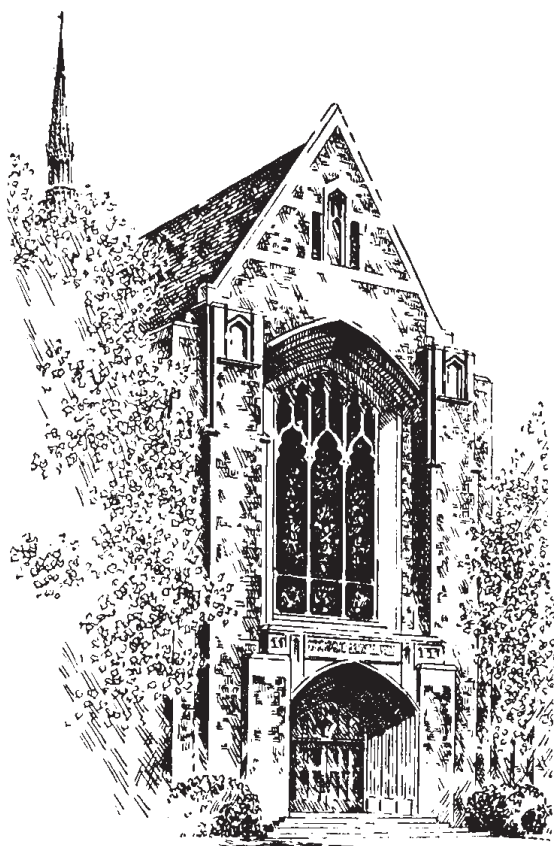


# Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Acolyte Installation

September 10, 2023

8:45 am

11:00 am

**Service for the Lord's Day**

**The Gathering for Worship**

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

Release me, O God, from the bondage of many rules. Give me one encircling band of gold that shall bind all of life together. Speak one word that shall include all the rest. Drown all my slaveries in one splendid freedom. Teach me to love.       *from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmonds*

**PRELUDE** - "Quietly Moving" from *Sonata II* .....Paul Hindemith  
*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** - "As many as are led" .....George Thalben-Ball  
As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the children of God.

**CALL TO WORSHIP** ..... Mrs. Ashworth

**Minister:** Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

**People:** **He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.**

**Minister:** He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

**People:** **Even youths will faint and grow weary, and the young will fall exhausted.**

**Minister:** But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles.

**People:** **They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.**       *Isaiah 40:28-31*

\* **HYMN 393** - "O Day of Rest and Gladness" .....  
ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

**\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Unison:** **Almighty God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you hast made us for yourself so that our hearts are restless until they find rest in you. Mercifully forgive us of our sins. Grant us purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see light, and in your service find perfect freedom. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**       *St. Augustine*

*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

INVITATION TO GLOBAL MISSIONS CELEBRATION .....  
Tommy Thomson

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON - Deuteronomy 5:12-15 (Pew Bible, p. OT162)

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 - "O Lord, increase my faith" .....Orlando Gibbons

O Lord, increase my faith, strengthen me and confirm me in Thy true faith; endue me with wisdom, charity, and patience, in all my adversity, teach me to say Amen.

SECOND LESSON - Mark 2:23-28 (Pew Bible, p. NT36-37)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON- WHY, JESUS? (PART 4) ..... Rev. Long

The Response to the Word

\* HYMN 182 - "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" .....KINGSFOLD

\* APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

INSTALLATION OF ACOLYTES (11:00)..... Mrs. Ashworth

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

- \* The Offertory Statement
- \* The Doxology (*The Presbyterian Hymnal*, p. 606)..... OLD HUNDREDTH

- \* The Prayer of Dedication
- The Offertory Anthem – "Thou, O God, Art Praised in Sion" ..... Malcolm Boyle

Thou, O God, art praised in Sion, and unto Thee shall the vow be perform'd in Jerusalem. Thou that hearest the prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come. Blessed is the man whom Thou choosest and receivest unto Thee. He shall dwell in Thy courts and shall be satisfied with the pleasures of Thy house, e'en of Thy holy temple. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stay'd on Thee. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace because he trusteth in Thee. Trust ye in the Lord for ever, for in the Lord, the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength. Let the people praise Thee, O God, yea, let all the people praise Thee. Then shall the earth bring forth her increase: and God shall give us His blessing.  
*Psalm 65:1, 2, 4; Isaiah 26:3, 4; Psalm 67:3, 6, 7*

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 366 - "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" ..... HYFRYDOL
- \* BENEDICTION
- \* POSTLUDE - "Prelude in E Minor" ..... Johann Sebastian Bach

*\*Congregation standing*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME TO IPC!** Please join us at the Welcome Table in the Parlor immediately following the service where we can tell you more about our church. We look forward to meeting you! For more information, please contact Stacy Pulliam at [spulliam@ipc-usa.org](mailto:spulliam@ipc-usa.org).

**THE FLOWERS** in the church today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Edith and Jim Quarles, Mary Ann and Bob Weatherly. **THE ROSE** in the Children's Chapel is given to the glory of God and in honor of the birth on August 8, 2023, of River Lucien Joseph; son of Hannah Conzelman and Luke Joseph, brother of Poppy Joseph. **THE FLOWERS** on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Thomas Pankey, U.S. Army; and in honor of Thomas Pankey, junior, U.S. Navy; Maggie Adams Jones, U.S. Marines; Bradley Jones, U.S. Marines; William Pankey, U.S. Navy; and John Pankey, U.S. Navy; family of Valerie Pankey.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

**YOU'RE INVITED TO THE GLOBAL MISSIONS CELEBRATION** next Sunday, September 17, at 12:15 pm in the Great Hall immediately following 11 am worship. Learn about IPC's 2023 Mission Journeys to Chiapas, Mexico, and Kigali, Rwanda, and find out how you can get involved in our global missions program in 2024. Register for lunch (\$10 per adult, \$5 per child) at [ipc-usa.org/connect](http://ipc-usa.org/connect).

**DINNERS FOR 8:** Couples, singles, and members of all ages are invited to participate in these twice-yearly dinners at members' homes and restaurants. The first dinner will be in the fall (October or November 2023) and the second in the spring (February or March 2024). **Sign up by today, September 10.** To join or to find out more, contact Fairy Sutherland at (205) 541-3714 or [fairysutherland@gmail.com](mailto:fairysutherland@gmail.com).

**"WE REMEMBER":** 60 years ago, a bomb tore through Birmingham's 16th Street Baptist Church, killing 4 little girls and rocking the nation. In remembrance and in the spirit of restoration and education, Birmingham and its partners will host the 2023 Forging Justice Commemoration Week September 10-16. IPC's Community Ministries Team is a sponsor of The Morgan Project's showing of *4 Little Girls* at SideWalk Cinema on September 14, and IPC will participate with many congregations in ringing our church chimes at 10:22 am on September 15 to mark the bombing. View the full schedule and learn more at <https://www.birminghamal.gov/commemorationweek>.

**CHILD & YOUTH PROTECTION POLICY TRAINING:** This training is mandatory for all IPC Youth and IPC Kids volunteers. There are three sessions to choose from: Tuesday, September 12, at 5:30 pm; and Sunday, September 24, at 10 am and 12 pm. You need to attend only one session. Sign up through the link in the Thursday eUpdate or the IPC Kids eUpdate.

**CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING** of the Congregation of Independent Presbyterian Church: A meeting of the Independent Presbyterian Church is hereby called for Sunday, September 24, 2023, 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 2026; 2) To elect Deacons for the class of 2026; 3) To elect a Youth Elder and a Youth Deacon to serve one-year terms, beginning February 1, 2024, and ending January 31, 2025; 4) To elect a President and Vice President of the Congregation; 5) To elect members of the IPC Foundation Board of Directors for the class of 2026; and 6) To elect members of the Representative Nominating Committee for the class of 2026. No other business may be transacted at this meeting. By order of the Session, Kevin J. Long, Moderator, and Beverley T. Krannich, Clerk.

**VOLUNTEER WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY:** We are helping the Presbytery build a home in Pleasant Grove. IPC volunteer days are September 14, 16, 22, and 30; October 21; and November 3 and 11. No construction experience necessary. Minimum age 14 years old. You must register on the Habitat website (access code **presby23**). Help is also needed to provide a dozen simple sack lunches for the volunteers each day. Find the Habitat link or sign up for lunches at [ipc-usa.org/connect](http://ipc-usa.org/connect). For questions, contact Rev. Melissa Self Patrick at (205) 933-3709 or [mpatrick@ipc-usa.org](mailto:mpatrick@ipc-usa.org).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

**POPSICLES ON THE PLAYGROUND:** Families with infants - 2 years are invited to the IPC playground on Saturday, September 16, at 9:30 am - 11 am to eat breakfast, make friends, and play. Sign up at [ipc-usa.org/connect](http://ipc-usa.org/connect).

### SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

**MUSIC & FINE ARTS:** In honor of the IPC Music Ministry.

### 2023-2024 ACOLYTES

Katherine Evans Austin  
Mary Hanson Borders  
Sara Katherine Bowman  
Ann Massey Bowman  
David Graves Bowman ❖  
Mary Jane Bussian  
Caitlyn Coe Caley ❖  
Spencer Anne Cobbs  
Braylon James Cooley ❖  
Laura Elizabeth Donovan  
Laden Margaret Falls  
Jacob Kent Falls ❖  
Cooper Austin Falls ❖  
Kathryn Laurel Falls ❖  
Winslow Sutton Gregg ❖  
Andrew William Grover  
Walter Charles Grover  
Charles Bert Hill IV ❖  
Heidi Dale Hollingsworth  
Calliope Lane Hontzas ✦  
James Turner Inscoe, Jr.  
William Alan Long ❖  
Jessica Francis Long

Katelyn Noelle Long  
Oliver Clayton Lyons  
John Samuel Meriwether IV  
William Oliver Middleton  
Ann Caldwell Monk  
Andrew Lindstrom Murphree  
Benjamin Russell Polson  
Anne Margaret Pringle  
Shepherd Carldon Ray  
Margaret McClain Robinson ✦  
Macey McMillan Robinson  
Joseph Elwood Scholl  
Nathaniel Philip Siegel  
Samuel Bernard Steiner  
Stephen Christopher Tribble  
Olivia Ann Vanlandingham ✦  
Gavin Andrew Vanlandingham  
John Bailey Walthall  
Harrison Field White  
Davis Ambrose White

❖ *New Acolyte*

✦ *2023-2024 Captain*

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### Participants in Today's Services

The Rev. Kevin J. Long, Pastor

Mrs. Cammie Ashworth, Director of Youth Ministries

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: (8:45) John Samuel Meriwether IV, Andrew Lindstrom Murphree,  
Jessica Francis Long

(11:00) Calliope Lane Hontzas, Margaret McClain Robinson,  
Olivia Ann Vanlandingham

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Independent Presbyterian Church

3100 Highland Avenue

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)*

**[ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org)**