

Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ASCENSION SUNDAY

May 24, 2020

eleven o'clock

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O King of glory and Lord of hosts, who ascended triumphantly above the heavens, do not abandon us, but send us the promised one, the Spirit of truth. Blessed be the holy and undivided Trinity, now and forever.

PRELUDE - "Sarabande"..... Craig Phillips
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 quietness, His peace.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Rev. Lays

INTROIT - " In the Beginning was the Word"George Thalben-Ball
In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us: and we beheld his glory, full of grace and truth.

*HYMN 258 - "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!" DEO GRACIAS
If needed, please zoom in to view the music and lyrics of the hymn more clearly.



1. A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New songs through -
2. The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the
3. To all, the shin ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and
4. "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the
5. O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, all praise to



out the world shall ring: Christ, by a road be -
Mount of Ol - ives stand, and with his fol - low -
gaze up - on the sky? This is the Sav - ior!"
por - tals of the sky. Here - af - ter you shall
you let earth ac - cord. You are, while end - less



fore un - trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.
ers they see their Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty,
thus they say, "This is his glo - rious tri - umph - day."
Je - sus see re - turm - ing in great maj - es - ty."
a - ges run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Let us worship the Lord with gladness

All: and enter the Lord's presence with songs of joy.

Psalm 100:1

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Unison: Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life, and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world, and failed to give him glory. Forgive us, and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body. 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, believe the good news of the gospel:
People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

* GLORIA PATRI (*The Presbyterian Hymnal*, p. 581)

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON - Hebrews 4:14-16 (Pew Bible, p. NT220)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM - "The God of Heaven" Michael Perry

The God of Heaven thunders, whose voice in strident echoes resounds above the waters, and all the world sings, "Glory, glory, glory!" The desert writhes in tempest; wind whips the trees to fury; the lightning splits the forest and flame diffuses glory, glory, glory! The mighty God eternal is to the thrones ascended, and we who are God's people, within these walls cry, "Glory, glory, glory!"

Michael Perry

SECOND LESSON - Acts 1:1-11 (Pew Bible, p. NT118)..... Dr. Goyer

Minister: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

* HYMN 264 - "At the Name of Jesus" KING'S WESTON

If needed, please zoom in to view the music and lyrics of the hymn more clearly.



1. At the name of Je - sus ev - ery knee shall bow,
2. Hum - bled for a sea - son to re - ceive a name
3. Bore it up tri - um - phant, with its hu - man light,
4. Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,



ev - ery tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now:
from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,
through all ranks of crea - tures, to the cen - tral height,
with his Fa - ther's glo - ry o'er the earth to reign;



'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord,
faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,
to the throne of God - head, to the Fa - ther's breast,
for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed;
filled it with the glo - ry of that per - fect rest.
and our hearts con - fess him King of glo - ry now.

The Response to the Word

* 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

Please continue to remember to support the church. Even during this time when in-person attendance is not possible, we do have basic necessary bills to cover. Offerings may be submitted online by clicking here, by mail, or through the ShelbyNEXT app. As always, thank you for your gifts.

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

- * The Prayer of Dedication
The Offertory Anthem – "O Clap Your Hands"
Ralph Vaughan Williams

from the *O Clap Your Hands* recording – IPC Choir
O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph. For the Lord most high is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth. God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises unto our King, sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding. God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness. *Psalm 47, King James version*

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.

The Sending

*HYMN 268 - "Crown Him with Many Crowns" DIADEMATA
If needed, please zoom in to view the music and lyrics of the hymn more clearly.



1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; hark,
2. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side, rich
3. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways from
4. Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time; cre -



how the heav - en - ly an - them_drowns all mu - sic but its own! A -
wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied: no
pole to pole, that wars may_ cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise. His
a - tor of the roll - ing_spheres, in - cf - fa - bly sub - lime. All



wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight, but
reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet fair
hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me; thy



hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

* CHARGE

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* POSTLUDE - "Fanfare" William Mathias

**Congregation standing*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL OF TODAY'S ONLINE VISITORS!

We would love to welcome you to our family of faith at IPC. Please provide contact information to contact Cindy Shaw at 933-3696 or cshaw@ipc-usa.org.

THE FLOWERS in the chancel today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. John Roberts Faucette.

EVERY SUNDAY MORNING, IPC is sending out a "Learn with Us, Worship with Us" email. In the email are links to an Adult Class, Youth Sunday School Lessons, and a Children's Atrium Lesson as well as a link to the Children's Worship Bag. In addition, there is a link to the 11 o'clock LiveStream on YouTube.

HELP US FILL OUR BLESSING BOX under the 31st Street covered walkway by dropping off non-perishable items or sending them via a grocery delivery service to the IPC Food Pantry. The box will allow our neighbors to take or leave needed food or other nonperishables.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES has increased assistance and now sends 40-50 families each week with their food needs. In a partnership with City Meats in Woodlawn, we are giving each family a \$45 voucher that provides a substantial amount of food. We are also assisting vulnerable members of our community with financial assistance for utilities, rent, gas cards, and prescription medications. All of these efforts are being funded through IPC Social Services. We would be grateful for any contributions to this fund to help us continue meeting the growing needs of our community during the COVID-19 crisis. Thank you for your generosity!

PLEASE CONTINUE TO REMEMBER TO SUPPORT THE CHURCH. Even during this time when in person attendance is not possible, we do have basic necessary bills to cover. Offerings may be submitted online by clicking here, by mail, or through the ShelbyNEXT app. As always, thank you for your gifts.

DID YOU KNOW? The CARES Act permits a \$300 reduction in taxable income for charitable gifts in 2020 for those who do not itemize their deductions. This adjustment is available for cash gifts to public charities (“50% charities”) only and is limited to \$300 per taxpayer. Donors who are qualified to itemize their charitable deductions may still do so. For more information, contact your financial advisor.

COUNSELING AVAILABLE: These are anxious times as we learn to shelter-in-place, stay-at-home, and self-quarantine in response to COVID-19. IPC counselor Dr. Stewart Jackson wants to help us find ways to stay connected through his YouTube video series called *Practicing Hope*. To watch the videos, go to YouTube and search for "Stewart Jackson Practicing Hope." You can always contact him for private sessions by calling (205) 266-8287.

CHECK OUT THE IPC DAY SCHOOL BLOG, Happenings @ IPC Day School, for preschool and early elementary activities, art projects, lessons, great links, and kid friendly recipes for anything from fun and healthy food to play dough. The web address is:
<http://happeningsatthedaysschool.blogspot.com>

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE: all-in person worship, classes, and groups. Church offices are also closed during this time. Be sure to subscribe to our YouTube channel or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram @ipcbirmingham for daily devotionals and Sunday worship online.

SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

IPC GARDEN FUND: In memory of Jane Nabers McFadden and Edith Quarles.

IPC SPECIAL GIFTS: In memory of Alan Dunn Collins; Frances Chenoweth Fraser; James S. Henderson, Jr.; Howell Y. Horn; Jane Nabers McFadden; and Michael Thomas Murphy.

KIRKWOOD FUNDS: (*Chapel Fund*) In memory of Mr. Harlan "Hobart" Grooms, Jr., and Mrs. Betty Hughes. (*Horizon Fund*) In memory of Mr. William F. Edmonds.

Participants in Today's Services

Dr. W. Stephen Goyer, Interim Senior Pastor
The Rev. Susan A. Clayton, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Brian J. Lays, Associate Pastor
Dr. Jeff R. McLelland, Director of Music and Fine Arts
The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir Ensemble

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)
www.ipc-usa.org