

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.

CHURCH OFFICES are closed tomorrow in observance of Easter Monday.

SPRING CLEANING DRIVE: In April, Community Ministries is collecting bicycles (any condition), men's gently worn/new tennis shoes or work boots, gently worn/new adult t-shirts, new men's socks, and new washcloths. For questions, contact Sarah Scruggs at sscruggs@ipc-usa.org.

CAREGIVER CONNECT begins a new 6-week session on Wednesdays starting April 3 at 10:30 am in Room 304. The facilitators are Dr. Stewart Jackson, Counseling Associate at IPC, and Rev. Susan Clayton. For questions, contact Susan Clayton at sclayton@ipc-usa.org. A sign-up form is available at ipc-usa.org.

MISSION TEAM UPDATE: Join us on Sunday, April 7, at 10 am in the Great Hall to hear reports from IPC's Malawi Mission Team and Denise Moore's visit to Forman Christian College in Pakistan.

SUBMIT RECIPES for the IPC Youth Cookbook fundraiser online at ipc-usa.org/connect or drop them off in-person. Recipes are due by April 7. Cookbooks will go on sale beginning in May. Proceeds will be used to help fund youth retreats throughout the year. For questions, contact Cammie Ashworth at cashworth@ipc-usa.org.

HIGHLAND AVENUE FORUM is hosting a program, "Remember Those Who Are in Prison," on Saturday, April 13, at 9 am - 11 am in Highland Hall to discuss Alabama's criminal justice system. Speakers include Teresa Pulliam, Bennet Wright, Ivana Hrymkiw, Alabama Appleseed, and affected family members. For questions, contact ML Hollingsworth at mhollingsworth@ipc-usa.org.

MEET AND GREET DR. THOMAS K. TEWELL during the 10 am Sunday school hour in the Great Hall on Sunday, April 14. Dr. Tewell will fill in as our Pastor-in-Residence for the first two months of Rev. Kevin Long's sabbatical (April 15 - August 18). He will also lead an Adult Sunday School class, "Rearranging God's Price Tags," in the Sanctuary for his first four weeks.

THE REPRESENTATIVE NOMINATING COMMITTEE is identifying qualified nominees for the Elder and Deacon classes of 2027, trustees to serve on the IPC Foundation, two congregants to serve as members at large on the RNC, and the vice president of the congregation (who will become president in 2026). Paper forms are available in the narthex; deposit in the marked box by the receptionist desk. The online form is available at www.ipc-usa.org/nominations.html, or e-mail RNC@ipc-usa.org. The deadline for nominations is April 21.

CONNECT WITH IPC'S PASTORAL & PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Kevin J. Long
Pastor
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Rev. Susan Clayton
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Rev. David Seamon
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Rev. Melissa Self Patrick
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Beth Middleton
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Kenya Glasco
Nursery Coordinator
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PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Kevin J. Long
Sarah Mason
Fred Rogan
Tommy Bowen

Pastor
Worship Leader
Steel Guitar
Sound



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

He is risen

EASTER 2024



MARCH 31, 2024

EASTER SUNDAY

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:

O mighty God, lead us into the experience of triumphing over death. Let us walk humbly and majestically, fearing nothing. May we begin our immortal lives now. Grant that sinking ourselves in Christ we may win His victory in all things.

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 of Easter as signified by the color white. Easter isn't just a Sunday — it's a season. One day out of 365 is hardly sufficient to celebrate the great mystery of our faith — that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Accordingly, the season of Easter lasts seven weeks (a "week of weeks"), spanning the 50 days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday and encompassing the festival of the Ascension of the Lord. The season of Easter is intended to be a joyful time for celebrating the presence of the risen Christ in the church.

Of course, Easter really isn't just a season either. In the fullest sense, Easter is a new way of life — in which we are "dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 6:11), called to "walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:4).

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

FLOWER DEDICATION

The flowers on the foyer table are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mark L. Miller.

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: The stone has been rolled away.
People: **The tomb is empty!**
Leader: Christ is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed!**
Leader: Christ is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed!**
Leader: Christ is risen!
People: **He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

Gathering Songs

"What a Beautiful Name"
"Jesus Paid It All"

LISTENING

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

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Almighty God, in the resurrection of Jesus Christ you have shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we do not always believe in this hope, and remain captive to doubt and fear. Forgive our dread of loss, our despair, and our anxiety about the future. Set us free for the joy of Christ who was dead but now lives, that we too might find new life in service of his kingdom. In Christ's name 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"

A Moment with the Children

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson: Ephesians 2:1-10

Sermon: It Ain't Over 'till It's Over

RESPONDING

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

Hymn

"King of Kings"

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. To give online, text OFFERING to (205) 927-3100 and follow the steps.

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: *"Revelation Song"*
- Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Closing Hymn

"In Christ Alone"

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.*