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.*

The congregation of Government Street Presbyterian Church*, as the people of God called to worship and work in downtown Mobile, pursue our mission to use our unique resources and opportunities to love, to honor, and to glorify God and to give hope, comfort, instruction and inspiration to all persons that they may become joyful disciples of Jesus Christ. Government Street Presbyterian Church, founded in 1831, is a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and participates in the work of the Presbytery of South Alabama.*

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.*

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, October 4, 2026 | 10:30 A.M.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Gathering

Preparation for Worship

"The Christian is not one who has acquired a certain set of beliefs,
but one who has been caught up into a new relationship with Christ."

Henri J. M. Nouwen*, The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming (1992)*

PRELUDE *Hymn to the Sun*
Albert Travis

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

MINUTE FOR MISSION: *Stewardship* **KENDALL DEXTER**

INTROIT *Come to the Feast*
Hyan Kook

The Sanctuary Choir

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsive)* **GARY HEUSSER**

Christ is the vine, and we are the branches. In Christ, we bear fruit.
Together, we are the body of Christ in this place, bearing fruit for God's kingdom.
We serve Christ by seeking the welfare of the city where we have been planted.
As Jesus welcomed the children, so we welcome the young in Christ's name.
Connected to Christ,
Connected to one another,
Connected to our community,
Connected to our children and our youth,
We serve our risen Lord.
We are branches of one vine, members of one body, neighbors in one community, and children of one God.
Let us worship God!

✠**HYMN 509** *All Who Hunger, Gladly Gather*
HOLY MANNA

✠**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Unison)* **REV. LAMAR**

Holy God,
You invite us into relationship with Christ, but we often ignore your invitation. We claim to be disciples, but we do not follow in faith. We give our time and attention to lesser priorities. We confess that we have neglected the very things that are most important to you. Forgive us, Lord, for the ways we fall short, and hear our silent prayers of confession.

(Silence)

Have mercy on us, Lord. Connect us in ways that help us to bear fruit, and help us to be faithful in all we do. 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.*
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.

✠Assurance of Pardon
✠Passing of the Peace
✠Response | Hymn 447 *We Are Forgiven*
WE ARE FORGIVEN

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination **Gary Heusser**

First Reading: Psalm 1:1-6

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

Second Reading: John 15:1-11

Sermon: "Connected to Christ" **Rev. Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 498 *Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken*
BEACH SPRING

✠Affirmation Of Faith *(The Apostles' Creed)* **Vivi McKee**

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.

Offering
Offertory *Bread Of the World*
R. Shephard

The Sanctuary Choir

Bread of the world, in mercy broken, wine of the soul, in mercy shed. By whom the words of life were spoken, And in Whose death our sins are dead.Look on the heart by sorrow broken, look on the tears by sinners shed; And be thy feast to us the token, That by thy grace our souls are fed.

✠Doxology | Hymn 606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
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 of Thanksgiving **Vivi McKee**

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.

Visiting? Welcome to GSPC, *where we hope you'll find our worship meaningful, our fellowship warm and our ministry exciting. Come again! Be sure to sign the Registry booklet that you will find in your pew. If you are considering membership, we'd love to have you. You may join us through transfer of letter, re-affirmation of faith or profession of faith.*

Prayer requests: *Please scan the QR code below to share your joys and concerns so that we may share them with our church family in the newsletter*

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**
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
Comunion Meditation *Reflection on Spirituals*
J. Duchard

Prayer after Communion

Sending

✠Hymn 546 *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*
SICILIAN MARINERS

✠Benediction **Rev. Lamar**

Postlude *Fanfare on Monkland*
Albert Travis

Sunday, October 11

Join us next Sunday as the Rev. Lamar continues her sermon series, "Connected," with a sermon on J1 Corinthians 12:12-27, titled "Connected to Congregation." The music will include anthems from the Sanctuary Choir and well-known hymn tunes "Cvm Rhondda" and "Darwell's 148th."

Prayer Requests

Prayers for Suppport:

The congregation extends Christian sympathy to the family of Gary Curran, who died on September 21. A memorial service will be held at GSPC on October 15 at 11 a.m. Please keep her family in your prayers.

The congregation extends Christian sympathy to Barbara Williams and her family following the death of her son, Brandon Shute.

Prayers for Healing:

Shep Oliver and Mac Bennett are both recovering after appendectomies.

Sarah Hale, mother of Carter Hale, is at Palm Gardens Nursing Home on hospice care.

John Peebles requests continued prayers for his good friend, who is recovering from pancreatic surgery.

Charlotte Crockett is receiving medical treatment in Tuscaloosa.

Charlie and Stella Jackson request prayers for Edward Meacham, a family friend, who is recovering aafter a Fourth of July fireworks accident. Please pray for healing of his left eye and reduced pain.

Carter Hale, Jr., is recovering after being struck by a car while riding his scooter on August 3. He appreciates prayers for pain management and increased mobility.

Beth Morrissette requests prayers for a friend who has complicated and widespread cancer that was discovered late. She asks for prayers for her family, friends and treatment team.

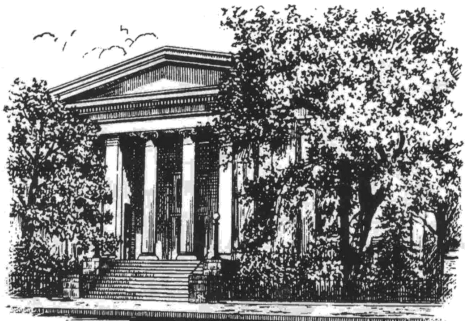
Prayers for Thanksgiving:

Nancy Graham is home recovering after a hospital stay.

Gene Glass, Susan Ashbee's brother-in-law, discovered his bile duct cancer is Stage 1 with no metastasis. He is regaining strength in rehab. Susan thanks the congregation for their prayers.

Prayers for Safety and Strength:

Lynn McDaniel requests prayers for Jay, Tullio, Erin, Tomaso, and Jacapu, that they will remain safe from the earthquakes in Italy.



300 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36602
251-432-1749 | gspcmobile.org
Member PC (USA)

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar
Pastor and Head of Staff
rebekah@gspcmobile.org

Nancy Smith
Director of Music and Organist
nancy@gspcmobile.org

Jennifer Glover
Operations and Communications Administrator
jennifer@gspcmobile.org

Dawn Hearn
Bookkeeper
dawn@gspcmobile.org

Barbara Williams
Property Manager and Hostess
barbara@gspcmobile.org

Willie Mae King
Director of Food Services
williemae@gspcmobile.org

Marilyn Mills
Arthur Lewis
Sexton(s)

Send news for the e-newsletter or bulletin to Jennifer Glover at jennifer@gspcmobile.org.

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given to the glory of God, and in celebration of and in gratitude for the marriage of E.B. and Geraldine Hill Peebles by their family.

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6
Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 9 a.m. at the home of Ann Adams.

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

Tuesday Lunch and Learn: Join us in Fellowship Hall with Tom McGehee, historian, who will tell us about the history of the Guesnard House. Lunch is served at noon and the presentation will begin at 12:30 p.m. The cost is $10 and includes drinks and dessert.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7
Wednesday Bible Study: Noon at the home of Beth Rouse. The text is "Encounters with Jesus/Studies in the Gospel of John" by Frances Gench. For information, contact Beth Rouse at bethmrouse@gmail.com.

Men's Bible Study: 6 p.m. in the church library. For information, contact Bo Perry at wbp@johnstoneadams.com.

Choir Rehearsals: Handbells, 5:30-6:25 p.m.; Sanctuary Choir, 6:30-8 p.m. All are welcome to join us and our new Director of Music and Organist, Nancy Smith.

NEWS AND NOTES

McKemie Place Lunches: Volunteers are needed to help provide a light lunch for about 20-24 homeless ladies at McKemie Place on the second Friday of each month. If you can help, please call Lisa deShazo at 251-591-1077 or Mary DeWitt Dukes at 504-920-1918.

Calling all cooks: The Congregational Care Committee is asking for volunteers to help prepare food for Memorial Receptions, Take Them A Meal, and other GSPC events. If you are interested in preparing food for our congregation, please call 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.

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.