



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.

Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, May 5, 2024 | 10:30 A.M.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Gathering

PRELUDE

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Cantata 147)

J.S. Bach

The Strings and Organ

WELCOME

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

INTROIT

Make a Joyful Noise

Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber

The Sanctuary Choir

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord for he has done marvelous things. And his holy arm hath gotten him the victory. He hath remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. O, make a joyful noise unto the Lord all the earth. Make a joyful noise, rejoice and sing his praise. Sing unto the Lord with the harp and the voice of a psalm. With trumpets and sound of cornet, make a joyful noise before the Lord, the King! (from Psalm 98)

✠CALL TO WORSHIP (from John 15)

Jesus said, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love."

Jesus said, "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love."

Jesus said these things to you so that his joy may be in us, and our joy may be complete.

May we love one another as Christ has loved us.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

Jesus calls us friends and has laid down his life for us.

Christ gives us these commands so that we may love one another. Let us worship God!

✠HYMN 54

Make a Joyful Noise to God

DIX

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of grace and mercy,
You have shown us how to follow you, but we disregard your instruction, disobey your commands, and ignore your example. We are quick to notice the disobedience of others while making excuses for our own failures. We want to be more faithful and ask for your forgiveness. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, O God. Help us to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, following his commands and living as he showed us. Through Christ, 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.

For more than 1,000 years, the church has used the Apostles’ Creed to affirm its faith in Jesus Christ. When we say this creed together, we are joined with generations of Christians who have come before us in declaring foundational doctrines of our faith in Christ.

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠PASSING OF THE PEACE

✠RESPONSE | HYMN 581

Glory Be to the Father
GLORIA PATRI

Proclaiming the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

DEWEY PARSONS

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 98:1-9

CHILDREN’S SERMON

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 John 5:1-6

SERMON: “Christian Obedience”

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

Thanksgiving

✠HYMN 45

I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes
DUNDEE

✠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

Amen!
Haugen; arr. Chris Nemec

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Psalm 150
César Franck

The Sanctuary Choir and Strings

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.

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.

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.

✠RESPONSE | HYMN 609

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!

✠PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

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

Panis Angelicus (The Bread of Angels)

César Franck

Cantilena

Everett Titcomb

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

✠HYMN 175

Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

Sending

✠BENEDICTION

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

POSTLUDE

Sinfonia (Solomon)

G.F. Handel

We welcome our guest violinists to our worship this morning, Silvia Suarez and Jim Lichtenberger. Today's Introit was composed by Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber for the May 6, 2023 coronation of King Charles III at London's Westminster Abbey. César Franck composed this morning's setting of Psalm 150 (1883) for choir, organ and orchestra, as well as his most well-known composition, "Panis Angelicus" (1872.) Franck wrote both of these while serving as the organist at Paris' Basilica of Saint-Clotilde, a post he held for nearly 31 years.

Sunday, May 12

Next Sunday, May 12, Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar will continue her sermon series, "Living as Children of God," with scripture readings from Psalm 1:1-6 and I John 5:9-13. Music includes the Bell Choir playing a setting of "O Waly Waly," also known as "The Gift of Love," "The Water is Wide," "Litany for Advent" and others. Choral music includes Douglas Wagner's "Cry Out and Shout!"



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Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of
Mr. and Mrs. John Elliott Moses
and Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Paul Linhart
by Marilyn and John Moses.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, MAY 5

Congregational Luncheon: There will be a luncheon in Fellowship Hall immediately following worship today. We'll hear a report from the Thriving Congregations Team.

TUESDAY, MAY 7

Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 8 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams. The group is studying Romans.

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

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

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

MONDAY, MAY 13

Spring Gathering: The Presbyterian Women will have a Spring Gathering on May 13 at Guesnard House at 5:30 p.m. The Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar will lead the Bible study. If you are able, please bring a snack or beverage to share.

SUNDAY, MAY 19

Youth Sunday: This service will be led by our youth and will celebrate our graduating seniors. Parents of seniors are asked to email their photos and a brief biography to Sally Ericson for inclusion in the bulletin.

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.