Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, April 26, 2026 | 10:30 A.M.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Preparation for Worship

"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes."
Marcel Proust, from "In Search of Lost Time"

PRELUDE *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*
arr. Max Reger

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

✠CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)* **LIZZIE ARNOLD**
Christ is risen! Alleluia!
Christ is risen indeed!
Christ is risen! Alleluia!
We have been transformed by this good news.
Christ is risen! Alleluia!
We gather expecting the unexpected.
Christ is risen! Alleluia!
With joy and praise, let us worship God!

✠HYMN 513 *This Is the Feast of Victory*
FESTIVAL CANTICLE

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

We confess, O God, that we get stuck in our ways. You bring new life, but we cling to old patterns. You offer unexpected grace, but we prefer expected routines. We forget to look for you in the faces of the vulnerable. We ignore your call to carry resurrection hope to a hurting world. Forgive us, Lord, and hear our silent prayers of confession.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, risen Christ. Pull us from the patterns of violence and fear, so that we may recognize Christ. May we stand in awe of your resurrection. We pray in the name of Christ who died and rose again. Amen.

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠PASSING OF THE PEACE

✠RESPONSE | HYMN 587 *Alleluia!*
CELTIC ALLELUIA

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 a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and participates 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.

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.*

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination — **David Trent**

First Reading: John 4: 1-15

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 4: 16-30

Sermon: "Just A Visit to the Well" — **Rev. Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 630 — *Fairest Lord Jesus*

CRUSADERS' HYMN

✠Affirmation of Faith *(The Apostles' Creed)* — **David Trent**

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*

Marty Haugen; arr. Nemec

Offering — **David Trent**

Offertory — *I Believe in Christ*

arr. Mack Wilberg

The Sanctuary Choir

I believe in Christ, He is my King! With all my heart to him I'll sing. I'll raise my voice in praise and joy, in grand amens my tongue employ. I believe in Christ: he is God's Son. On earth to dwell his soul did come. He healed the sick; the dead he raised. Good works were his; his name be praised. I believe in Christ my Lord, my God! My feet he plants on gospel sod. I'll worship him with all my might; He is the source of truth and light. I believe in Christ, he ransoms me. From Satan's grasp he sets me free. And I shall live with joy and love in his eternal courts above. I believe in Christ, he stands supreme! From him I'll gain my fondest dream; And while I strive through grief and pain, His voice is heard: "Ye shall obtain." I believe in Christ; so come what may, with him I'll stand in that great day when on this earth he comes again to rule among the sons of men.

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.*

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.

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 — **David Trent**

Prayer of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer — **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Sending

✠Hymn 612 — *We Praise You, O God*
KREMSER

✠Benediction — **Rev. Lamar**

Postlude — *Celebration*
Phil Lehenbauer

Sunday, May 3

The Rev. Lamar will continue her sermon series, "Expect the Unexpected," with a sermon based on Acts 9:10-19 titled "Just Being Reasonable." Music includes Victor Johnson's arrangement of the Spiritual "Elijah Rock" and Craig Courtney's arrangement of "Peace I Give to You."

Prayer Requests

Prayers for Healing:

- Anita Winn, who is home recovering from surgery
- Charlotte Crockett, who is in Tuscaloosa, recovering from a recent hospitalization
- Dorothy Morrison, who is recovering from a broken foot
- Ricia Hendrick (friend of Babs Jacobelli), who is recovering from recent surgery
- Isabella Yates (friend of Paula Spath), who has leukemia
- Gunner, grandson of family friends of Neal and Sherrie Horner, who is facing surgery

Prayers of Gratitude:

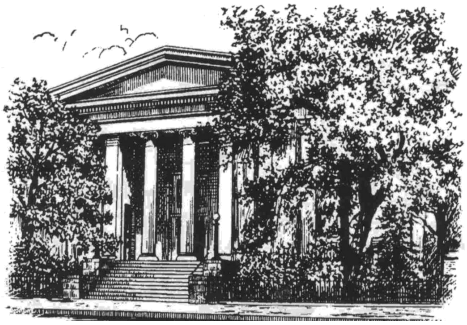
Carolyn Jones offers prayers of praise and thankfulness for her parents, Harley and Marlene Jones, for raising her and supporting her and her fiancé.

Prayers for safety and strength:

- Kelly Connor asks for prayers for Anthony Daher and his family, who are in Lebanon. Anthony is working in Beirut during the war. He is angry and depressed. Prayers for Kelly's and Anthony's long-distance relationship and that Kelly remains strong and knows how to best support him.
- Lynn McDaniel asks for prayers for all homeless people and homeless animals to find a safe home.
- George Irvine asks for prayers for his daughter-in-law, Annie Irvine, for her to have a safe delivery for June Elizabeth Irvine, his granddaughter.

Share Your Joys and Concerns

Your GSPC family would like to pray and rejoice with you. Please share your joys and concerns so that we can share them with our church family in the weekly newsletter. Your prayer requests can be general requests for a family, community, country, or world. They can be personal, for someone in the church, or someone you know. If you are making a request for someone else, please make sure they are comfortable being included and named. You can always omit a name and make a general request for prayers or celebrations. Please scan the QR code to access the Prayer Request form. Each prayer request will remain on the list for one month and then be removed. If you would like to have a request added back or updated, please email Paula Spath at paula@gspcmobile.org.



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

Paula Spath
Office Manager
paula@gspcmobile.org

Dawn Hearn
Bookkeeper
dawn@gspcmobile.org

Barbara Williams
Property Manager and Hostess
barbara@gspcmobile.org

Sally Ericson
Communications
sallyericson23@gmail.com

Willie Mae King
Director of Food Services
williemae@gspcmobile.org

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 28
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.
Tuesday Lunch and Learn: Come to lunch! Our guest speaker is Kim Crawford Meeks, USA Health chaplain. Lunch is served at noon, and the presentation will begin at 12:30 p.m. The price is $10 and includes drinks and dessert. All of the lunches are open to the community. Free parking is available in the GSPC parking lot on the corner of Government and Jackson streets on Tuesdays during the lunch hour.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29
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

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 May 8 and June 12. 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.

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.

Meals on Wheels: If you're interested in learning about our Meals on Wheels ministry, please contact Lisa deShazo at 251-591-1077.

Musicians: The Bell Choir and Sanctuary Choir currently have openings. The Bell Choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 5:15 to 5:45 p.m., and the Sanctuary Choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. For details, contact Chris Nemec at chris@gspcmobile.org.

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.