Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, September 3, 2023 | 10:30 A.M.

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Gathering

PRELUDE *Aria*

Robert Lau

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Jubilate Deo*

Michael Praetorius

The Sanctuary Choir

Translation: O be joyful in the Lord.

✠CALL TO WORSHIP

God is faithful and just. God's promises are true, and God's ways are righteous.

May we obey the commandments of God, by loving the Lord, walking in God's ways, observing the commandments we have been given.

God has shown us the choices before us: life and prosperity or death and adversity.

May our hearts never turn away; may our ears always hear; may we never be led astray.

God is gracious and has shown us the way to abundant life. Let us worship God.

✠HYMN 267 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

MADRID

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all goodness, we confess that our love for you can be fickle, our devotion inconsistent. We confess the we have turned away from your commandments, and failed to follow where you lead us. Forgive our wayward paths and draw us back to you. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

(silence)

Have mercy on us, O Lord. Meet us where we are and shape us into the people you created us to be, guiding us by your Holy Spirit. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠PASSING OF THE PEACE

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.*

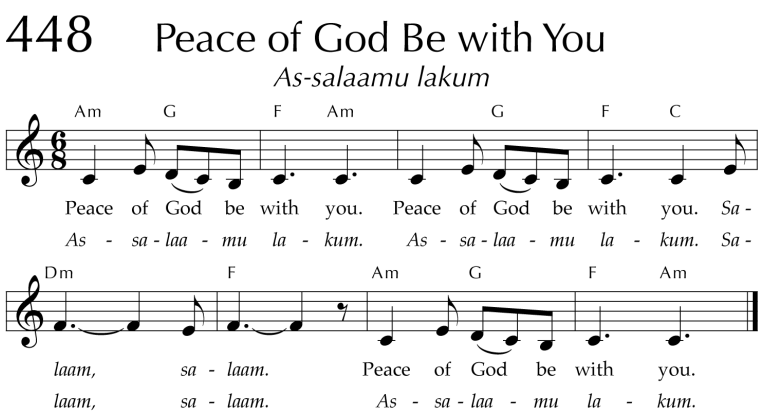
Please silence *all cellular devices for the duration of the service.*

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.*

✠Response: Hymn 448 *Peace of God Be with You*
AS-SALAAMU LAKUM



Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination **Buzzy Riis**

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

The nursery is available for ages infant through kindergarten.

Children's worship packets *are available at the front of the sanctuary.*

Scripture Reading: Psalm 105, 1-6

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

Scripture Reading: Romans 12: 9-21

Sermon: "Genuine Love" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 187 *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*
BRADBURY

✠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.

Offering

Offertory *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (BWV 147)*
J.S. Bach

The Sanctuary Choir

Jesu, joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, Love most bright. Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring, soar to uncreated light. Word of God, our flesh that fashioned, with the fire of life impassioned. Striving still to Truth unknown, soaring, dying, round Thy throne.

✠**Response | Hymn 607** *Doxology*

✠**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

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.*

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 *Lied (Opus 79, No. 6)*
Flor Peeters

Prayer After Communion

✠**Hymn 295** *Go to the World!*
SINE NOMINE

Sending

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

Postlude *Toccata Brevis*
Ovid Young

Sunday, September 10

Join us in worship next Sunday, September 10, as the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar begins her new sermon series, How Firm a Foundation, with "Beginnings," with scriptural references from Genesis 12: 1-9. Choral music includes two settings of the text "Dona Nobis Pacem" (Grant us peace), by 16th century composer Guilio Caccini, and the traditional canon setting, arranged 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

Heather Hamilton
Office Manager
heather@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 Heather Hamilton at heather@gspcmobile.org, or to Sally Ericson at sallyericson23@gmail.com.

Flower Dedications

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.

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 8 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams.

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Choir rehearsals: Handbells, 5:15-5:45 p.m.; choir, 6-7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Interfaith Bible Study: 5:30 to 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 806 Government Street. All are welcome.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Tuesday Lunch and Learn at GSPC: Mobile Mayor Sandy Stimpson will be the guest speaker at the first luncheon of this fall series. Lunch is served at noon and Mayor Stimpson will speak at 12:30 p.m. The cost is $12. All are welcome.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

PW Fall Gathering: 5:30 p.m. in the Guesnard House. Join us for Bible study and fellowship! If you are able, please bring food or a beverage to share.

ADDITIONAL NEWS AND NOTES

Sanctuary and Handbell Choirs: The GSPC choirs welcome all participants! If you've ever wanted to learn to play handbells, or if you love to lift a joyful voice in song, please email Chris Nemec, Director of Music and Organist, at chris@gspcmobile.org.

Attention, Parents! On September 10, the GSPC Children's Choir will resume rehearsals on Sundays from 9:30 to 9:45 a.m. For that first rehearsal, the children will meet in their regular Sunday School assembly room. Following, they will meet in the office of Chris Nemec (2nd floor at the Jackson St. stairwell). The dates for the children to sing are October 15 and December 24 (10:30 a.m.). To assure the children are well-prepared and effective leaders, each child must attend a minimum of three rehearsals in order to sing for Sunday worship. Questions? Contact Chris Nemec, 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.