Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 9, 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 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*
LOBE DEN HERREN; Arr. Bill Ingram
The Handbell Choir

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Holy, Holy, Holy*
NICAEA arr. Bill Ingram
The Handbell Choir

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Based on Psalm 130)*
My soul waits for the Lord and in God's word I hope.
My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.
More than those who watch for the morning, I watch for the Lord, expecting to see the goodness of God.
For with the Lord there is steadfast love and great power to redeem.
We place our hope in the Lord as we worship God together.

✠**HYMN 611** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*
HYMN TO JOY

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*Unison*)
Gracious God,

There are days when we look for you and cannot find you, days when we seek your voice but hear only silence. We become confused and fearful. We confess that our distress leads us to doubt your power and your love. We sometimes miss your miracles because we are bound by our fear and doubts. Forgive us and free us, God, and hear our silent prayers of confession.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us faith. Give us courage. Calm our anxious hearts. Guide our thoughts and our actions so that they reflect your good news. Through Christ, we pray. 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.*

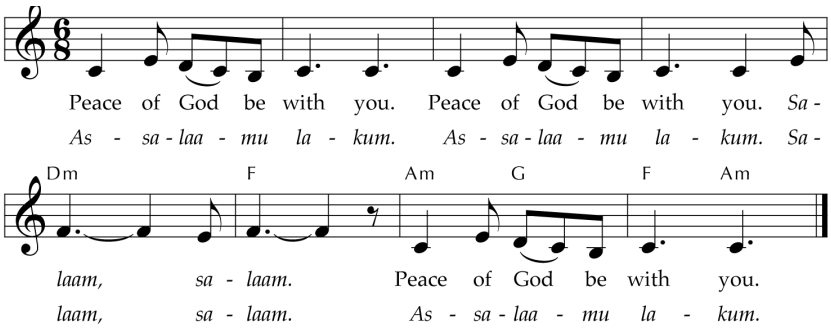
***Wee Worship sign-in slips** are available next to the bulletins at the front and back of the church as well as in the children's worship totes. Children may bring these filled out slips with them when they go to Wee Worship.*

***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 **John Peebles**

Scripture Reading: John 11: 1-16

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

Scripture Reading: John 11:17-44 (selected verses)

Sermon: "I AM The Resurrection and the Life" **Rev. Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 246 *Christ Is Alive*
TRURO

✠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 *Thanks Be to God, Alleluia!*
Swahili Folk Song; arr. Chris Nemec

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 *Clap Your Hands*
Nancy Roberts

The Sanctuary Choir; Jacob Mohr, *tenor soloist*

Clap your hands, ye people, clap your hands! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! Hallelujah! Sing praises to our God, lift your voice and sing, He is our King!

✠**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 728** *Somebody's Knocking at Your Door*
SOMEBODY'S KNOCKIN'

Sending

✠**Benediction** **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude *Tuba Tune*
C.S. Lang

Sunday, February 16

Join us next Sunday, when the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar continues the sermon series titled "Know Who I AM," inspired by Jesus's "I AM" statements in the gospel of John. Next week's sermon will be from John 14:1-7 and titled "I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life." Music includes the Sanctuary Choir singing "Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place" with mezzo soprano Meredith Wilson, and Mark Patterson's arrangement of the Spiritual "Give Me Jesus" with soprano Kelly Connor singing the verse.



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CHURCH STAFF

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Sexton(s)

Submit items for the bulletin and newsletter to Sally Ericson at sallyericson23@gmail.com.

Flower Dedications

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.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Second Sunday Luncheon: The congregation is invited to enjoy lunch together in the Fellowship Hall today and learn about ways to be more involved at GSPC. The Session has reorganized the committees of the church and is seeking members to serve in these areas of church life. Join us!

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10
Circles of Hope and Joy: The Circles of Hope and Joy will meet for fellowship and Bible Study in the Guesnard House at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome. If you are able, please bring a snack or beverage to share with the group.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11
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 Dr. John Dindo, a retired marine scientist with the Dauphin Island Sea Lab. Lunch is $12 and includes dessert.
Youth Bible Study: Tuesdays at 3 p.m. at Carpe Diem. The group is studying "The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss." All are welcome.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12
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.

ADDITIONAL NEWS AND NOTES

The GSPC Book Club will meet on Tuesday, February 18, at 5:30 p.m. in the Library. Our reading selection will be "Fight Against Fear: Southern Jews and Black Civil Rights" by Dr. Clive Webb. Please RSVP to Meredith Johnston.

Joe Cain Sunday: On Sunday, March 2, GSPC will worship at First Baptist Church at 9 a.m. Rabbi Ed Boraz (Spring Hill Avenue Temple), the Rev. Trey Doyle (FBC), and the Rev. Lamar will offer the sermon as part of the "Two Pastors and a Rabbi" collaboration. Passes to help those traveling downtown for worship will be available at GSPC on Feb. 16 and 23 and during the week.

Helping local schools: GSPC is collecting donations of outerwear and uniforms for students at Calloway-Smith Middle and Florence Howard Elementary Schools.

Cold-weather clothing drive: GSPC is collecting gently worn cold-weather clothing items for men, women and children, such as coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, scarves and socks 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.

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.