*Welcome to Worship*

# GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, May 25, 2025 | 10:30 A.M.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

# *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** — **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

**PRELUDE** — *O God, Beyond All Praising (Op. 32, No. 4)*
THAXTED; Gustav Holst

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today, and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay; For we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end.

**INTROIT** — *Sanctus Canon*
Australian Folk Tune

**The Sanctuary Choir**

Translation: Holy Lord God. Amen.

## ✠CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)*

O God, you summon the day to dawn. You teach the morning to waken the earth.
**Great is your name. Great is your love.**
For you, the valleys sing for joy. The trees of the field shall clap their hands.
**Great is your majesty. Great is your love.**
For you, the monarchs of the earth shall bow. The poor and the persecuted shall shout for joy.
**Great is your power. Great is your love.**
Your love and mercy shall last forever, fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise.
**Great is your kindness. Great is your love.**
Let us worship God!

**✠HYMN 25** — *O Lord, Our God, How Excellent*
WINCHESTER OLD

*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 *(Unison)*

Almighty God,
We confess that we find ourselves tied to harmful habits and paralyzing patterns which cause us to fail to take the risks required to follow you in faith. We confess that we overlook the needs of your children and miss opportunities to offer compassion and care. Forgive us, Lord, and hear our silent prayers.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, Lord. Show us how to show compassion in your name and trust your leading in all we do. 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 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.*

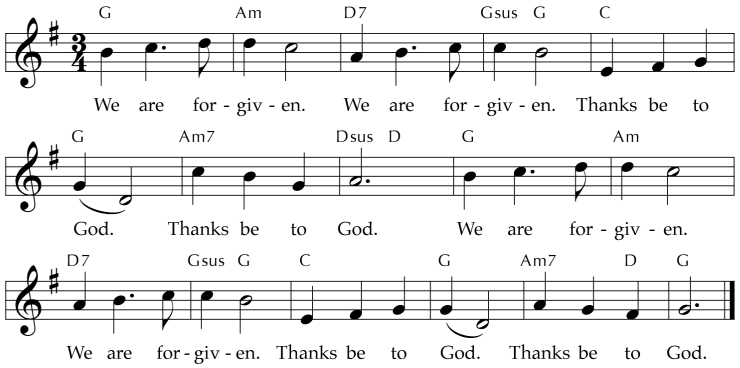
***Children's worship totes*** *are available for children in the sanctuary. These totes include children's bulletins and other items to help children engage in the worship service.*

**✠Assurance of Pardon**

**✠Passing of the Peace**

**✠Response | Hymn 634** *We Are Forgiven*

WE ARE FORGIVEN




## *Proclaiming the Word*

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Reading:** Psalm 67:1-7

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks Be to God!**

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

**Second Reading:** John 5:1-9

**Sermon:** "Take Up Your Mat and Walk" **Rev. Lamar**

## *Thanksgiving*

**✠Hymn 341** *O God, Show Mercy to Us*

THAXTED

**✠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** *Threefold Amen*
EUGENE BUTLER

**Offering**

**Offertory** *Dona Nobis Pacem*
Traditional; arr. Hal Hopson

**The Sanctuary Choir**
Translation: Grant us peace. Amen.

**✠Doxology | Hymn 609** *Doxology*
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!

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

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

***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.*

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.

## *Sending*

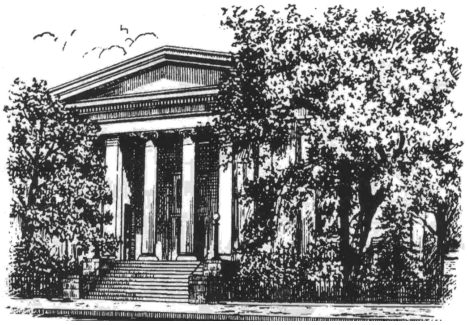
**✠Hymn 63** *The Lord Is God*
AZMON

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

**Postlude** *Marche Triomphale (Op. 65)*
Siegfried Karg-Elert

## *Sunday, June 1*

Join us on Sunday, June 1. The Rev. Eugenia Gamble will preach on Acts 9:36-43 and celebrate Communion. The Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar will be at the Montreat Youth Conference in Montreat, N.C., with the GSPC youth. Music includes Clifford McCormick's "If God Be For Us," a choral setting of "Blest Are They" from The Hymnal, and during Communion,"Priere" from Léon Boëllmann's "Suite Gothique."



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Marilyn Mills
Arthur Lewis
*Sexton(s)*

## Sanctuary Flowers

If you would like to place flowers in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please contact Ann Adams at Adams-marion@att.net or 251-591-8586.

# *Calendar of Events*

**TUESDAY, MAY 27**

**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.
**Youth Bible Study:** Tuesdays at 3 p.m. at Carpe Diem. All are welcome.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 28**

**Choir Rehearsal:** 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.

**ADDITIONAL NEWS AND NOTES**

**Vacation Bible School:** GSPC families and their friends are invited to sign up for Vacation Bible School, which will be June 8-12 from 5 to 7 p.m. This evening format will give our parents and volunteers more flexibility to participate. In addition to the VBS program, each evening will include dinner; programs for adults; and a nursery for our little ones. Please register by visiting gspcmobile.org/vbs.

**GSPC During World War II:** In honor of the 80th anniversary of World War II, Meredith Johnston is creating a display about GSPC's congregational life during wartime. She hopes to collect copies of photos of GSPC from that time, or photos of downtown Mobile during the war years, especially if they show any GSPC members. Also, if anyone wants to share information about the service of family members during WWII, she would like to collect those details to create a special "GSPC Members Who Served" section of the display. Those who have photos and information to share may email them to Meredith at mwjohnston@crimson.ua.edu, or text them to 251-323-5954. Meredith would love to have these remembrances before the first week of June.

**Online Directory:** GSPC members are encouraged to download the Realm app and use it to connect with the congregation. Those who did not already have a Realm account should have received an email invitation to create one. If you did not receive an invitation, please call the church office at 251-432-1749 for assistance.

## 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.