

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

WELCOME VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS! We would love to welcome you as a new member of our family of faith at IPC. Please indicate your interest by contacting Stacy Pulliam at the church office, 933-3731. "Like" us on Facebook at IPCBirmingham.

YOUR OFFERING IS APPRECIATED. Offerings may be submitted online, by mail, or through the ShelbyNEXT app. As always, thank you for your gifts!

THE FIFTY-SIXTH ANNUAL NOVEMBER ORGAN RECITAL SERIES concludes next week with the following 4:00 recital: November 22, Clive Driskill-Smith, Fort Worth, Texas. Please note that our final recitalist has changed. All of the recitals are free. Reservations are required and available at www.ipc-usa.org/connect. Masks and social distancing are respectfully required.

HARVEST FOR HUNGER: Please help us serve those who are food insecure. Our food drive continues until November 22 (Dedication Day). We need food donations for our Blessings Boxes and monetary donations for our City Meats food vouchers (\$45 each). Bags are available in the Parlor. To arrange drop-off, call Lisa Holloway at 933-3725, Mon-Fri 8:30-4:30. Checks should be made to IPC (memo: Harvest for Hunger). Please check our website at www.ipc-usa.org/connect for a list of suggested food items. Monetary donations can be made by clicking on "Give Online" (top right corner) and selecting "Food Pantry" in the dropdown menu. Thank you for helping us help our neighbors!

ADVENT FLOWERS: Honor loved ones with an Advent flower donation. Look for envelopes in The Window (Oct). An online donation form is now available at www.ipc-usa.org/connect. The names of your loved ones will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. The deadline for submission has been extended to Monday, November 30.

THE IPC CHOIR FRUIT SALE continues until Monday, November 30. Place an order online at www.ipc-usa.org/connect. You can also donate fruit to the Food Pantry (delivered automatically). Curbside pick-up is December 19 and 20 at Highland Hall. A choir representative will come to your car and help you with your order. Masks and social distancing are required.

IPC CHOIR RADIO MYSTERY THEATRE: Detectives Les Intelligent and Fred Knott continue to investigate the kidnapping of beloved choirmaster and organist Jeff McLelland and his lovely wife Amy (cue ominous laughter). Are Jeff and Amy all right? How do you speak pug Latin? Is there anyone on your Christmas list who hasn't received a choir CD yet? Listen to the second (and the first if you missed it!) of four episodes of this fictitious film noir on the church podcast <https://ipcusabhm.podbean.com>

TALK WITH THE PREACHER

David is available for conversations by appointment. Please email dseamon@ipc-usa.org or call 205-933-3730 to arrange an appointment.

CONNECT WITH IPC'S PASTORAL & PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Dr. Steve Goyer
Pastor
sgoyer@ipc-usa.org

Rev. Susan Clayton
Associate Pastor of Adult and
Community Ministries
sclayton@ipc-usa.org

Rev. David Seamon
Associate Pastor of
Faith Formation
dseamon@ipc-usa.org

Dr. Jay Wilkins
Interim Associate Pastor
Parish Associate for Pastoral Care
jwilkins@ipc-usa.org

Dr. Jeff McLelland
Director of Fine Arts & Music -
jmclelland@ipc-usa.org

Catherine Goudreau
Director of Children and Youth
CFAF Programming Director
cgoudreau@ipc-usa.org

Kay Roller
Director of Children's
Faith Formation
kroller@ipc-usa.org

Stacy Pulliam
Director of Member Engagement
and Assimilation
spulliam@ipc-usa.org

Kenya Glasco
Nursery Coordinator-
kglasco@ipc-usa.org

Kathy Leaver
Director of IPC Day School
kleaver@ipc-usa.org

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. David J. Seamon	Associate Pastor, Faith Formation
Sarah Mason	Artist in Residence
Billy Gant	Guitar/Vocals
Fred Rogan	Steel Guitar
Jason Westbrook	Sound

Cover: *He Hid His Lord's Money*, detail of a stained glass window in St. Edwards, the parish church of Corfe Castle in Dorset county, England (in the southwest on the coast). Although the little church was built in the 12th century, this window dates from between 1860 and 1900 (Victorian). Image courtesy of the Vanderbilt Jean and Alexander Heard Divinity Library.



Independent Presbyterian Church

Church office: 3100 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, AL 35205
Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 | Phone: 205.933.1830
www.ipc-usa.org | www.facebook.com/ipcbirmingham
This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)

THE TABLE

Independent Presbyterian Church



NOVEMBER 15, 2020

THE THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

Open · Affirming · Welcoming

WORSHIP is at the center of the life of The Table.
As you prepare yourself for worship,
we invite you to reflect quietly on these words:

*“God of righteousness
you overcome those who abuse their power
and lift up those who suffer.
Even now, when evil seems to hold sway,
we know that you will have the last word.
Keep us faithful as we wait and watch for your coming realm,
when you will welcome all your children into your kingdom
of justice, peace, and love. Amen.”*

THE LITURGICAL YEAR

IPC follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in the Season after Pentecost, also known as Ordinary Time. It is signified by the color green which represents new life and growth. Ordinary Time is observed from Pentecost until the beginning of Advent.

IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST VISIT:

Check-in at the kiosk in the foyer. One of our deacons would be happy to assist you.

Join us outside directly after Worship. Greeters are available who would love to welcome you and answer any questions you might have.

Visit our website: ipc-usa.org/welcome

GATHERING

We *gather* as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God

†**Gathering Hymn #14**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Welcome

Call to Worship (responsive)

Leader: The earth has its kings, but God is ruler of all.

People: Praise God above all, the giver of life!

Leader: The mountains may tremble, the oceans may roar,

People: but God’s presence is more powerful than the earth itself.

Leader: Come into God’s presence, for God is among us now.

People: O God, show us your glory; we seek your ways.

Leader: Come to the Rock, the God of life, for God is present now.

Anthem:

“Your Labor Is Not in Vain”

LISTENING

We *listen* for the word of God through confession, passing the peace, Scripture, and preaching

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Again we must confess, Master of the Universe, our struggles to be faithful disciples. Entrusted with all your gifts, we become fearful once again of misusing them, missing the chance to be a blessing to others. Invited to dance in the light of your love, we stand against the wall once again, keeping company with our old friend, sin. Called to be emptied for those who struggle in life, we fill ourselves once again, with scorn for the poor choices they make.

Have mercy, Journeying God, have mercy on us. Once again, open our eyes to your kingdom in our midst, so we might discover that your day of hope and grace has already come in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Please observe a period of silence for personal reflection.

Assurance of Grace:

One: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of the Lord Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: I invite you to pass the peace by standing by your seat and facing another person. Put both hands together on your heart then extend your open hands to them. You may want to say words like “Peace be with you” or you may just want to do it silently. As the person echoes that gesture back to you, you then bring your hands back to your heart again and slightly bow your head, essentially receiving the gift with gratitude.

†**Gloria Patri**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 25:14-30

Sermon: *Burying Fear*

RESPONDING

We *respond* to the hearing of God’s word through reflection, prayer, offering and communion

Celebration of the Sacrament of The Lord’s Supper

- Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer
- Words of Institution
- Communion of the People (*by Intinction*)
- *Anthem: “We Labor Unto Glory”*
- *Prayer after Communion*

SENDING

We are *sent* out into the world to love God and our neighbors

†**Hymn #716:**

“God Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

†**Benediction**

Postlude

*Our service is over, let our service begin.
fed by mystery, forgiven of sin.
Now our faith made real, when brokenness we heal.
our service is over, let our service begin.*

†*Rise in Body or Spirit*