Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, October 15, 2023 | 10:30 A.M.

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF 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.*

Gathering

PRELUDE — *Sweet Hour of Prayer*
arr. David Hegarty

WELCOME — **AVA STINSON**

MINUTE FOR MISSION: STEWARDSHIP 2023 — **BETH ROUSE**

INTROIT — *Gentle Shepherd, Kind and True*
Hal Hopson

The Children's Choir; James Lamar, *soloist*

Gentle shepherd, kind and true, cares for all, not just a few. He seeks the lamb that's lost and cold and brings it back within the fold. Sheep were in the fields of green, yes, 99 Luke said were seen. But on that day the news went round, one small sheep could not be found. Now I sing this happy song, I sing out loud, I sing out strong. The God who made the land and sea loves a little child like me.

✠CALL TO WORSHIP — **GINNY JONES AND SHEP OLIVER**

When I am happy and singing a happy song,
I return to God's house to sing praises to the Lord.
When I am sad and have tears in my eyes,
I return to God in prayer and ask for God's help.
When I am afraid and my mind is anxious,
I return to God with hope and tell God my worries.
When I come to worship today,
I return to God with thanks and praise.
Let us worship God.

✠HYMN 188 — *Jesus Loves Me!*
JESUS LOVES ME

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.*

Glenn Yelverton Adams, Jr. *is the grandson of Ma'on and Laura Adams and the great-grandson of Ann Adams.*

We baptize infants because of our conviction that God always acts first. God claims us before we can ever claim God. It is only through God's grace that we participate in this sacrament and in the life of faith.

✠Prayer Of Confession **Emerson Hale**

Holy God of hope, you are always with us, but sometimes we are afraid. We worry that we are alone. We are afraid that you do not care for us. We forget all the promises you have made to us. We try to fix things ourselves instead of asking for your help. Listen as we pray silently.

(silence)

Forgive us, God. Help us to trust you completely and follow the path you show us. Bring us back to you when we go the wrong way. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

✠Assurance of Pardon **Vivi McKee**

✠Passing of the Peace **Lillian Grace Hale**

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

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination **Eleanor Oswalt**

Scripture Reading: John 14: 1-14 **Margaret Browning**

Children's Sermon **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar and Lelia Otts**

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Glenn Yelverton Adams, Jr.

Son of Glenn and Hartley Adams

Born December 27, 2022

✠Baptismal Hymn 486 *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*
KINGDOM

Scripture Reading: Ezra 1: 1-7

Sermon: "Return" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 481 *I Believe in God the Father*
GENEVAN 42

Offerings of Gifts and Pledges **Teddy Heisterhagen**

Offertory *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*
Dale Wood

The Sanctuary Choir
Text: The Hymnal, No. 394

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*

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving **W.C. Heisterhagen**

Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer **James 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.

✠Hymn 649 *Amazing Grace*
AMAZING GRACE

Sending

✠Benediction **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude *Rigadon*
Andre Campra

Memory verse for the week of October 15:
Psalm 136: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Copies of this week's memory verse may be picked up at any entrance to the sanctuary.

Sunday, October 22

The Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar will continue the sermon series "How Firm a Foundation." Scriptures include Luke 22:39-44 and Job 7:1-21 (selected verses). In preparation for next week, worshipers may read pages 98-109 of "A Guide to Bible Basics" by Tyler Mayfield, or view the following videos at bibleproject.com: "Ezra-Nehemiah." Choral music includes Franz Schubert's "Holy is the Lord."

Also on Sunday, October 22, church families will celebrate Trunk or Treat in the GSPC Parking Lot at 4 p.m. Sign up to participate with Carrie Haas Adams.



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CHURCH STAFF

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Marilyn Mills
Arthur Lewis
Sexton(s)

Send news for the e-newsletter or bulletin to Sally Ericson at sallyericson23@gmail.com.

Sanctuary Flowers

The Sanctuary flowers today are dedicated
to the glory of God and in celebration
of the Baptism of Glenn Yelverton Adams, Jr.
by his grandparents:
Mr. and Mrs Marion S. Adams, III
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon M. Gunderson, III
and Mr. and Mrs. James E. Little, II

Calendar of Events

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

Joint Circle Meeting: The Circles of Hope and Joy will have a joint Bible study and meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Guesnard House.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

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 at GSPC: Stacey Driskell and Scott Wright of Mobile Opera will be the guest speakers. Lunch is served at noon and the presentation will begin at 12:30 p.m. The cost is $12. All are welcome.

Diaconate Meeting update: The Diaconate Meeting has been canceled.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Mid-week Bible Study: Noon to 1 p.m. in the Library and via Zoom. This study is led by the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar.

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.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

Trunk or Treat: 4 p.m. in the GSPC Parking Lot.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

20/30s Women's Bible Study: 6 p.m. at the Guesnard House. The group will go to dinner after the Bible Study. Contact: Mary Herndon Nordmann.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

Interfaith Bible Study at GSPC: The next session of "Two Pastors and a Rabbi" will be held in the Multi-Purpose room from 5:30 to 7 p.m. All are welcome.

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.