

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.*

The call to worship *is based on 1 Corinthians 2:1-16.*

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 5, 2023 | 10:30 A.M.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Gathering

PRELUDE *Nearer, My God, To Thee*
Arr. Diane Bish

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

✠CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in worship, setting our eyes on Christ.

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no human heart has conceived what God has prepared for those who love the Lord.

God is revealed through the Spirit, who searches everything, even the very depths of God.

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no human heart has conceived what God has prepared for those who love the Lord.

With instruction of God's spirit, we have learned what is beyond our human understanding, seeking to know the mind of Christ.

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no human heart has conceived what God has prepared for those who love the Lord.

May our hearts be opened to the Spirit of our Lord as we worship God together.

✠HYMN 611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*
HYMN TO JOY

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and mercy,

You have given us the mind of Christ, and yet we squander this precious gift. You gave your life for us, and we hide our light, refusing to share the good news we know through you. We make excuses and allow fear rather than gratitude to direct our actions. Forgive us, Lord, and hear our silent prayers of confession.

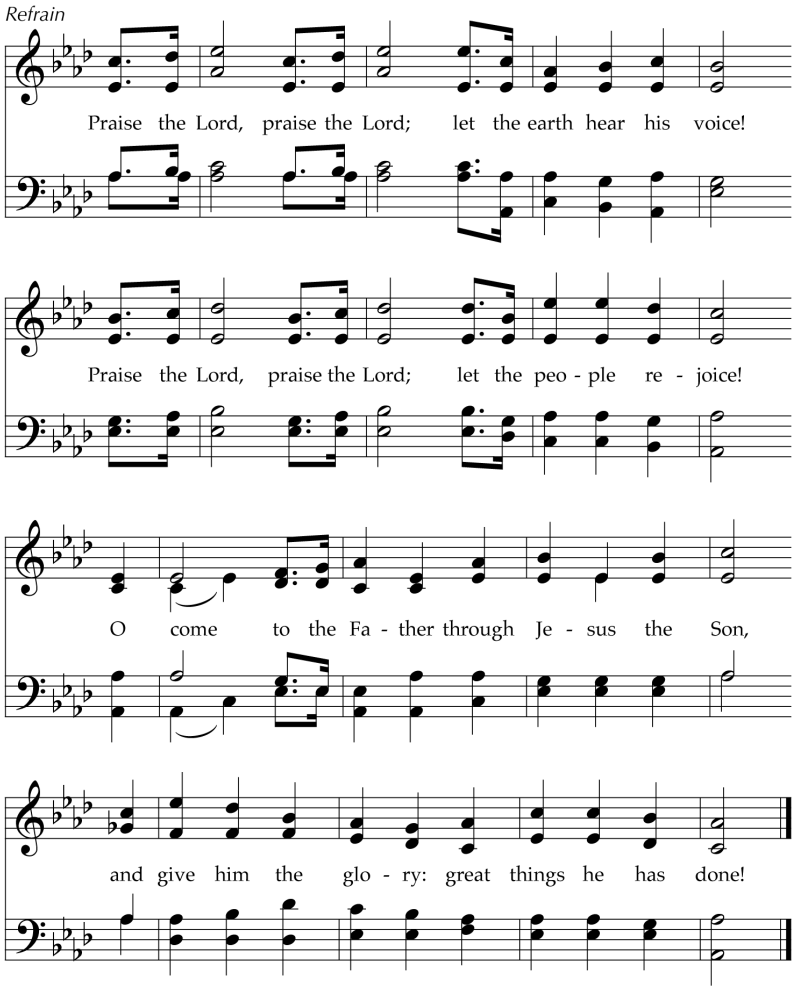
(silence)

Give us strength to share the grace we have been given, shining brightly for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

✠Assurance of Pardon

✠Response | Hymn 634 *To God Be the Glory (refrain)*

TO GOD BE THE GLORY



Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination **Travis Goodloe**

Scripture Reading: **Psalm 112: 1-9**

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

Children's Sermon **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5: 13-20

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

Sermon: "Salt and Light" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Children ages three *and older are invited to the front for the Children's Sermon. Children ages three through kindergarten may leave with volunteers for Wee Worship for the remainder of the service. The sign-in sheet for parents of Wee Worship children is on the front row.*

The nursery is available for ages infant through kindergarten.

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

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 629 *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*
ST AGNES

✠Affirmation of Faith **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

The Apostles' Creed *is a concise summary of the Apostles' teachings. It originated as a baptismal confession, probably in the second century, and developed into its present form by the sixth or seventh century.*

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*
Marty Haugen

Offering

Offertory *The Majesty and Glory of Your Name*
The Sanctuary Choir Tom Fettke

(Based on Psalm 8)
When I gaze into the night skies and see the work of your fingers; the moon and stars suspended in space. Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him? You have given man a crown of glory and honor, and have made him a little lower than the angels. You have put him in charge of all creation: The beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea. O Lord, our God, the majesty and glory of your name transcends the earth and fills the heavens. O Lord, our God, little children praise you perfectly, and so would we. Alleluia.

✠Response | Hymn 607 *Doxology*
OLD HUNDREDTH

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

We welcome the following children to the table today *who have completed the Children at the Lord's Table Communion Workshop with their friends who completed the workshop last year: Shepard Oliver, Preston Reeder and Ava Stinson.*

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

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

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer — **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

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.

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Communion Meditation — *Sicilienne (Opus 78)*
Gabriel Fauré

Prayer After Communion — **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Sending

✠Hymn 761 — *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*
BEECHER

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

Postlude — *Sortie*
César Frank

Scripture Readings

Psalm 112: 1-9

1 Praise the Lord!
Happy are those who fear the Lord,
who greatly delight in his commandments.
2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
3 Wealth and riches are in their houses,
and their righteousness endures for ever.
4 They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.
5 It is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice.
6 For the righteous will never be moved;
they will be remembered for ever.
7 They are not afraid of evil tidings;
their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.
8 Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid;
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.
9 They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endures for ever;
their horn is exalted in honor.

Matthew 5: 13-20

13 "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

14 "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. 18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

February Birthdays

February 4: Jada Pharr

February 6: Shelley Springer

February 7: John Moses

February 8: John Connor Peebles

February 9: Sumner Adams, Hunter Ray, Zach Weaver

February 10: Sarah Catherine King

February 11: Frank Bryant, Edward Otts

February 12: Bill Cutts

February 13: Henry Morrissette

February 14: Gary Curran

February 16: Binky Oswalt, Sandy Thomason

February 17: Mary Ella Northrop, Ashley Trice

February 18: Louise Hutchison, Rebecca Markle

February 19: Coleman Oswalt, Joseph Oswalt

February 20: Nicole Riis

February 21: Kate Gardner, Carolyn Gates, Brian Naylor

February 22: Liz Helmsing, James Heusser

February 23: John Ashbee, Lee Otts

February 24: Ted Northrop

February 25: Guy Etherton

February 26: Wesley Wyatt

February 27: Ellen Jackson, Scott Markle, Margaret Otts

February 28: Gaby Gray, Lavinia Harris

February 29: Ellen Trice

GSPC News



Christian Sympathy: The congregation extends Christian sympathy to the family of Wanda Counts Lawrence, who died on January 23. A service in celebration of her life was held at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church at 11 a.m. on Saturday, February 4. Wanda and her husband, Ralph, were longtime members of GSPC. In addition to her husband, Wanda is survived by her children, Wendy (James), Scott (Laura), and Lewis (Laila), and seven grandchildren.

Sunday Assistants Needed: The Diaconate is seeking volunteers to help fill the Sunday Assistant slots each week. If you are willing to be added to a list of possible substitutes, please email Diaconate Chair Lisa Goodloe at lgoodloe@comcast.net. This list of substitutes will be a resource for the Deacons to use in the event of a scheduling conflict. Thank you!

Mardi Gras Parade and Dinner: Families are invited to come to GSPC on Sunday, February 12, to watch the Neptune's Daughters parade. Dinner in Fellowship Hall begins at 5:30 p.m., and the parade begins at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP to the Rev. Alexandra Hutson.

Mardi Gras Reminders: On Sunday, February 19 (Joe Cain Day), the worship service will begin at 9:30 a.m. and there will be no Sunday School. The church office will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, February 20-21, for the Lundi and Mardi Gras holidays.

Family Nature Walk: The Family Nature Walk has been rescheduled to February 26. Join us after church for a visit to Village Point Park in Daphne. Walkers will meet in Fellowship Hall for lunch after worship, then drive to the park for our hike. Please RSVP to Sally Ericson at sallyericson23@gmail.com.

Lunch and Learn: N. Blair Fisher, Head of School at St. Paul's Episcopal School, will present a talk on "Science and Religion" on Sunday, March 5, in Fellowship Hall, immediately following the worship service. Please RSVP to Heather Hamilton at Heather@gspcmobile.org if you plan to attend.

Church Officers

SESSION

Class of 2023

Susan Ashbee, Casi Callaway, Lisa deShazo, John Moses, Henry Morrissette, Bo Perry

Class of 2024

Bobby Headrick, Charles Jones, Mary Herndon Nordmann, Katherine Ogburn, Dick Otts, Beth Rouse

Class of 2025

Eddy Hawkins, Margaret Vidmer Hutchison, George Irvine, Harris Oswalt, Nicole Riis, Duke Walker

Clerk of Session: Henry Morrissette

DIACONATE

Class of 2023

Damon Boone, Jane Hale, Ashley Oswalt, Harris Oswalt Jr., Leigh Schottgen, LeAnne Tamblyn

Class of 2024

Ashley Ashbee, Stella Jackson, Ashford Kettler, Richard Otts, Jasper Reaves

Class of 2025

Clint Akers, Lisa Goodloe, Dr. Meg Heusser, Corinne Lorge, Lynn McDaniel, William Peebles

Chair of the Diaconate: Lisa Goodloe

Urban Ministry

JELLY AND SNACKS FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

Our 45 Meals on Wheels recipients get a sandwich bag each day along with their hot meal. The bag has a sandwich and a snack. Peanut butter and jelly is often on the menu and we are in need of donations of creamy peanut butter and grape jelly and individually packaged snacks (peanut butter or cheese crackers, chips, cookies, Little Debbies, etc.). There is a donation box in the Jackson Street Foyer for these donations.

BLANKET MINISTRY

All are invited to donate items to be delivered to USA Children's & Women's Mother/Baby/At Risk department for full term babies of needy families (not the NICU) and to the Mostellar Clinic.
Here are suggested items and sizes:

- Baby blankets (greatest need) approx. 28-40" square or rectangles 30-34" by 40-46" (these are only approximations)
- A few hats and booties
- (USACW only): No-scratch mittens (must be fabric, not yarn)

Inexpensive items of any baby-appropriate washable fabric or yarn are appreciated. No large items, please: The babies we serve usually average 3-5 lbs. Store-bought or handmade items are welcomed. (Please do not donate unmade fabric.)
Donations may be left on any day in the "Baby Box" at the Jackson Street Foyer. You may also ship hand-made items or online orders to the church, in care of "Blanket Ministry." For more information, please contact Charlotte Naylor at kf4rpb@bellsouth.net or 251-473-6985.

MCKEMIE PLACE

GSPC has agreed to provide lunch for up to 45 residents at McKemie Place on the second Friday of each month. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered for this mission over the last year. We are in need of volunteers to provide, prepare, and serve lunches on February 10 and March 10, 2023. If you can help with this mission on either of these dates, please contact Lisa deShazo at 251-591-1077.

COLD-WEATHER CLOTHING DONATIONS

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.



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Member PC (USA)

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar
Pastor & Head of Staff
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Barbara Williams
Property Manager & Hostess
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Sally Ericson
Communications
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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.

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mabel and Bestor Ward by their family.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Sunday Book Study Group: Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the library. Dr. Susan Ashbee is leading the Interpretation Bible Series "Romans."

Talking Heads Sunday School class: This class meets on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Heltzel Room on the second floor.

Sunday School for children and youth: These classes meet at 9:30 a.m.

Wee Worship: Sundays at 10:45 a.m. for ages 3 to kindergarten.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

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, FEBRUARY 8

Men's Bible Study: Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Library. Contact: Bo Perry.

Handbell Choir Rehearsal: 5:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: 6 p.m. in the Choir Room.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Mardi Gras Parade and Dinner: 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Circle of Joy: 5:30 p.m. in the Guesnard House.

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.