Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, May 18, 2025 | 10:30 A.M.

FIFTH 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.*

PRELUDE *Now Winter Fades from Sight*
J.S. Bach

Now winter fades from sight, O shake off thy slumbers.
Look upward in the light, and sing in joyous numbers.
For death at last is dead, that day of power is over.
Love leads us in his stead, to life forever more.

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*
arr. Chris Nemec

The Handbell Choir

✠CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 148)*

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens!
Praise the Lord in the heights!
The angels of the heavenly hosts praise the Lord.
The sun and the moon and the shining stars praise the Lord!
They were created by the command of God. By God's word, they were established forever.
Every king of the earth, every prince and ruler of the nations, men and women, young and old together, let us praise the Lord!

✠HYMN 2 *Come, Thou Almighty King*
ITALIAN HYMN

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Unison)*

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.

Powerful and mysterious God,
Your ways are not our ways, and your thoughts are not our thoughts. Forgive us for the times we assume to know your will, for the times we do not listen for your voice leading us in new directions, for the times we ignore your call for the sake of our own comfort. For the times we presume to know your mysterious ways and are a hindrance to the sharing of your good news, forgive us. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, Lord. Do not let our presumption be an impediment to faith. Open our hearts to the holy way of our savior, Jesus Christ. 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. 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.*

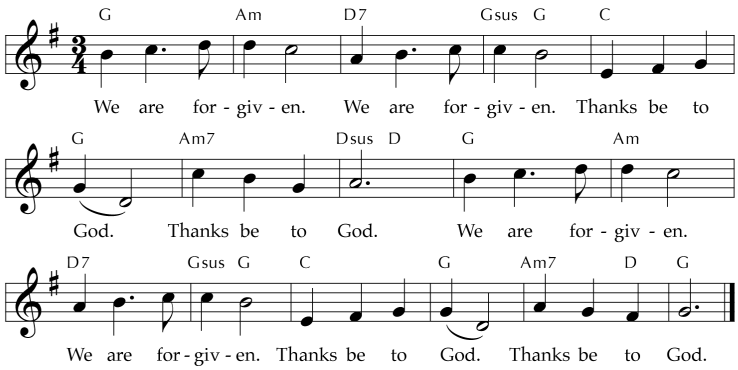
Wee Worship sign-in slips *are available next to the bulletins at the front and back of the church as well as in the children's worship totes. Children may bring these filled out slips with them when they go to Wee Worship.*

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.*

✠Passing of the Peace

✠Response | Hymn 634 *We Are Forgiven*

WE ARE FORGIVEN



Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination **Carter Hale**

First Reading: John 13:31-35

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

Children's Sermon **Bradley Daugherty**

Second Reading: Acts 11:1-18

Sermon: "Who Am I to Hinder God?" **Rev. Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 300 *We Are One in the Spirit*

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

✠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*
DANISH AMEN

Offering

Offertory *When I Survey*
HAMBURG; arr. Gilbert Martin

The Sanctuary Choir
Text: No. 223 in The Hymnal

✠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

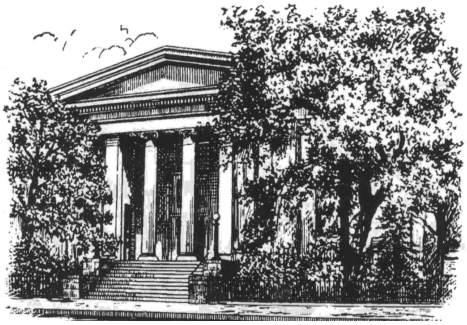
✠Hymn 645 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*
MIT FREUDEN ZART

✠Benediction **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude *Improvisation on "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"*
DIADEM

Sunday, May 25

Join us on Sunday, May 25, as the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar concludes her sermon series, "Miracles," with scripture from John 5:1-9 and a sermon titled "Take Your Mat and Walk." Music includes a setting of the well-known text and tune of "Dona Nobis Pacem" and a short canon of "Sanctus, Domine Deus" paired with an Australian folk tune.



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CHURCH STAFF

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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

SUNDAY, MAY 18

Ice Cream Party: The children are invited to an ice cream party after worship to mark the end of the Sunday School Year. Enjoy a light lunch, ice cream sundaes, and games and prizes!

TUESDAY, MAY 20

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.
GSPC Book Club: The GSPC Book Club will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the GSPC Library and via Zoom. Our reading selection will be "Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy: A Righteous Gentile vs. The Third Reich" by Eric Metaxas. Contact Meredith Johnston for more information.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

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 9-12 from 5 to 7 p.m. This evening format will give our parents and volunteers more flexibility to participate. Please register by visiting gspcmobile.org/vbs.

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.