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.

YOUR OFFERING IS APPRECIATED. Offerings may be submitted online, by mail, or through the ShelbyNEXT app. As always, thank you for your gifts!

"ASK THE PASTOR" SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES has been added for the Winter Term. Join us at 10 am each Sunday to connect and reacquaint with your community of Faith, share prayer concerns, and ask questions of IPC's pastors. Register online at ipc-usa.org > connect to receive class reminders, or find a link to the Zoom class each week in our Sunday morning email.

2021 LENTEN GRACE GROUPS: New groups are forming to study Sermon on the Mount by Amy-Jill Levine for 6 weeks Feb. 14 - March 27. Sign up at ipc-usa.org/connect to learn more or find a group for you.

TALK WITH THE PREACHER

David is available for conversations by appointment Please email dseamon@ipc-usa.org or call 205-933-3730 to arrange an appointment.

CONNECT WITH IPC'S PASTORAL & PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Dr. Steve Goyer
Interim Pastor
sgoyer@ipc-usa.org

Rev. Susan Clayton
Associate Pastor of Adult and Community Ministries
sclayton@ipc-usa.org

Rev. David Seamon
Associate Pastor of Faith Formation
dseamon@ipc-usa.org

Dr. Jay Wilkins
Interim Associate Pastor
Parish Associate for Pastoral Care
jwilkins@ipc-usa.org

Dr. Jeff McLelland
Director of Fine Arts & Music -
jmclelland@ipc-usa.org

Catherine Goudreau
Director of Children and Youth
CFAF Programming Director
cgoudreau@ipc-usa.org

Kay Roller
Director of Childrens Faith Formation
kroller@ipc-usa.org

Stacy Pulliam
Director of Member Engagement and Assimilation
spulliam@ipc-usa.org

Kenya Glasco
Nursery Coordinator-
kglasco@ipc-usa.org

Kathy Leaver
Director of IPC Day School
kleaver@ipc-usa.org

Participants in Today's Service

Dr. W. Stephen Goyer Interim Pastor
Rev. David J. Seamon Associate Pastor, Faith Formation

Cover: *Lenten Labyrinth*, painting by Mike Moyers in 2012.
"This painting is a visual labyrinth containing many Lenten concepts. The labyrinth begins and ends with the dark path at the bottom —representing Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Some other themes depicted are: covenant relationship, scripture, The Law, discipleship, betrayal, servant hood, readiness, patience, Christ's passion, deliverance, abundance, provision, sacrifice, new life, and love."

"It is an honor and a joy to share my work with you. For years, I have illustrated, designed and directed many book covers, ads, logos, commercials and campaigns. However, my deeper side is the life of a fine artist. I love to paint with the palette knife to keep my work loose, textured and bold. You will see that I paint all kinds of subjects. My deepest passion, however, is to use fine art to communicate matters of faith."

"I firmly believe that art is a communion with the soul. Through my art, I strive to make known the beauty and wonder of life and faith. The pieces in this exhibit are inspired by things that have touched my life in a meaningful way. They range from plein air and impressionism to abstract and conceptual. My hope is to successfully communicate those inspirations so that you might be touched as well."
Image and text courtesy of the Vanderbilt Jean and Alexander Heard Divinity Library.

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



February 21, 2021

The First Sunday in Lent

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:

My Lord, Thou art in my thought the wings of the mother bird. Thou coverest me in the dark from a thousand harms. I walk unseeing by pit-falls and Thou holdest my feet. Thou stayest the arrows of the enemy. Thou biddest the storms lie down and the floods go back.

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 Lent as signified by the color purple, symbolizing penance, preparation, and sacrifice.

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

+***Gathering Hymn #401*** *"Here in This Place: Gather Us In"*

Welcome

Call to Worship (responsive)

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
People: On them the light has shined
Leader: Let us worship the Lord!

Listening

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

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way for us. We are blinded by our pride, deceived by our false sense of self-righteousness, and hardened by our contempt for others not like us. We have not loved you with all our heart, our mind, and our strength, nor our neighbor as ourselves. Have mercy, O God and forgive our sin. Return us to the right path of Christ who is our way, our truth and our life. Amen.

Please observe a period of silence for personal reflection.

Assurance of Grace:

One: In Jesus Christ,
All: we are forgiven!

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 5:1-11

Sermon: The Sermons on the Mount 1: The Kingdom of God Looks Like This

Responding

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

Musical Reflection *"Blessed Are the Merciful"*

Celebration of the Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

- Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer
- Words of Institution
- Communion of the People (by Intinction)
- Music: *"We Will Feast in the House of Zion"*
- Prayer after Communion

Sending

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

+***Closing Hymn #172*** *"Blest Are They"*

+***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.

+*Rise in Body or Spirit*