Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 19, 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 *Toccata on "Amazing Grace"*
J. Christopher Pardini

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem (abridged)*
J.A. Maunder

The Sanctuary Choir

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem, praise thy God, O Zion, praise the Lord!

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*From Psalm 23)*
The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me;
Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil. My cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

✠**HYMN 385** *All People That on Earth Do Dwell (Psalm 100)*
OLD HUNDREDTH

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)
Holy Lord,
You open the door to abundant life for all people. Forgive us when we act as gatekeepers, excluding those we do not deem worthy of grace. Help us to accept the good news you offer: that the pathway to a full and abundant life is to follow your example and welcome all your children. Hear our silent prayers.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, O Lord. May our gratitude for your grace overwhelm any inclination we have to hoard the good news we know in Jesus Christ. It is through him 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.*

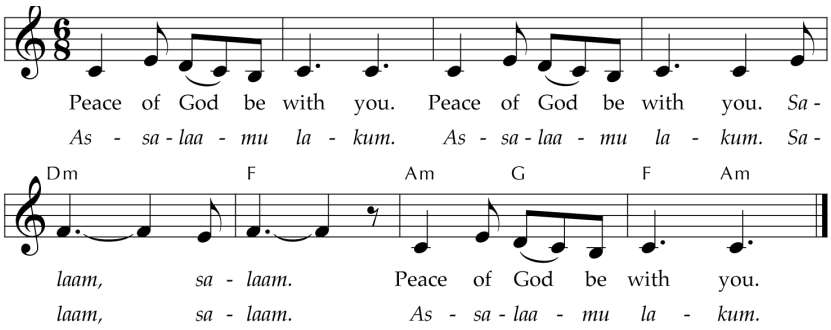
***Wee Worship sign-in slips** are available next to the bulletins at the front and back of the church as well as in the children's worship totes. Children may bring these filled out slips with them when they go to Wee Worship.*

***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 **Susan Ashbee**

Scripture Reading: Psalm 100

Children's Sermon **Bradley Daugherty**

Scripture Reading: Luke 10:1-10

Sermon: "I AM The Gate" **Rev. Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 460 *Break Thou the Bread of Life*
BREAD OF LIFE

✠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. Chris Nemec

Offering

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.*

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.

Offertory *God Is Our Refuge*
Allen Pote

The Sanctuary Choir

God is our refuge and strength; a present help in time of trouble. Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear. Come and behold the work of the Lord, the awesome acts of God. He is in the midst of his people, in all the earth. He is the Word, we are his hands, He will lead us. He is the air, we are his song. We will celebrate his presence all the day long. He is the rain, we are the stones, He will cleanse us. (Psalm 46)

✠**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**

Ordination and Installation of Officers

Statement on Ordination and Installation **Rev. Lamar**

Constitutional Questions to Officers
Questions to the Congregation

Do we, the members of the church, accept these members as ruling elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to pray for them, encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

We do.

Installation Prayer
Welcoming of New Officers

Prayer of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer

✠**Hymn 155** *Raise a Song of Gladness*
JUBILATE DEO

Sending

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

Postlude *Grand Choeur*
Cesar Franck

Sunday, January 26

Join us next Sunday, January 26, when Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar continues the sermon series titled "Know Who I AM," which will come from Jesus's "I AM" statements in the gospel of John. Next week's sermon will be from John 10:11-18 and titled "I AM the Good Shepherd." Music includes Carter Hale Jr. singing Albert Hay Malotte's "The Lord's Prayer" and the Sanctuary Choir singing Nicholas Brodsky's "I'll Walk With God."



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CHURCH STAFF

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Marilyn Mills
Arthur Lewis
Sexton(s)

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

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given
by the Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team
to the glory of God and in loving memory
of Martha Tissington, who died in 2024,
and all the other women of GSPC previously deceased.

Calendar of Events

MONDAY, JANUARY 20
Church office closed: The church office will be closed because of the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21
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 speakers Virginia Guy and Ashley Rich of the Drug Education Council. Lunch is $12 and includes dessert.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22
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.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26
Youth Paint Party: RSVP to Bradley if your Youth plans to attend. We will meet at Dreamland BBQ for lunch and walk next door to Round But Square Studios afterward for a paint party led by an instructor. $10 per youth to participate.

ADDITIONAL NEWS AND NOTES

Helping local schools: GSPC is collecting donations of outerwear and uniforms for students at Calloway-Smith Middle and Florence Howard Elementary Schools. This initiative is a partnership with The Fuse Project.

Cold-weather clothing drive: GSPC is collecting gently worn cold-weather clothing items for men, women and children, such as coats, sweaters, hats, gloves and scarves. Socks are a much-needed item for those in shelters. 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.

Sanctuary flowers: 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.

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.