GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, March 23, 2025 | 10:30 A.M.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

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.*

PRELUDE *Reflections on "Hyfrydol"*
Paul Manz

Nancy Smith, *guest organist*

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Christ, We Do All Adore Thee (Seven Last Words of Christ)*
Theodore Dubois

The Sanctuary Choir
Christ, we do all adore thee, and we do praise thee forever, for on the holy cross hast thou the world from sin redeemed. Christ, we do all adore thee.

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(from Philippians 3)* **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

In the season of Lent, we deepen our commitment to Christ.

We want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection.

We remember that our righteousness comes through Christ alone and seek to live a life worthy of this calling.

We want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection.

We gather to worship in Christ's name as we press on toward this goal.

We want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection.

With boldness,

with thanksgiving,

with humility,

with perseverance,

with peace,

and with compassion,

let us worship God!

✠**HYMN 263** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*
CORONATION

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* **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

Almighty God,
Out of your great love, you humbled yourself to take human form and live among us. Forgive us when we forget your sacrifice. Too often we let pride blind us to the suffering around us, refusing to identify with those in need as Jesus did for us. Forgive our arrogance and grant us the humility we need to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, Lord, and guide us in the steps of our Savior, in whose name 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.*

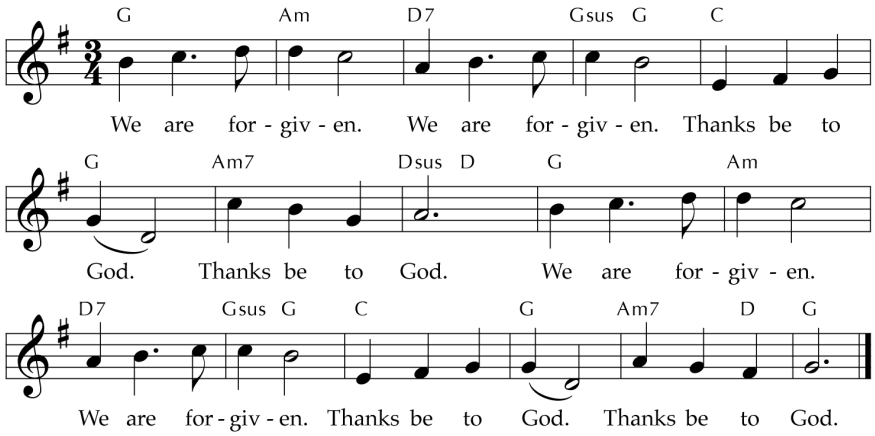
Children's worship totes *are available for children in the sanctuary. These totes include children's bulletins and other items to help children engage in the worship service.*

✠Assurance of Pardon

✠Passing of the Peace

✠Response | Hymn 447 *We Are Forgiven*

WE ARE FORGIVEN



Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination **Toby Lorge**

First Reading Psalm 25

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks Be to God!

Children's Sermon **Bradley Daugherty**

Second Reading: Philippians 1:27-2:16

Sermon: "Humility" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

✠Hymn 183 *Come to Me, O Weary Traveler*

AUSTIN

✠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.

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.

Offering

Offertory — *Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God*
Carl F. Mueller

The Sanctuary Choir

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of my salvation, and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee. Create in me a clean heart, O God! (Psalm 51:10-13)

✠Doxology | Hymn 606 — *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
OLD HUNDREDTH

✠Prayer Of Thanksgiving

Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

Sending

✠Hymn 363 — *Rejoice, the Lord is King!*
DARWALL'S 148TH

✠Benediction *(from Philippians 4)* — Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar and Congregation

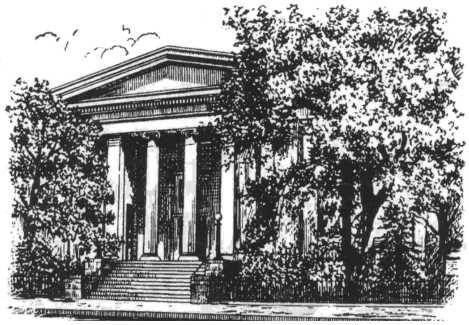
Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say: Rejoice!
Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Finally, whatever is true, whatever is honorable,
whatever is just, whatever is pure,
whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable,
if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise,
think about these things.

Postlude — *Darwall's Fantasia*
J.S. Dixon

Nancy Smith, *guest organist*

Sunday, March 30

Join us next Sunday, March 30, when the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar continues the Lenten sermon series "Marks of a Disciple" with a sermon titled "Perseverance" and Scripture references from Philippians 3:1b-16. Music includes Geoffrey O'Hara's setting of the Lenten poem "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked" and a powerful setting of the text "Behold the Lamb" by Rambo/ Clydesdale.



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CHURCH STAFF

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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 Cecile Howard Taylor Gardner
and Charles Bancroft Taylor
by their family.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, MARCH 23
Progressive Lunch and Scavenger Hunt: Immediately after the worship service, the GSPC Youth will go on a progressive lunch and scavenger hunt downtown with their Friends in Faith and Confirmation Mentors.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25
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: The final Lunch and Learn of the spring session will feature Mobile Fire Chief Johnny Morris as guest speaker. Lunch is served at noon and the presentation begins at 12:30 p.m. The lunch costs $12 and includes drinks and dessert.
Youth Bible Study: Tuesdays at 3 p.m. at Carpe Diem. The group is studying "The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss." All are welcome.
GSPC Book Club: 5:30 p.m. in the GSPC Library. We will discuss GSPC cookbooks that have been published over the years. This will provide an opportunity for commentary and reminiscing about GSPC recipes, going back to the late nineteenth century. We will also take a look at other locally published cookbooks. Everyone is encouraged to try a recipe from a GSPC cookbook and bring it to share with the group. A virtual option is also available; to learn more or to RSVP, please contact Meredith Johnston at mwjohnston@crimson.ua.edu.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26
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.

OTHER NEWS AND NOTES
Eggs for Easter Egg Hunt: We are now accepting filled Easter eggs for the annual Easter Egg Hunt that will be held on April 19. Suggestions for filling the eggs include non-choking hazard candies, stickers, and small toys. Eggs may be left in the labeled basket in the foyer. Please contact Bradley with any questions.

ADDITIONAL NEWS AND NOTES

Helping local schools: GSPC is collecting donations for outerwear and uniforms for students at Calloway-Smith Middle and Florence Howard Elementary Schools.

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.