served.
To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
Together we are the Body of Christ and individually members of it.
As the Body of Christ, let us worship God.

✠**HYMN 17** *Sing Praise to God, You Heavens!*
WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Unison)* **REV. LAMAR**

Gracious God,

We confess that we sometimes believe that we can do things by ourselves. We become disconnected from you and reject the help of others. We do not reach out to our neighbors and become isolated by our pride. Forgive us, Lord, and reconnect us to you. Hear our silent prayers.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, Lord. Connect us to Christ and to one another so that we may be faithful in all we do. Remind us that reliance on you and other people does not make us weak, but instead makes us strong. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.

✠**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

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.*

✠Passing of the Peace

✠Response | Hymn 581 *Glory Be to the Father*
GLORIA PATRI

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination **Beth Rouse**

First Reading: I Corinthians 12:12-27

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**
Wee Worship Leaders: Emily Watson and Lisa Goodloe

Second Reading: John 15:1-8

Sermon: "Lies We Tell Ourselves: I Can Do It Myself" **Rev. Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 286 *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*
TRENTHAM

✠Affirmation of Faith *(The Apostles' Creed)* **Beth Rouse**

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 *Amen*
Eugene Butler

Offering

Offertory *Witness*
Spiritual; arr. Patterson/Nemec

The Sanctuary Choir with Jacob Mohr and Kelly Connor, *soloists*
Who'll be a witness for my Lord? Now Daniel was a Hebrew child, he went to pray to his God a while. The king at once for Daniel did send, he put him right down in the Lion's den. God sent angels, the lions to keep, so Daniel laid down and went to sleep. Daniel was a witness for my Lord. There was a man of the Pharisees, his name was Nicodemus and he didn't believe. Christ told Nicodemus as a friend, "Man, you must be born again. Marvel not, man, if you want to be wise, repent, believe and be baptized." Who'll be a witness for my Lord? I'll be a witness for my Lord.

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.*

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.*

✠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 **Beth Rouse**

Prayer of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer **Rev. 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.

Sending

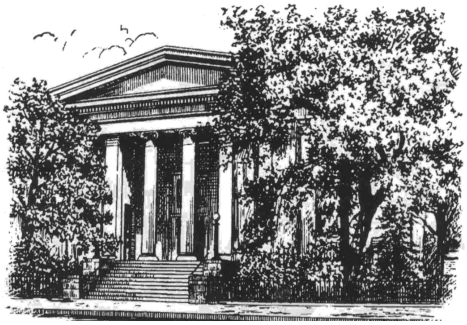
✠Hymn 297 *In Christ Called to Baptize*
ST. DENIO

✠Benediction **Rev. Lamar**

Postlude *Trumpet Tune*
David German

Sunday, February 1

Join us next Sunday, February 1, when the Rev. Dr. Julian Walthall will be our guest preacher. He will preach a sermon titled "A Two-Way Street" from Micah 6:1-8 and Matthew 5:1-12. The Rev. Lamar will be away for continuing education. Music includes J.S. Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" and Dale Wood's setting of "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation."



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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
Hans Zandstra
by his wife, Jeepje, and his children.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25
Listening Sessions: We are working with Ministry Architects to find our next Director of Christian Education. Before they can begin, they need to get to know our congregation. We invite you to join one of four listening sessions this afternoon to ensure that they can help us find the best fit for GSPC. The times are 11:30 a.m.; 1:15 p.m.; 2:30 p.m.; and 3:45 p.m. There will be child care available for the 11:30-12:30 session.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27
Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 9 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams.
Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.
GSPC Book Club: The Book Club will meet on January 27 at 5:30 p.m. in the library and via Zoom. The group will view a presentation, "Iconographic Disjunction in the Rushkin Psalter." Please RSVP to Meredith Johnston at mwjohnston@crimson.ua.edu.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28
Music 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.

NEWS AND NOTES

Lunch and Learn series: The Tuesday Lunch and Learn series will resume on Tuesday, February 3, with our own Tom McGehee as the first speaker of the winter-spring series.

Transfiguration Sunday / Joe Cain Day: The worship service on Sunday, February 15, will be held at 9 a.m. at First Baptist Church. The service will be led by Rabbi Ed Boraz (Spring Hill Avenue Temple), the Rev. Trey Doyle (FBC), and the Rev. Lamar. Passes to help those traveling downtown for worship will be available in the sanctuary and in the church office.

Mardi Gras Holidays: The church office will be closed on Lundi Gras and Mardi Gras, February 16-17.

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 March 13. Please call Lisa DeShazo at 251-591-1077 or Mary DeWitt Dukes at 504-920-1918 if you are able to help with this mission at GSPC.

Driver needed: The Meals on Wheels ministry needs a driver for the Northern Route on Wednesday mornings. Please contact Lisa deShazo at 251-591-1077.

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.

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.