

***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.*

*Welcome to Worship*

# GOVERNMENT STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, March 29, 2026 | 10:30 A.M.

PALM SUNDAY

## *Preparation for Worship*

*"The last temptation is the greatest treason: To do the right deed for the wrong reason."*
**T. S. Eliot, "Murder in the Cathedral" (1935)**

**PRELUDE** *The Palms*
Jean Baptiste Fauré

**WELCOME** **REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

**INTROIT** *Hosanna to the Son*
Jody Lindh

**The Children's Choir**

Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Glory be to God on high. The people heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. Riding on a donkey's colt, he came, palm branches spread before him. The disciples didn't understand what was happening at first. But when Jesus, the King, was glorified, then they remembered: it had all been written.

✠**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsive)* **CASI CALLAWAY**

In the stories Jesus told, the ordinary becomes a view into the kingdom of God. They comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable. They invite us to see ourselves and our world more clearly.

**Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!**

The sounds of children singing ring in our ears and lift our hearts. Even as we know what this holy week will bring, we still feel the joy of the praises and the palms. We know the joy of God's presence even as the steps of our Lenten journey become shadowed by the cross.

**Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Each step takes us closer to the cross, but we walk with courage and faith. We open our hearts once again to the sacred story of Jesus' sacrificial love.

**Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Come with ears to hear and let us worship God.

✠**HYMN 196** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*
VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

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

Have mercy on us, O God. We know our sin is great. We are ashamed, and it is difficult to confess the errors of our ways. When we sin against our neighbor, condone injustice, and quarrel with one another, we sin against you and are in need of your mercy. Thank you for holding the confessions of our humbled and contrite hearts as we pray in silence.

(Silence)

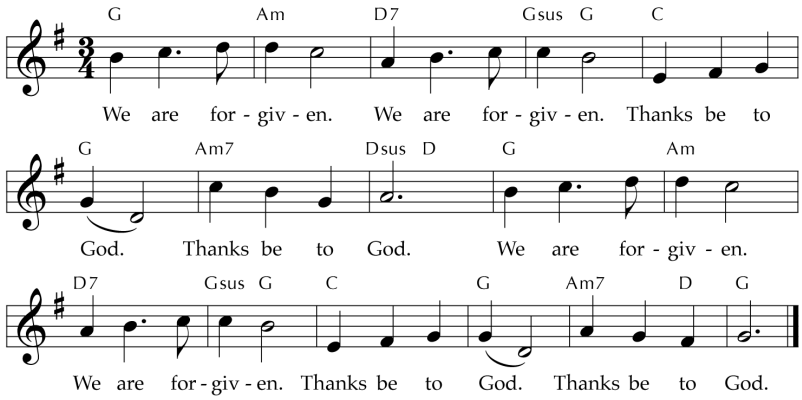
Forgive us, Lord. We shout, "Hosanna!" but our actions do not honor you. Give us courage to follow you to the cross and live as faithful disciples of our Lord and Savior, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***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.*

***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.*

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




# *Proclaiming the Word*

**Prayer for Illumination** **Katherine Browning**
**First Reading:** Psalm 118: 22, 28-29

The Word of the Lord.
**Thanks be to God.**

**Children's Sermon** **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**
Wee Worship leaders: Katherine Ogburn and Beth Majure

**Second Reading:** Matthew 21:33-46
**Sermon:** "Receiving: The Parable of the Tenants" **Rev. Lamar**

# *Thanksgiving*

**✠Hymn 93** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*
TRURO

**✠Affirmation of Faith** *(The Apostles' Creed)* **Casi Callaway**

**Choral Response** *Three-fold Amen*
Eugene Butler

**Offering**
**Offertory** *Hosanna, Hosanna*
Mitchell Covington

**The Sanctuary Choir**

Text: No. 197 in The Hymnal, with additional text: Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna to the King! Let sweet hosannas ring! Blessed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord!

**✠Response | 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 heavenly 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.*

***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 of Thanksgiving** **Casi Callaway**
**Prayer of Intercession**
**And The Lord's Prayer** **Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar**

## *Sending*

**✠Hymn 106** *Prepare the Way, O Zion*
BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN

**✠Benediction** **Rev. Lamar**
**Postlude** *Improvisation on "DIADEM"*
*(All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name)*

Lenten Questions for This Week

**Monday:** What character or object am I most drawn to in today's parable?
**Tuesday:** If I were making a video to depict this parable, what would it be like? What would I see and hear?
**Wednesday:** What questions does this parable raise for me? What doesn't it say that I would like to know?
**Thursday:** What is something I want to carry with me from this parable that will help me live in the way of Christ?
**Friday:** What is the good news in this parable that is worth sharing in my words or my actions?
**Saturday:** What is my prayer for this coming week of Lent?

## *Easter Sunday, April 5*

*On Easter Sunday, the Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar will preach about "Believing," with Scripture references from Matthew 28:1-15. Music includes John Rutter's "I Am the Resurrection and the Life" and two selections from the Easter portion of "Messiah," "Since By Man Came Death" and "Hallelujah Chorus." Joining the Sanctuary Choir will be strings and timpani, where they will play selections by Mozart, Schumann, Mascagni, Gounod and others.*

## *Easter Lily Dedications*

The Easter Lilies will be displayed on Easter Sunday, April 5, and may be collected after the service.

*Please turn this form in with the offering, or at the church office, by March 31. Please make checks payable to GSPC.*

*Given by:* _____

_____

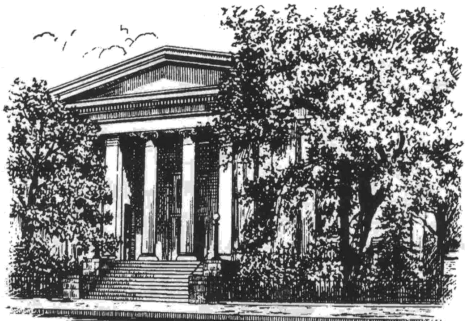
*In Memory of:* _____

_____

*In Honor of:* _____

_____

*Number of lilies ($13 each):* *Total:* _____



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## CHURCH STAFF

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Sally Ericson
*Communications*
sallyericson23@gmail.com

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 Sally Ericson at sallyericson23@gmail.com.*

### Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers on the pulpit are given to the glory of God by Linda Price, in appreciation of the GSPC congregation.

## *Calendar of Events*

**TUESDAY, MARCH 31**
**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:** Come to lunch! Our guest speaker is Aisha Davis, Executive Director of the Mobile Area Interfaith Conference. Lunch is served at noon, and the presentation will begin at 12:30 p.m. The price is $10 and includes drinks and dessert. All of the lunches are open to the community.

**WEDNESDAY, April 1**
**Music rehearsals:** Handbells, 5:15 p.m.; choir, 6 p.m.
**Men's Bible Study:** 6 p.m. in the Library. Contact: Bo Perry.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 2**
**Maundy Thursday Service:** 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 3**
**Good Friday Service:** Noon in the Sanctuary.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 4**
**Easter Egg Hunt:** 10 a.m. in Washington Square.

**NEWS AND NOTES**

**Eggs for Easter Egg Hunt:** The congregation is invited to bring filled Easter eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. The hunt will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 4, in Washington Square. The eggs can be filled with non-choking-hazard candies, stickers, and toys. Please drop off your eggs in the labeled basket in the Jackson Street foyer.

**McKemie Place:** Each month on the second Friday, volunteers provide a light lunch for about 24 residents at McKemie Place, a shelter for homeless women. Volunteers are needed on April 10. Please call Lisa DeShazo at 251-591-1077 or Mary DeWitt Dukes at 504-920-1918 if you are able to help with this mission at GSPC.

**Flower Dedications:** 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.

