GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, July 30, 2023 | 10:30 A.M.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF 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.*

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.*

PRELUDE *Sarabande*
Arcangelo Corelli

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *I Need Thee Every Hour*
arr. John Ness Beck

Jasaan Roberts, *baritone*

I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord: No tender voice like Thine can peace afford. I need Thee, O I need Thee: every hour I need Thee! O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.

✠CALL TO WORSHIP

In the stillness of this hour, quiet our hearts to know that you are God, Lord of all.

In the stillness of this hour, take the burdens that distract us from you.

In the stillness of this hour, send your peace to hold our anxieties and fears.

In the stillness of this hour, open our minds to the good news of your word.

In the stillness of this hour, free our will so that we may follow you.

In the stillness of this hour, may we bring our very best to the Lord.

In the stillness of this hour, let us worship God.

✠HYMN 440 *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*
ABERYSTWYTH

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and mercy, we confess that we come into your presence unprepared to meet you. We are distracted and unfocused. We are concerned about things that do not matter, and we ignore what matters most to you. We are swayed to and fro by the whims of our broken world instead of anchoring ourselves to you, our rock and salvation. Forgive us, Lord, and hear our silent prayers of confession.

(silence)

Have mercy on us, and tether us to the truth of your abundant grace and your holy will. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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.*

The nursery is available for ages infant through kindergarten.

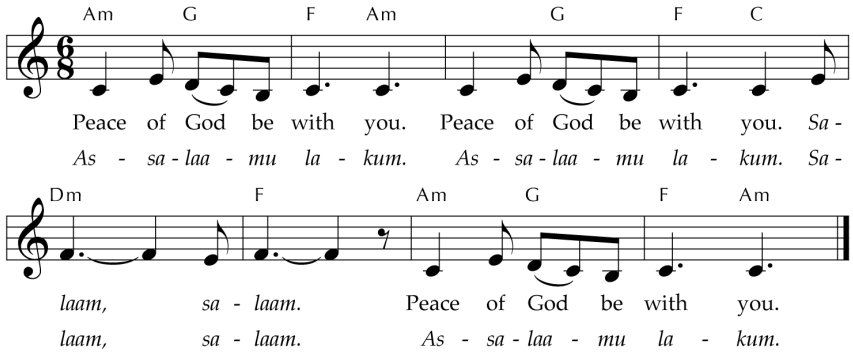
Children's worship packets *are available at the front of the sanctuary.*

The Brief Statement of Faith *was written in the 1980s when the Presbyterian Church (USA) was formed by the reunion of the northern and southern strands of Presbyterianism that divided before the Civil War. The statement offers one of the fullest descriptions of the Holy Spirit found in our denomination's Book of Confessions, emphasizing the Spirit's work in our present-day world.*

✠Passing of the Peace

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

448 Peace of God Be with You
As-salaamu lakum



Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination **Anisha Hall-Hoppe**

Scripture Reading: Psalm 51: 1-12

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

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 6: 10-20

Sermon: "Sailboat Church: Preparation" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 169 *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*
REST

Affirmation of Faith (From A Brief Statement of Faith)
Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Offering

Offertory *The Lord Is My Light (Psalm 27)*
Frances Allitsen

Mr. Roberts

The Lord is my light and my salvation, Whom, then, shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom then, shall I be afraid? Though an host of men were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid; And though there rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in Him. For, in the time of trouble, He shall hide me in His tabernacle, yea, in the secret places of His dwelling shall He hide me. And set me up upon a rock of stone.

✠Response | Hymn 607 *Doxology*

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of Intercession and 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.

✠Hymn 66 *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*
PENTECOST

Sending

✠Benediction **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude *Celebration!*
Phil Lehenbauer

The Rev. Alexandra Hutson is guest preaching at Swift Presbyterian Church in Foley this morning.

Sunday, August 6

Join us in worship next Sunday, August 6, as the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar continues her summer sermon series, "Sailboat Church: Prayer," with corresponding scripture of Psalm 113 and Matthew 6:5-13. Guest Organist Stephen Prager will be leading music with tenor Jacob Mohr, who will sing a setting of the spiritual "Give Me Jesus." We will also celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion.



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

Rev. Alexandra Hutson
Associate Pastor
alexandra@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.

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.

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1

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, AUGUST 2

Youth Service Opportunity: Meals on Wheels, 9-11 a.m. at GSPC.

MONDAY, AUGUST 7

Interfaith Bible Study: 5:30-7 p.m. at Springhill Avenue Temple. All are welcome.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9

Choir Rehearsals Resume: All interested singers are invited to the Sanctuary Choir rehearsals! The choir rehearses from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. The choir will return to Sunday Worship on August 13.

ADDITIONAL NEWS AND NOTES

Supper Clubs: Get to know GSPC members better by signing up to be a part of the Supper Clubs. Please call or leave a message with Blanche Parsons (251-348-7037) or Linda Reynolds (251-625-0305) by July 31 if you would like to participate as either a fulltime or substitute member.

August Birthdays

August 1: Mary Elizabeth Perry

August 2: Abigail Baxter

August 5: Mollie Moss Hartley

August 6: Vivi McKee

August 8: George Irvine

August 10: Bruce McGowin, Linda Reynolds

August 11: Sydney O'Malley, Evelyn Reeder, Michon Trent

August 12: Kasee Heisterhagen

August 13: Penelope Bickert, Wilder Bickert, Elizabeth Etherton, Missy Jones, Thomas Kramer

August 14: William Jameson

August 15: Ava Stinson

August 16: Gail Headrick, Ken Hutson, Jessica King

August 17: Katherine Ogburn

August 18: Sykes Ashbee, Sarah Catherine Otts

August 19: Babs Jacobelli, Anders Trice

August 20: Alexandra Hutson

August 23: Casi Callaway

August 26: John McLeod

August 27: Harris Oswalt

August 29: Emma Goodloe

August 31: Elizabeth Boone, Dorothy Morrison