

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.

IPC IS HOSTING A LUNCH with Archbishop Laurent and Chantal Mbanda, our mission partners from Rwanda, on Wednesday, Sept. 28, at 12 pm in the Great Hall dining room (GH1). Everyone is invited to learn more about their transformative ministries and IPC's mission journey there next summer. Please register at ipc-usa.org/connect.

IPC CROP DROP: Volunteers (5+ years) are invited to help sack 33,000 pounds of sweet potatoes on October 16, 1 pm - 6 pm, in our "big" parking lot. This year's event will be much larger, and we need the most people for first shift. Register online at www.ipc-usa.org/connect by October 1. For questions, contact co-chairs Kate Mather at katemather@gmail.com or Sissy Austin at sissy@sissyaustin.com.

IPC INVITES the community to attend the Highland Avenue Forum Event "Remembering Those in Prison" on October 1, 9 am - 11 am, in Highland Hall. Five panelists will discuss the challenges that ex-offenders face re-entering society after encounters with the criminal justice system including prison. This event is free to the public.

FIRST LIGHT: Provide and serve dinner for the women and children staying at First Light during October 5-8. Sign up at ipc-usa.org/connect. For questions, contact Sarah Scruggs at sscruggs@ipc-usa.org or (205) 933-3725.

THE REPRESENTATIVE NOMINATING COMMITTEE is identifying qualified nominees for the Elder and Deacon classes of 2025, the vice president of the congregation (who will become president in 2024), trustees to serve on the IPC Foundation, and two congregants to serve as members at large on the RNC. Forms are available in the narthex and on the table next to the receptionists' desk. You may also complete your form online (www.ipc-usa.org/nominations.html) or e-mail your nominations to RNC@ipc-usa.org. The deadline for nominations to be submitted is October 5.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Lift Off to Learning, IPC's social-emotional learning (SEL) and literacy program for 3rd and 4th graders from Hayes K-8 school, begins October 11th. Volunteers are needed weekly on Tuesday or Wednesday afternoons from 3:15-4:45 pm. These volunteers work with the same small group of students each week. LIFT OFF includes a time of snack and fellowship followed by small group lesson time. Prior experience is not required. Training and all materials needed are provided. For questions or to sign up to volunteer, contact Catherine Goudreau at cgoudreau@ipc-usa.org.

WEEKEND BUDDY BAGS: Hayes K-8 School is counting on us to provide 160 snack bags monthly for their students. Will your group help us sponsor October? E-mail Sarah Scruggs at sscruggs@ipc-usa.org to sign up.

CONNECT WITH IPC'S PASTORAL & PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Kevin J. Long
Pastor
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Rev. Susan Clayton
Associate Pastor, Congregational Care and Adult Faith Formation
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Rev. David Seamon
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Beth Middleton
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Rev. Melissa Self Patrick
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Emma Stewart
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Kenya Glasco
Nursery Coordinator-
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PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Kevin J. Long
Rev. David J. Seamon
Sarah Mason
William Yarbrough
Charles Thomas
Deena Emaish
Fred Rogan
Tommy Bowen
Shawny Thomas
Nick Mathes

Pastor
Associate Pastor, Faith Formation
Worship Leader
Acoustic Guitar
Drums
Piano
Steel Guitar
Trumpet
Vocals
Sound

Cover: *Dante's Vision of Rachel and Leah*, a watercolor painting created in 1855 by Dante Gabriel Rossetti.

Image courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.



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



SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

THE TWENTY-SIXTH 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:

“My Father, send me about working the miracles of love. Give me to love the weak into strength, the timid into confidence, the ugly into beauty. Let me add luster to my own life by losing myself in love. Amen.”

from Beginning the Day by Henry Edmonds

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:

E-mail or call us: We would love to say hello and welcome you to our church family. Please reach out to us by contacting Stacy Pulliam at 205.933.3690 and spulliam@ipc-usa.org or Cindy Shaw at 205.933.3696 and cshaw@ipc-usa.org.

Visit our website: ipc-usa.org/welcome

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Welcome

Moment for Mission: Harvest for Hunger and Crop Drop

Call to Worship

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.

People: For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime.

Leader: Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

People: You have turned my mourning into dancing.

Leader: You have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

People: O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Psalm 30:4-5,11-12

Gathering Songs

*“A Thousand Hallelujahs”
“Create in Me a Clean Heart”*

LISTENING

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

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Forgive my sins, O Lord. Forgive the sins of my youth and the sins of my age, the sins of my soul and the sins of my body, my secret and whispering sins, my presumptuous and crying sins, the sins I have done to please myself, and the sins I have done to please others. Forgive the sins which I know, and the sins which I know not. Forgive them, Lord. Forgive them all in your great goodness. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Please observe a period of silence for personal reflection.

Declaration of Pardon

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

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Peace

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

All: And also with you.

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

*Please exchange the peace with the words,
“The peace of Christ be with you.”*

Confessional Response

“Gloria Patri”

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson: Genesis 29:15-31

Sermon: Sister Wives

RESPONDING

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

Hymn

“What a Beautiful Name”

Sharing of Gifts

In gratitude for the love and grace extended to us by God, we share our resources to support ministries of justice, mercy, and beauty.

Celebration of the Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

- Prayers of the People and 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.

- Words of Institution
- Communion of the People
- Song: *“Healer”*
- Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Closing Hymn

“Amazing Grace”

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.*