Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, August 3, 2025 | 10:30 A.M.

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 with us 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.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — **CASI CALLAWAY**

PRELUDE — *Prelude in C (Well-Tempered Clavier, BWV 846)* J.S. Bach

Nancy Graham, ***guest pianist***

✠CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)* — **BLIGH JONES**

In the beginning was the Word,

And the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us.

Let us worship God together.

✠HYMN 664 — *Morning Has Broken* BUNESSAN

CALL TO CONFESSION

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Unison)*

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.

(Silence)

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what becomes for us a fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open us to a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the World. Amen.

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(Responsive)*

Hear and speak the Good News!

Hope does not disappoint us, for God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism.

Believe this Good News and give thanks. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

Alleluia, **Amen!**

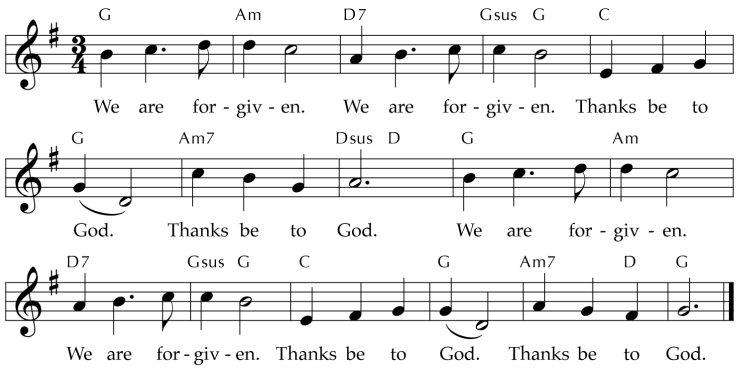
We pass the peace *by greeting one another and saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," to which one replies, "And also with you." The ancient ritual of the church reminds us that Christ offers us peace that passes understanding.*

Children ages three *and older are invited to the front for the Children's Sermon. Children ages 3 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.*

✠Response | Hymn 447 *We Are Forgiven*
WE ARE FORGIVEN



✠Passing of the Peace **Casi Callaway**

Proclaiming the Word

Sung Prayer for Illumination

✠Hymn 291 *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*
SPIRIT

Refrain, verse 1 and refrain

First Reading: Psalm 97 **Casi Callaway**

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon **Bradley Daugherty**
Wee Worship Leaders: Emily Watson and Beth Majure

Second Reading: Mark 8:27-29 **Rev. Robert E. Madsen**

Sermon: "If Jesus Is Lord" **Rev. Madsen**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 498 *Loaves Were Broken*
BEACH SPRING

Offering

Offertory *How Great Thou Art*
Stuart Hines

Jacob Mohr, ***tenor***

Text: No. 625 in The Hymnal

✠Response | Hymn 606 *Doxology*
OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God, above ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

When we gather for Communion, *the Spirit draws us into Christ's presence and unites us with Christians in every time and space. We join with the baptized faithful in heaven and on earth in offering thanksgiving to the triune God. We affirm the promises of our baptism and recommit ourselves to love and serve God, one another, and our neighbors in the world.*

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.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table — **Rev. Robert E. Madsen**

Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Breaking of the Bread
Communion of the People
Communion Meditation — *Santo, Santo, Santo*
Argentine Melody arr. Marty Haugen

Prayer After Communion

Sending

✠Hymn 435 — *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*
IN BABILONE

✠Benediction — **Rev. Madsen**

Postlude — *Shades Mountain*
K. Lee Scott

We welcome the Rev. Robert E. Madsen as our guest Pastor today. Bob is Regional Presbyter serving the Presbytery of South Alabama and the Presbytery of Mississippi. He and his wife, Linda, live in Saraland.

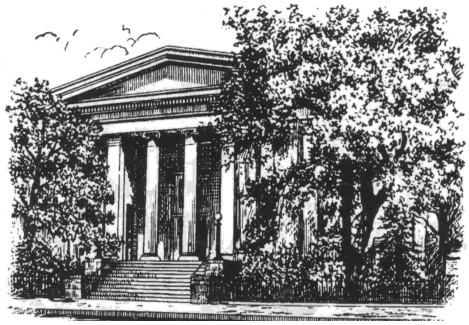
Sunday, August 10

Join us next Sunday, August 10, when the Rev. Anne H.K. Apple preaches on Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 and Luke 12:32-40 with a sermon titled "Waiting." Music includes soprano Gabrielle Mohr singing Luigi Zaninelli's setting of "His Eye Is on the Sparrow" and Alicia Ann Scott's "Think on Me."

Officer Nominations and Announcements

Please use the top QR code to access the Officer Nomination Form. To access the code, hold up your phone as if you were taking a photo and click on the small yellow box. You may make as many nominations as you like.

Please use the bottom QR code to access the Announcement Form. You may use this form to submit news for the newsletter or bulletin.



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
Sabbatical: June 16-September 15
rebekah@gspcmobile.org

Rev. Anne H.K. Apple
Temporary Pastor
anne@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 by John and Jessica Mostellar.

GSPC News

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3
Reception for Bradley Daugherty: The congregation is invited to a lemonade reception in the parlor after the service to thank Bradley Daugherty for her service to the church this past year, and to wish her well as she begins a new chapter.

NEWS AND NOTES

Call for Nominations: The congregation is invited to submit nominations for Elders and Deacons in the Class of 2028. Please use the QR code on page 3 of the bulletin to access the nomination form. You may make as many nominations as you like.

Call for Musicians: The Bell Choir and Sanctuary Choir currently have openings. The Bell Choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 5:15 to 5:45 p.m., starting September 3. The Sanctuary Choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m., starting August 13. For more information, please contact Chris Nemec at chris@gspcmobile.org.

Seeking a Driver for Meals on Wheels: A Meals on Wheels driver is needed for the Northern Route on Wednesdays. To volunteer, contact Lisa deShazo at 251-591-1077.

Back-to-School Uniform Drive: The congregation is invited to provide assistance to sutdents who need school uniforms. GSPC supports the uniform closet at Barton Academy. If you would like to assist these families, please submit a check to the church office, or through the offering, and put "Uniform Assistance" in the memo line.

Status Update on the Elevator: The elevator repair project has begun with Bagby Elevator Company. The funding was secured by the work of the Trustees and the Session. In addition, the Session is moving forward to install a chair lift so that the sanctuary is accessible while the elevator repairs are undertaken. If you need help when entering or exiting the sanctuary, please call the church office, or notify a staff member or a Sunday Assistant.

Bottle Drive: Do you have any extra water bottles? GSPC is collecting reusable water bottles to give out to those in need. Please bring your donations to the church office.

Seeking a 12-Step Program Host: The Mission Committee is searching for a volunteer with AA-12 step program history to host a new program at GSPC. This will be a weekly commitment. The committee will help with providing books and meeting space. If you have the knowledge and interest, please contact Neal Horner or Lynn McDaniel.

McKemie Place Lunches: Volunteers are needed to provide lunch to about 20-24 homeless ladies at McKemie Place. If you can help on August 8, September 11, or October 10, call Lisa deShazo at 251-591-1077 or Mary DeWitt Dukes at 504-920-1918.

GSPC Book Club: The Book Club will meet on August 26 at 5:30 p.m. in the library and via Zoom. The selection is "Fairhope, 1894–1954: The Story of a Single Tax Colony" by Paul and Blanche Alyea. RSVP to mwjohnston@crimson.ua.edu or 251-323-5954.

Flower Dedications: To place flowers in the Sanctuary in memory of or in honor of a loved one, 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.