Welcome to Worship

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, November 10, 2024 | 10:30 A.M.

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 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 *Aria*
Nicholas Bowden

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Sounds of Joy*
Susan E. Geschke

The Handbell Choir

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*from Hebrews 1)*
For centuries, God has spoken to God's people in many and various ways through the prophets.
More recently, he spoke to us through his Son.
Through his Son, God created the world in the beginning , and it will all belong to the Son at the end.
He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word.
After Jesus died for our sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.
He is superior to angels and all the angels worship him.
Let us join with the angels of heaven as we worship God.

✠**HYMN 1** *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty*
NICAEA

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*)
Holy God,

You have given us the gift of your Son to guide our life of faith. Forgive us for the times when we do not follow his example. For the times when we ignore our call to follow you and follow our selfish desires instead, we ask for your mercy. For the days when we forget that you have gifted us with a great community of believers to encourage us on our way, we beg your pardon. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, Lord. Heal our brokenness and bind us to our Savior, so that in all things we may glorify the name of 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.*

✠**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

✠**RESPONSE | HYMN 581** *Glory Be to the Father*
GLORIA PATRI

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.*

New 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.*

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.*

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer For Illumination — **Blair Etherton**

Scripture Reading: Psalm 33:12-22

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

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 11:1-12:2 (selected verses)

Sermon: "Cloud of Witnesses" — **Rev. Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 702 — *Christ Be Beside Me*
BUNESSAN

✠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 — *Thanks be to God, Alleluia!*
Swahili folk song; arr. Chris Nemec

Offering

Offertory — *Wade in the Water*
Spiritual; arr. Mark Hayes

The Sanctuary Choir

Wade in the water, children, God's gonna trouble the water. Down in the valley, down on my knees, askin' my lord to save me please. Up on the mountain, Jehovah he spoke, out of his mouth came fire and smoke. I heard a rumblin' up in the sky, must-a been Jesus passin' by. You gotta wade in the water, children, God's gonna trouble the water.

✠Response | Hymn 606 — *Doxology*
OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host; Praise, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. 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.*

✠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 612 *We Praise You, O God*
KREMSER

Sending

✠Benediction **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude *Rigaudon*
André Campra

This week's memory verse:
Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
Hebrews 11:1

Sunday, November 17

Join us next Sunday, November 17, as the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar continues the "How Firm a Foundation" sermon series with a sermon titled "Faith and Works" based on scripture from James 2:14-26. Music includes John Rutter's "Go Forth Into the World in Peace," and cellist Dr. Andrea Beltran Landers will be playing music by Richard Strauss (Allerseelen - All Souls Day) and the Prelude and Gigue from J.S. Bach's Cello Suite No. 3 (BWV 1009).

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.



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CHURCH STAFF

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Submit items for the bulletin and newsletter 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
Charlotte Eichold
by her daughter, Beth Eichold Walmsley.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10
Second Sunday Luncheon: The congregation is invited to a luncheon in Fellowship Hall today after the worship service. We will assemble our clean-up buckets for hurricane relief.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11
Circles of Hope and Joy: The Circles of Hope and Joy will meet in the Guesnard House at 5:30 p.m. for fellowship and Bible study. If you are able, please bring a snack or beverage to share.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12
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 as discussion leader. Everyone is welcome.
Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library. Contact: Mary Elizabeth Perry.
Tuesday Lunch and Learn: Come to lunch! Our guest speaker will be Owen Bailey, CEO of USA Health. Lunch is served at noon and the presentation begins at 12:30 p.m. The cost is $12. View the full schedule on gspc.org.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13
Mid-week Bible Study: Noon to 1 p.m. in the Library and via Zoom. This study is led by the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar.
Choir Rehearsals: Handbells, 5:15 to 5:45 p.m. in the sanctuary; Choir, 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the choir room. If you're interested in participating in GSPC's music ministries, please contact Chris Nemec.
Men's Bible Study: 6 p.m. in the Library and via Zoom. Contact: Bo Perry.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17
Special Guest: Rabbi Ed Boraz of Springhill Avenue Temple will lead a Sunday School class at 9:30 a.m. at GSPC.

Youth Friendsgiving: Youth and Friends in Faith are invited to a Friendsgiving lunch in the Guesnard House following worship. All who attend are asked to bring a dessert and/or side to share. Please RSVP to Bradley if you plan to attend.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19
Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, 6:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church: This service will be led by the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar, the Rev. Trey Doyle of First Baptist, and Rabbi Ed Boraz of Springhill Avenue Temple.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Volunteers Needed: Church office volunteers are needed on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers assist with monitoring the Jackson Street entrance and answering the phone. They may also assist with special projects. If you are able to volunteer, please contact Meredith Johnston at the church office.

Flower Dedications: 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.