Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, October 8, 2023 | 10:30 A.M.

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

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 *Be Thou My Vision*
arr. Stephen Nielson

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

MINUTE FOR MISSION: STEWARDSHIP 2023 **MEG HEUSSER**

INTROIT *Soli Deo Gloria*
Anonymous 17th Century; arr Chris Nemec

The Sanctuary Choir
Translation: To God alone be glory.

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

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
God is the king of all creation.
The king is the one who enters the city in humility, riding on a donkey.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord.
He is King of kings and Lord of lords.
Let us worship the Lord our King!

✠HYMN 396 *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship*
HOLY MANNA

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
Holy and loving God, You have shown us what is to be valued and what is to be honored. We confess that often our priorities reflect the values of the world around us. We lift up leaders who do not honor you in their words and deeds. We seek to emulate those who appear powerful and successful rather than follow the example of Christ. We humbly ask your mercy as we offer our silent prayers of confession.

(silence)

Forgive us, Lord. Show us your will and your way. Humble our hearts so that we may truly follow you and know the truth of your kingdom. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.

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.*

✠Assurance of Pardon

✠Passing of the Peace

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

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination **Molly Nordmann**

Scripture Reading: John 18: 33-38

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

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 16: 1-13

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

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 288 *Spirit of the Living God*
LIVING GOD

✠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!*
Haugen; arr. C. Nemec

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.
(Paraphrase of Psalm 47)

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

Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

✠Hymn 410 *God Is Calling Through the Whisper*
ZLOBIE LEZY

Sending

✠Benediction **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude *Trumpet Tune in G*
James C. Kasen

Memory verse for the week of October 8:
1 Samuel 16:7b: For the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

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

Sunday, October 15

Join us on Sunday, October 15, as the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar continues her sermon series "How Firm a Foundation." Scriptures include John 14:1-14 and Ezra 1:1-7 and are the basis for the sermon entitled "Return." October 15 is Commitment Sunday, when we ask members to return their pledge cards for 2024. We will celebrate Children's Sabbath, and our children will lead the liturgy for the day. We will celebrate the sacrament of baptism for Glenn Yelverton Adams, Jr. In preparation for next week, worshipers may read pages pg. 57-96 of "A Guide to Bible Basics" by Tyler Mayfield, or view the following videos at bibleproject.com: "I Samuel," "2 Samuel," and "Kings." Choral music for October 15 includes Dale Wood's "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation," and the Children's Choir will sing "Gentle Shepherd, Kind and True" by Hal Hopson.



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

CHURCH STAFF

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

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

Dawn Hearn
Bookkeeper
dawn@gspcmobile.org

Barbara Williams
Property Manager & 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 Sanctuary flowers today are dedicated
to the glory of God and in loving memory
of Anne Winn, Bessie Spafford, and Margaret Haight
by Don, Anita and Michael Winn.

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 8 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams. The group is studying the Book of Amos.

Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.

Tuesday Lunch and Learn at GSPC: Dr. Amanda Jones, Principal of Barton Academy for Advanced World Studies, will be the guest speaker at the October 10 luncheon. Lunch is served at noon and the presentation will begin at 12:30 p.m. The cost is $12. All are welcome.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

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: Mark your calendars and make plans to join us for Trunk or Treat in the GSPC Parking Lot at 4 p.m.! Sign up with Pastor Rebekah or Carrie Haas Adams.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25

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.

ADDITIONAL NEWS AND NOTES

Nominations: The Nominations Committee is seeking officer nominations for the class of 2026. You may call the church office with your nominations, fill out a form and place in the offering plate on Sunday, or reach out to Margaret Vidmer Hutchison, Nominations Committee Chair. Other committee members are Jeanie Lindsey, Rudy Nordmann, Hunter Oswalt and Robert Otts.

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.