

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.

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.

CHRISTMAS CITRUS FRUIT ORDERS are due today. Order online at ipc-usa.org/connect. Pick-up December 17 and 18 in Highland Hall.

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. Register and pay for your lunch at ipc-usa.org/connect.

REGISTER FOR ADVENT WORKSHOP on Saturday, December 3, in Highland Hall. Come and go as you need 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 where prompted. Your items will be delivered directly to you with free shipping. Orders can be placed until Dec. 9. For questions, please contact Matt Lyons at (612) 670-8494.

FIRST LIGHT: Provide and serve dinner December 10. To help, contact Sarah Scruggs at sscruggs@ipc-usa.org or (205) 933-3725.

THE 73RD ANNUAL IPC HOLIDAY HOUSE VIRTUAL TOUR will be Saturday, Dec. 10. You are also invited to experience an afternoon Christmas Tea in the Great Hall and tour the festively decorated Sanctuary and Parlor. Purchase tickets at ipcholidayhouse.com.

ADVENT FLOWERS: Honor loved ones with an Advent flower donation. Look for envelopes in The Window, or donate online at ipc-usa.org/connect. Names will be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. The deadline for submission is Sunday, Dec. 11.

CONNECT WITH IPC'S PASTORAL & PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Kevin J. Long
Pastor
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Rev. Susan Clayton
Associate Pastor, Congregational
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Rev. David Seamon
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Emma Stewart
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Kenya Glasco
Nursery Coordinator
kglasco@ipc-usa.org

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Kevin J. Long
Rev. David J. Seamon
Sarah Mason
Fred Rogan
Nick Mathes

Pastor
Associate Pastor, Faith Formation
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



Advent at IPC

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

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 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

THE LITURGICAL YEAR

The Table follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in the Season of Advent, which starts the liturgical year. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. It is signified by the color violet which represents hope as well as prayer, penance, and sacrifice. It is a time of preparation and longing for the coming of Christ in the humble flesh, in our daily hearts, and in glory forevermore.

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

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Gathering Songs

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
“King of Kings”*

LISTENING

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

Prayer of Confession (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.

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

Sermon: Harbingers of the Savior: Joshua

RESPONDING

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

Hymn

“Lead On, O King Eternal!”

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: *“Oh, Light”*
- Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Closing Hymn

“The First Noel”

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.*