



*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.*

*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, February 25, 2024 | 10:30 A.M.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

## Gathering

### PRELUDE

*Jesus Paid It All*

arr. Ovid Young

### WELCOME

**REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

### INTROIT

*Surely He Bore Our Grievs*

The Sanctuary Choir

David de Vidal

Surely He bore our griefs, surely He carried our sorrows. Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted. But He was bruised for our transgressions, and He was bruised for our iniquities. Upon Him was the chastisement that made Him whole and with His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned ev'ry one to his own way. And the Lord has laid upon Him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:4-6)

### ✠CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

**REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,

**the courageous and the fearful,**

the hungry and the hopeful,

**the impatient and the reserved.**

God welcomes the young and the old,

**the poets and the prophets,**

the faithful and the tired,

**the curious and the convicted.**

Wherever you are on your journey,

**wherever your boat is at sea, there is room for all to gather here.**

This is God's house.

**Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.**

### ✠HYMN 761

*Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

BEECHER

### ✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, there are days that threaten to swallow us, days when the storms of life feel too big. In those moments, we often fail to rely on you and your provision for us. We beg you to rescue us and fail to notice others who are in danger. Forgive us when we doubt your power and care. Forgive us when we do not reach out to aid those in need around us. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

(silence)

Lord, have mercy. Rescue us from the storms of today and from the fears that trap us. Give us the courage to see your will for us even in the storms of life. We pray in Christ's name. 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-K 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.*

*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.*

## ✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## ✠PASSING OF THE PEACE

### ✠RESPONSE: 475

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (Verse 1)*  
NETTLETON

Come, thou fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace.  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!

## *Proclaiming the Word*

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

DICK OTTS

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Psalm 22: 23-31

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Matthew 14: 22-23

**SERMON:** "Rescue Me"

REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

## *Thanksgiving*

### ✠HYMN 216

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*  
ST. CHRISTOPHER

✠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR

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

*Amen*  
Eugene Butler; arr. Nemec

### OFFERING

**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.*

**OFFERTORY**

*When I Survey*  
HAMBURG; arr. Gilbert Martin

**The Sanctuary Choir**

Text: The Hymnal, No. 223

**✠RESPONSE | HYMN 607**

*Doxology*  
OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**✠HYMN 215**

*What Wondrous Love is This*  
WONDROUS LOVE

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

*Sending*

**✠BENEDICTION**

**REV. REBEKAH ABEL LAMAR**

**POSTLUDE**

*Marche Sortie*  
Theodore Dubois

*Sunday, March 3*

Next Sunday, March 3, we will continue our "Wandering Heart" worship series. The Rev. Rebekah Abel Lamar will preach a sermon titled "Praise the Mount" from Psalm 19 and Matthew 16:13-20, and the congregation will celebrate holy communion. Mobile Symphony violinist Dr. Silvia Suarez will join our worship as she plays Jules Massenet's beloved "Meditation" (Thais) and Edward Elgar's "Salut d'Amour," and will join the Sanctuary Choir with a setting of "Peace I Give to You" and the "Lacrimosa" from W.A. Mozart's Requiem.

*The "Wandering Heart" Lenten series*

The "Young Worshippers Challenge" for our elementary-age worshippers can be found at the front of the sanctuary.

"Wandering Heart" Lenten devotionals are available at every entrance.

Children's worship bags are available at the entrances.



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## CHURCH STAFF

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*Send news for the e-newsletter or bulletin  
to Sally Ericson at  
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## 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.

## Calendar of Events

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

**Women's Bible Study:** Tuesdays at 8 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:** Invite your friends and family to lunch! The guest speaker will be Keith Blackwood, Mobile's District Attorney. Lunch is served at noon and the presentation begins at 12:30 p.m. Lunch is \$12 and includes coffee, tea and dessert. Here is the list of upcoming speakers:

Feb. 27: Keith Blackwood, Mobile District Attorney  
March 5: Lucy Gafford, Executive Director, Mobile Arts Council  
March 12: John Driscoll, Director and CEO, Alabama Port Authority  
March 19: Alan Sealls, author and former Chief Meteorologist at NBC-15  
April 2: Champ Napier, client advocate, Mobile County Public Defender's Office  
April 9: Simone Eli, sports director and anchor, WKRG  
April 16: Owen Bailey, CEO, USA Health  
April 23: Jon Carfagno, Executive Director, Mobile Museum of Art  
April 30: Elizabeth Stevens, President and CEO, Downtown Mobile Alliance

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

**Choir rehearsals:** Handbells, 5:15-5:45 p.m.; choir, 6-7:30 p.m.

**Men's Bible Study:** 6 p.m. in the Library. Contact: Bo Perry.

## March Birthdays

March 1: Coleman Oswalt,  
Preston Reeder

March 2: Martha Tissington

March 3: Strickler Adams

March 3: Toby Lorge

March 5: Sue Bryant

March 6: Lynn Tamblyn Edmondson,  
Helen Ashbee Miller

March 7: Bob Marley, Robert Rouse

March 7: Leigh Schottgen

March 9: Sam Lamar

March 10: Guy Helmsing, Bill Majure

March 14: Ma'on Adams,  
Shawn Walker, John Wyatt

March 15: Laura Seymour

March 17: Ashley Oswalt

March 18: Nikki Jones,  
Henry Van Haneghan

March 20: Conrad Oswalt

March 21: Allan Gustin

March 22: Jerry Curran,  
David Pearsall

March 23: Emily Nelson

March 24: Arthur Lewis

March 27: Emerson Majure

March 28: Anne Claire McMillan,  
Guy Oswalt

March 29: Anita Winn

March 30: Lyle Hutchison,  
Alice Roberds

March 31: Lucy Baker, Maggie Tyson