Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, April 14, 2024 | 10:30 A.M.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Gathering

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.*

PRELUDE *Arioso (BWV 156)*
J.S. Bach

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *O Worship the King*
Joseph Haydn; arr. B.B. Kinyon

The Handbell Choir

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*responsive*) **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

We come to the house of the Lord to worship our risen Savior!
We come with joy and thanksgiving to worship the living Christ.
We come to the house of the Lord to worship the one who created heaven and earth!
We praise God for the gift of this day.
We come to the house of the Lord to worship the Spirit who guides our moments and our days.
We pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we worship together.
Let us worship God!

✠**HYMN 245** *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!*
LLANFAIR

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.*

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

God of grace and mercy,

We confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We acknowledge our selfish desires, our addiction to our own comfort, our intentional ignorance of the needs of those around us. Forgive us for these and all our sins and hear our silent prayers of confession.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, O God. Allow the power of your resurrection to spur us to live in gratitude and hope, sharing the love that you have shown to us. We pray in the name of Christ, the Lord of love. 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.*

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.*

✠Passing of the Peace

✠Response | Hymn 587 *Alleluia!*
CELTIC ALLELUIA

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination **Gary Heusser**

Scripture Reading: Psalm 4:1-8

Children's Sermon

Scripture Reading: 1 John 3:1-15

Sermon: "We Are God's Children Now" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 238 *Thine Is the Glory*
JUDAS MACCABEUS

✠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!*
Eugene Butler

Offering

Offertory *The Majesty and Glory of Your Name*
Tom Fettke

The Sanctuary Choir

When I gaze into the night skies and see the work of your fingers; the moon and stars suspended in space. Oh what is man, that you are mindful of him? You have given man a crown of glory and honor, and have made him a little lower than the angels. You have put him in charge of all creation: The beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea. But what is man that you are mindful of him? O Lord, our God, the majesty and glory of your name transcends the earth and fills the heavens. O Lord our God, little children praise you perfectly, and so would we. Alleluia! The majesty and glory of your name. Alleluia! (Based on Psalm 8.)

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.*

✠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

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 246 *Christ Is Alive!*

TRURO

Sending

✠Benediction **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude *Grand Choeur*

César Franck

Sunday, April 21

Next Sunday, April 21, we look forward to welcoming Rabbi Edward Boraz of Spring Hill Avenue Temple and the Rev. Trey Doyle of First Baptist Church to our pulpit as part of our "Two Pastors and a Rabbi" collaboration. Music will include the 16th century setting of "Dona Nobis Pacem" arranged by Hal Hopson, and Christopher Pardini's setting of "Toccata on 'Amazing Grace.' "



300 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36602
251-432-1749 | gspcmobile.org
Member PC (USA)

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar
Pastor and Head of Staff
rebekah@gspcmobile.org

Chris Nemec
Director of Music and Organist
chris@gspcmobile.org

Meredith Johnston
Office Administrator
meredith@gspcmobile.org

Dawn Hearn
Bookkeeper
dawn@gspcmobile.org

Barbara Williams
Property Manager and Hostess
barbara@gspcmobile.org

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 Joel and Fran Danley
and Henri and Chiny Aldridge
by their family.

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

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.
Tuesday Lunch and Learn: Come to lunch! Our guest speaker will be Cam Marston, author and radio personality. Lunch is served at noon and the presentation begins at 12:30 p.m. Lunch is $12 and includes coffee, tea and dessert. Here is the schedule:
April 16: Cam Marston, author and radio personality
April 23: Jon Carfagno, Executive Director, Mobile Museum of Art
April 30: Elizabeth Stevens, President and CEO, Downtown Mobile Alliance

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

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.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

Two Pastors and a Rabbi: The Interfaith Bible Study will be at 5:30 p.m. at Spring Hill Avenue Temple, 1769 Springhill Ave.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Presbytery-wide Spring Gathering, 9 a.m. to noon: The GSPC Presbyterian Women will host the Presbytery-wide Spring Gathering on Saturday, April 20. The Rev. Eugenia Gamble will discuss her book, "Tending the Wild Garden: Growing in the Fruit of the Spirit." The cost is $15 and includes lunch.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

Young Women's Bible Study: 6 p.m. in the Guesnard House.

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.