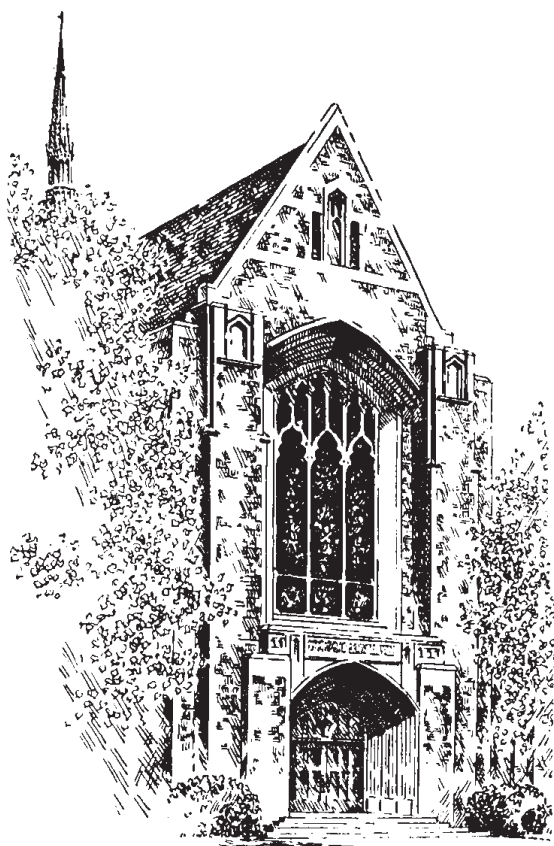


Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 28, 2021

eight forty-five o'clock
eleven o'clock

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O Spirit of the living God, Thou art pervasive. Thou besettest us everywhere. In every stillness we hear Thy knocking. Thou art always at the door. O steal in somehow and move upon us that we may open to Thee and receive Thee, Thou radiant Guest.

from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmunds

PRELUDE - "Sleepers, Wake! For Night Is Flying!"

Johann Sebastian Bach

The service of worship begins with the music of the organ. Through its power and brilliance may you feel the majesty and glory of God; in its quietness, His peace.

INTROIT - "The Lord our God hath shewn us his glory".....

George Thalben-Ball

The Lord our God hath shown us his glory. O come, let us adore him.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

(eight forty-five) Bruce and Judy Matthews

(eleven o'clock) David, Sissy, Kate, William, and Lucy Austin

* HYMN 88 - "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" *(verses 1-4)*.....

VENI EMMANUEL

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION.....Rev. Self Patrick

Unison: Gracious Lord God, you have promised to always be with us, yet we have often lived as if we are on our own. You have promised to always hear our prayers, yet we have often prayed with disbelief. Forgive us, O God, when we have assumed that you are no longer involved in our lives. Prepare our hearts to receive your Son that we might experience the new life that only he can bring. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

A period of silence for personal confession.

* KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

* DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, this is the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* THE PEACE

Minister: May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

Please exchange the peace with the words, "The peace of Christ be with you."

* GLORIA PATRI (*The Presbyterian Hymnal*, p. 581)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Rev. Long

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON - Jeremiah 23:5-6

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM - "Thou Shalt Know Him" Mark Sirett

During the singing of this anthem, children kindergarten age and younger may follow the acolyte down the center aisle to the Ground Floor for worship care.

Thou shalt know him when he comes, Not by any din of drums, Nor by his manners, nor his airs, Nor by anything he wears. Thou shalt know him when he comes, Not by his crown or by his gown, But his coming known shall be by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee. Thou shalt know him when he comes. Amen. *Anonymous*

SECOND LESSON - Luke 1:5-25

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON - YOUR PRAYER HAS BEEN HEARD Rev. Long

The Response to the Word

* HYMN 465 - "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" CONVERSE

* APOSTLES' CREED Rev. Clayton

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

* The Offertory Statement

* The Doxology (*The Presbyterian Hymnal*, p. 606).....

OLD HUNDREDTH

* The Prayer of Dedication

The Offertory Anthem – "E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come"Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from him Who freed us from our sins, Who loved us all and shed his blood That we might saved be. Sing holy, holy to our Lord, The Lord, Almighty God, Who was and is and is to come; Sing holy, holy, Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, Rejoice on earth, ye saints below, For Christ is coming soon! E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, And night shall be no more; They need no light nor lamp nor sun, For Christ will be their All! *Revelation 22, adapted by Ruth Manz*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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, for ever. Amen.

The Sending

*HYMN 104 - "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"
VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE - "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"Robert Speed

**Congregation standing*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO IPC! We are so thankful that you have joined us today for Worship Services. If you are looking for a church to grow in your faith, you are welcome here at IPC! We invite you to join us at our next IPC WELCOME event to learn more – sign up online at www.ipc-usa.org or email Stacy Pulliam at spulliam@ipc-usa.org. We look forward to personally meeting you. **PLEASE LET US KNOW YOU WERE HERE** by signing the registers in the pews, then passing them down to others.

THE FLOWERS in the chancel today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. John Roberts Faucette. THE ROSE in the Children's Chapel is given to the glory of God and in honor of the birth on November 5, 2021, of Mary Lynn Phillips ("Mae"), daughter of Rachel and Blake Phillips, sister of Hannah Phillips and Luke Phillips. THE FLOWERS on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Raymond W. Terry, Jr., Private, U.S. Army Air Corps, WWII; father of Anne Terry Johnson, grandfather of Alicia Johnson Coomes and Phillip A. Johnson, Jr.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: A meeting of the Independent Presbyterian Church is hereby called for Sunday, December 12, 2021, to be convened with the opening prayer at the 11 a.m. worship service in the sanctuary. The business meeting will begin immediately following the worship service. The purposes of the meeting are 1) To elect Elders for the class of 2024, 2) To elect Deacons for the class of 2024, 3) To elect a Youth Elder and Youth Deacon, 4) To elect a President and Vice President of the Congregation, 5) To elect members of the IPC Foundation Board of Directors, and 6) To elect members of the Representative Nominating Committee for the class of 2024. No other business may be transacted at this meeting. By order of the Session, Kevin J. Long, Moderator; Beverley T. Krannich, Clerk.

THE IPC CHOIR FRUIT SALE ends today. Fruit order forms are available in the IPC narthex, at the receptionist's desk, or from any choir member. You may also place an order and pay online at ipc-usa.org/connect. The fruit will be available for pickup December 18 and 19 in Highland Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS GIFT: Through December 19, you can honor a family member, friend, or co-worker with a Giving Tree donation made in their name to IPC Social Services and/or the Children's Fresh Air Farm. A donation of \$5 or \$10 is suggested but any donation is accepted to help our neighbors who are struggling with food, shelter, utilities, transportation, and medical needs. You can purchase in Parlor on Sundays, donate online at ipc-usa.org/connect, or mail a check to the church (memo: "Giving Tree"). Cards will be provided for you to present to your gift recipient(s).

THE FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL NOVEMBER ORGAN RECITAL SERIES concludes this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. with a recital by Katelyn Emerson, Boston, Massachusetts. The recital is free to the public.

CHILDREN'S ADVENT WORKSHOP: Children can attend our annual Advent Workshop on Saturday, December 4, from 9 am – 12 pm in Highland Hall for a morning filled with crafts, holiday movies, and fellowship. Christmas pajamas are welcome. Sign up to attend at ipc-usa.org/connect.

CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Starting December 5th, all K-6th children are invited to join us every 11 am Sunday worship service to rehearse for the Noon Nativity Service on December 24th. Children will follow the acolyte down the aisle during the anthem and parents can pick up in the Day School Music Room at the end of the service. For details, contact Beth Middleton at bmiddleton@ipc-usa.org.

PARENTS DATE NIGHT AND KIDS FUN NIGHT is Wednesday, December 3. Drop off your children at IPC while you and your partner enjoy a couple of hours together. Cultivated date night materials provided, or you can use the time to recharge any way you need it. Our Kids Fun Night for December is our Christmas Party for children 5K–6th grade. Dinner will be provided (\$4 per child), and nursery care for babies - 4s is available by reservation. Sign up at ipc-usa.org/connect.

THE ANNUAL IPC CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT will be Sunday, December 12, at 4:00 p.m. The choir and orchestra will perform beloved works including Vivaldi's *Gloria*. Invite your friends to this beautiful afternoon of music for the season.

HOLIDAY HOUSE TICKETS are available for the 72nd Annual Holiday House Tour! Festivities kick off with an IN-PERSON Holiday House Tea on Saturday only, December 11, 10am - 4pm. The tour, which features the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Calvin, Mr. Bart McCorquodale, and Mr. Merrill Stewart along with the retreat venue Pursell Farms, will be VIRTUAL again this year so that you can enjoy it from the comfort of your own home. View the tour throughout the holiday season and purchase tickets for out-of-town friends and family! For more information on the featured properties, please visit ipcholidayhouse.com. Tickets are available for sale online as well as in the Parlor during the month of November. Sales benefit programs that directly support women and children in the presbytery and in IPC Community Ministries. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Elizabeth Miles at elizabethsims@me.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

STOCKINGS FOR SUMMER SCHOLARS: Provide Christmas stockings for graduates of the Children's Fresh Air Farm's Summer Learning Program and Lift Off. Stocking stuffers are needed based on age and gender, and you can select one or more students (or their siblings). Stuffers must be dropped off at the church by Sunday, December 12. Sign up at ipc-usa.org/connect.

IPC CONNECT(ING) TO BEER AND CAROLS: Join us on Monday, Dec. 20, 6 – 9 pm at Iron City Grill for IPC Connect's Christmas Party with Beer & Carols. Doors open at 6 pm for a festive music event with fellowship, good food, beverages, and fun party favors. Children's Christmas songs begin at 6:30 pm and Christmas carols at 7 pm. Dress children in Christmas pajamas!

IPC CONNECT GOES TO BROADWAY: Join IPC Connect for an exclusive showing of Dear Evan Hansen on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022 at the BJCC Concert Hall. To gain access to IPC's special group price, use the purchase link listed at ipc-usa.org/connect with promo code IPCCONNECT. The Promo Code is active until Sunday, Dec. 19, 2021.

2022 PLEDGES: Thank you to those who have already turned in your pledges for 2022. It not only allows us to continue and expand the important ministries of IPC but also helps the church plan a budget for next year. For those who still need to submit pledges, please prayerfully consider what God is calling you to give. Find printed pledge cards in various information areas around the church and our online pledge form at ipc-usa.org/give/2022-annual-giving.html.

SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

KIRKWOOD FUNDS: (*Chapel Fund*) In memory of Mrs. Margaret B. "Marmie" Moyer. (*Horizon Fund*) In memory of Mr. William F. Edmonds and Mrs. Martha Mann Morrow. (*Kirkwood Lane Fund*) In memory of Mr. Charles "Pat" Elmore. (*Life Care Fund*) In memory of Mr. Robert G. "Bob" Tate.

Participants in Today's Services

The Rev. Kevin J. Long, Pastor
The Rev. Susan A. Clayton, Associate Pastor, Congreg. Care & Adult Ed
The Rev. Melissa Self Patrick, Director of Community Ministries
Dr. Jeff R. McLelland, Director of Music and Fine Arts
The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir
Acolytes: (*eight forty-five*) Andrew Lindstrom Murphree,
Magdalene Elise Robinson
(*eleven o'clock*) William Bibb Albright, Caroline Grace Allen,
Elizabeth Lucile Smith

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Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 except Saturday and Sunday
This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)
www.ipc-usa.org