

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.*

GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 8, 2023 | 10:30 A.M.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD
ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF DEACONS AND ELDERS

Gathering

PRELUDE *Cry Out and Shout*
Knut Nystedt

"Therefore, with joy, shall ye draw water from the wells of salvation."

WELCOME **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

✠CALL TO WORSHIP *responsive*

The voice of the Lord resounds upon the water.

The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.

The Son of God is named, "Beloved."

And all who worship him shout out, "Glory to God!"

The Lord is strong and majestic.

Let us worship God in spirit and truth.

✠HYMN 475 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
NETTLETON

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION *unison*

Gracious God,
We are precious in your sight, yet we often forget that we are your beloved. We confess that our love is fickle and inconstant. We follow selfish goals and deny that our way of life harms others and hurts your world. We are sorry and we want to change. Forgive us, Lord, and hear our silent prayers of confession.

(Silence)

Create in us a clear heart, strengthen our resolve, reconcile us one to another, and bless us with your peace. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠RESPONSE | HYMN 435 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (Stanza 1)*
IN BABILONE

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.*

Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination — **John Browning, Liturgist**

First Reading — Isaiah 42: 1-9

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks Be to God!

Children's Sermon — **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

Second Reading — Matthew 3: 13-17

The Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks Be to God!

Sermon — **"Let It Be So Now"** — **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Thanksgiving

✠Hymn 482 — *Baptized in Water*
BUNESSAN

✠Affirmation of Faith *unison* — **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

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 — *Alleluia*
Traditional; arr. Nemec

Offering — **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

Offertory — *Dona Nobis Pacem*
The Sanctuary Choir — Traditional; arr. Hal Hopson

Translation: Grant us Peace. Amen.

✠Response | Hymn 607 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
OLD HUNDREDTH

✠Prayer Of Thanksgiving

We pray for the following elders and deacons who will be ordained and/or installed today:

Elders:

Eddy Hawkins

George Irvine

Margaret Vidmer Hutchison

Harris Oswalt

Nicole Riis

Duke Walker

Deacons:

Clint Akers

Lisa Goodloe

Meg Heusser

Corinne Lorge

Lynn McDaniel

William Peebles

These officers were called by God and elected to by the congregation.

In the PC(USA), elders are called to rule and lead the church as members of the Session. Deacons are called to ministries of compassion and service.

Ordination and Installation of Officers

Statement on Ordination and Installation — **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Constitutional Questions to Officers — **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Questions to the Congregation — **Henry Morrissette**

Do we, the members of the church, accept these members as ruling elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to pray for them, encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

We do.

Ordination Prayer and Laying on of Hands — **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Welcoming of New Officers — **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table — **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer — **Rev. Alexandra Hutson**

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 — *"Adagio" (Third Symphony)*
Camille Saint-Saëns

Prayer After Communion — **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Sending

✠Hymn 757 — *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*
KINGSFOLD

✠Benediction — **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

Postlude — *"Rigaudon"*
André Campra



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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.

Calendar of Events

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

Circle of Joy, 5:30 p.m. at the Guesnard House.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

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.



The Staff of GSPC would like to thank the Congregation for their generous Love Gifts. Happy New Year!

MISSION TRIP: The GSPC World Missions Committee is planning a trip for June 11-June 18, 2023, with the Alliance for International Reforestation-Guatemala. AIR Guatemala, founded by Dr. Anne Hallum in 1993, today is recognized globally for its work in education and agroforestry, improving the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in the developing world and benefiting the environment. The Presbyterian Church USA supports AIR. The Rev. Ryan Jensen, the Former Associate Minister at GSPC from 2008-2012, now at Lawrenceville (Georgia) Pres., took a group on missions with AIR Guatemala in 2018, giving the experience a 5-star review. If you would like to join this mission trip, please contact Dr. Susan Ashbee as soon as possible at sashbee@aol.com or 251-680-3123.

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.