

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.*

During the Passing of the Peace, please turn to your neighbors and say, "The peace of Christ be with you." Respond with, "And also with you," when others greet you. The Passing of the Peace is a Christian ritual in which we remind each other of the peace that we know only in Christ, the Prince of Peace, and which draws us together as disciples.

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 25, 2022 | 10:30 A.M.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Gathering

PRELUDE *O Come, All Ye Faithful*
Arr. Paul Fey

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

INTROIT *Sweet Little Jesus Boy*
Jacob Mohr, Tenor — Robert MacGimsey

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** *responsive*

We have heard good news of great joy!
To us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.
A child has been born. The angels sing. The shepherds proclaim the good news.
Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to all people!
Let us worship the Christ child on this Christmas Day!

✠**HYMN 143** *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*
REGENT SQUARE

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *unison*

Holy Incarnate God,
By the light of your goodness and mercy, we recognize that we have failed to see your true light. We have not loved you as we ought. We have not loved our neighbors as you taught. Our feet have not brought good news to the poor, nor have our voices defended the lowly and the downtrodden. We have not sung with the angels, not run to the manger with the shepherds. Hear our silent prayers of confession on this holy day.

(Silence)

Forgive us, Lord. Bind us with your holy honesty, so that we may more clearly see your will, and walk with sure steps into the way of wholeness and peace.
In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

✠**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

✠**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***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.*

✠Response | Hymn 132 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (Stanza 1)*
IN DULCI JUBILO

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination **Ashford Kettler**

First Reading Hebrews 1: 1-4

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks Be to God!

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

Second Reading John 1: 1-14

The Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks Be to God!

Sermon: "A Message for Christmas Day" **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 119 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*
MENDELSSOHN

✠Affirmation of Faith *unison*

(From Phillippians 2)
We believe in Christ Jesus, who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.

Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the father.

✠Response| Hymn 133 *O Come, Let Us Adore Him (refrain)*
ADESTE FIDELES

Offering

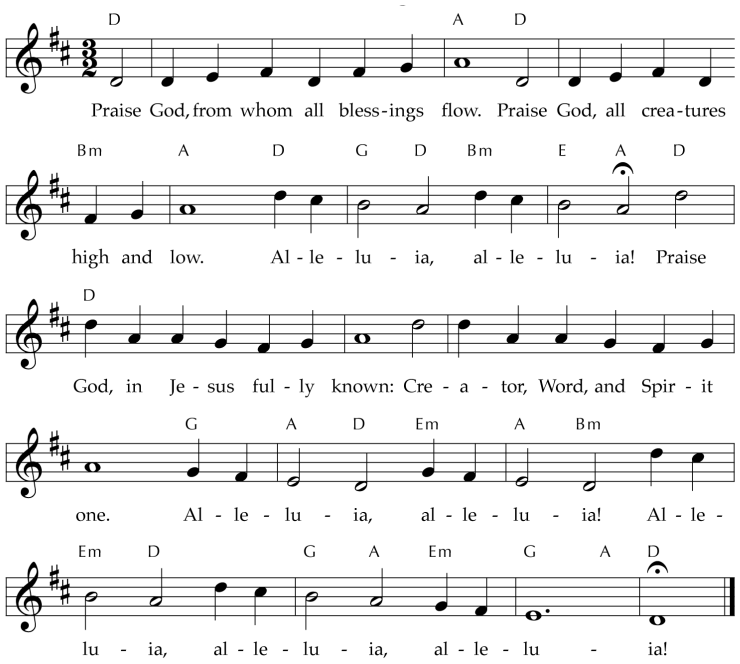
Offertory *Still, Still, Still*
The Sanctuary Choir Austria; arr. Mack Wilberg

Still, still, still. The child's eyes softly close. And Mary, breathless, draws Him weeping, to her heart made pure for keeping; Still, still, still. His bright eyes softly close.

Sing, sing, sing. He hears and sweetly smiles. And kneeling, Joseph joins in chorus, with the angels bending o'er us; Sing, sing, sing. He hears and sweetly smiles.

Sleep, sleep, sleep. He breathes a tender sigh. For soon he'll wake the world from slumber, bringing life and endless wonder;
Sleep, sleep, sleep. He breathes a tender sigh. Sleep, Holy Babe.

✠Response | Hymn 609 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
LASST UNS ERFREUEN



✠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.

Sending

✠Hymn 134 *Joy to the World*
ANTIOCH

✠Benediction **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude *Toccata on "Angels We Have Heard on High"*
arr. Anthony/Beard



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CHURCH STAFF

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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 Mr. and Mrs. Ervin S. Cooper by their family.

Calendar of Events

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

Worship at 10:30 a.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

Church Office closed.

Note: There are no Bible studies, choir or handbell rehearsals this week.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

Worship at 10:30 a.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 2

Church Office closed.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

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.

Choir Rehearsal: 6 p.m. in the choir room.

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.