

Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

November 27, 2022

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 Edmonds

PRELUDE - "Meditation on Veni Emmanuel"Philip Moore

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 quiet, His peace.

INTROIT - "Creator of the Stars of Night" Sarum plainsong

Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light, O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you, hear us when we call. *verse 1*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

(eight forty-five) Paul and Kathy Leaver, Evelyn Puckett
(eleven o'clock) Melissa and Bentley Self Patrick, Mary Rose Patrick

* HYMN 88 - "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"VENI EMMANUEL

Please sing verses 1-4 only.

* PRAYER OF CONFESSIONRev. Seamon

Unison: Emmanuel, you love us, but we do not love you fully. You call, but we do not listen. In these hectic days, we easily become wrapped in our own concerns. We rush by those in need and miss the sounds of heaven rejoicing. We are lost in a fever of busyness that has separated us from you. Confront us with our sin, that we may repent and receive the forgiveness that carries us home to you. In your 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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (*eleven o'clock*).....Rev. Long

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON - Psalm 46 (Pew Bible, p. OT517-518)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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.

ANTHEM - "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" arr. Gustav Holst
Janet Ort, *Soprano*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; Ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in his hand, Christ our Lord to earth descendeth our full homage to demand. King of Kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood, Lord of Lords, in human vesture in the Body and the Blood He will give to all the faithful His own Self for heavenly food. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way As the light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day That the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away. At His feet the six-winged seraph; Cherubim with sleepless eyes, Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya, Lord most High. Amen. *trans. from Greek by G. Moultrie*

SECOND LESSON - Deuteronomy 34:4-5, 10-12; Joshua 1:1-2, 6-9

(Pew Bible, p. OT191, OT194)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON - HARBINGERS OF THE SAVIOR: JOSHUA Rev. Long

The Response to the Word

* HYMN 463 - "How Firm a Foundation" FOUNDATION

* 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 106 - "Prepare the Way, O Zion".... BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN
- * BENEDICTION
- * POSTLUDE - "Proclamation on *Wachet Auf*" Aaron Miller
- * *Congregation standing*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO IPC! We are so thankful that you have joined us today for Worship Services. 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 meeting you.

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, 2022, of Whitt Ransom Lounsbury, son of Lindsay and Brian Lounsbury. **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.

THE FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL NOVEMBER ORGAN RECITAL SERIES concludes today with the following 4 pm recital: Theodore S. Davis ("Ted"), a Birmingham native from Baltimore, Maryland. The recital is free and open to the public.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

2023 PLEDGES: We are so grateful for those who have turned in an annual pledge and said "Yes" to what God is doing at IPC! For those who have not yet submitted a pledge, no time is better than now to join us in responding to Christ's call for our church. Find pledge cards at the reception desk, or make an online pledge by texting YES to (205) 927-3100 and following the prompts.

GIVING TREE: Spread Christmas cheer by purchasing Giving Tree cards as gifts. Purchase in the Parlor on Sundays or donate online at ipc-usa.org/connect to support IPC Social Services and/or the Children's Fresh Air Farm. The deadline to purchase is Sunday, Dec. 18.

YOUTH ORNAMENTS: The Youth will sell IPC ornaments in the Parlor between the morning worship services on Sundays starting today until Dec. 18. Ornaments can also be purchased at the reception desk or online at ipc-usa.org/connect during the week (pick up in the Parlor on Sundays). Each ornament is \$20, and the proceeds help support IPC Youth mission activities.

ORDERS FOR CHRISTMAS CITRUS FRUIT are due today. All proceeds support the IPC Choir. Fruit order forms are available around the church and from any choir member. You may also order online at ipc-usa.org/connect. The fruit will be available for pickup December 17 and 18 in Highland Hall.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: A meeting of the Independent Presbyterian Church is hereby called for Sunday, December 4, 2022, 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 to elect 1) Elders for the class of 2025, 2) Deacons for the class of 2025, 3) a Youth Elder and Youth Deacon, 4) a President and Vice President of the Congregation, 5) members of the IPC Foundation Board of Directors, 6) members of the Representative Nominating Committee for the class of 2025, and 7) members of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. No other business may be transacted at this meeting. By order of the Session.

ADVENT DAILY DEVOTION: Sign up at ipc-usa.org/connect to receive daily devotions from IPC in your inbox. Each day, we will email you a new reading from *The Promised One* by Christianity Today to journey through the season.

THE IPC PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S annual Holiday Lunch will be Tuesday, November 29, at 11 am in the Great Hall. Our speaker will be Mark Thompson, co-owner of Shoppe and General on Clairmont Avenue. Single tickets are \$25, and you can choose to sit with your women's small group or purchase an entire table for \$200. Visit ipc-usa.org to purchase.

WEDNESDAY CHAPEL & LUNCH begins Nov. 30. Throughout the Advent Season, join us each Wednesday for a noonday Chapel Service followed by a light lunch in the Great Hall. These are similar to the Lenten Chapel & Lunch offered earlier this year. Register and pay for lunch at ipc-usa.org/connect.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

REGISTER FOR ADVENT WORKSHOP on Saturday, December 3, in Highland Hall. Come and go anytime 9 am to 12 pm. Christmas pajamas are welcome. Sign up at ipc-usa.org/connect.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 28 GREENERY SALE: Troop 28 is partnering with Mickman Brothers. Find wreaths and more online at giftitforward.com. **Enter the Troop Fundraising Code: TROOPBAL101 and the Referring Name: TROOP 28** in the big green box on the webpage where prompted. Place your order, and your items will be delivered directly to you with free shipping. Orders can be placed up through Dec. 9. For questions, please contact Matt Lyons at (612) 670-8494.

THE 73RD ANNUAL IPC HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR is Saturday, Dec. 10. Celebrate the Christmas season with our virtual home tour. Come to an afternoon Christmas Tea in the Great Hall and tour the festive Sanctuary and Parlor. Tickets can be purchased at ipcholidayhouse.com.

FIRST LIGHT: Volunteers are needed to provide and serve dinner on December 10. Contact Sarah Scruggs at sscruggs@ipc-usa.org or (205) 933-3725.

ADVENT FLOWERS: Honor loved ones by making an Advent flower donation in their names. Look for envelopes in the Advent issue of The Window, and an online donation form is available at ipc-usa.org/connect. Names will be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. The deadline is Sunday, Dec. 11.

THE ANNUAL IPC CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT will be Sunday, December 11, at 4 p.m. The choir and guest brass ensemble will perform several seasonal works including John Rutter's *Gloria*.

BAPTISM TODAY

MARYLANE WEATHERLY, born January 20, 2020, daughter of Mrs. Mallory Ann Lane Weatherly and Mr. William Burr Weatherly, Jr.; sister of William Burr Weatherly III ("BB").

Participants in Today's Services

The Rev. Kevin J. Long, Pastor

The Rev. Susan A. Clayton, Associate Pastor, Congreg. Care & Adult Ed

The Rev. David J. Seamon, Associate Pastor, Faith Formation

Dr. Jeff R. McLelland, Director of Music and Fine Arts

The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir

Acolytes: *(eight forty-five)* Charlotte Goodner Walthall
(eleven o'clock) Julia Mitchell Mather, William Steel Mather

Independent Presbyterian Church

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Birmingham, Alabama 35205-1408

Phone: (205)933-1830; Fax: (205)933-1836

Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 except Saturday and Sunday

This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)

www.ipc-usa.org