



Independent  
Presbyterian  
Church  
Birmingham, Alabama

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February 7, 2021

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**Service for the Lord's Day**

eleven o'clock

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Holy Communion

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God be praised! Thou hast not made us to live alone. We walk along the way as pilgrims together. Thou hast strung our hearts on common cords. Grant us above all wealth to treasure friends, and above all friends the Great Companion. Amen. *from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmonds*

PRELUDE - "Toccata quarta, per L'organo alla L'evatione".....  
Girolamo Frescobaldi

*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. Clayton

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Praise the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is gracious and a song of praise is fitting.

**People: The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.**

Minister: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, his understanding is beyond measure.

**All: Let us praise the Lord!**

\*HYMN 806 - "I'll Praise My Maker" ..... OLD 113TH

PRAYER OF CONFESSION.....Rev. Seamon

**Unison: Gracious and Merciful God: Into every narrow mind, into every shut mouth, into every closed eye, come with healing light to open up and reveal to us not only who you are, but what your love might be, in us, through us, or even despite us. Forgive us for choosing bleakness instead of blessedness, fear instead of trust, despair instead of hope. Into our wintry worlds let the promise of spring come. Remind us that you are in this winter moment with us, and that you are always at work moving us toward new life, new light, new beginning, new hope. Holy God, in infinite mercy, shine your healing light upon all our living, that the life we live may be a life lived to your glory, each and every day. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

MORNING LESSON - Isaiah 40:21-31; Mark 1:29-39

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

\*HYMN 796 - "We Come to You for Healing, Lord" .....LAND OF REST

1 We come to you for heal - ing Lord, of  
 2 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through  
 3 Through nights of pain and wake - ful - ness, through  
 4 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in  
 bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your  
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of  
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of  
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our  
 Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.  
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.  
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.  
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

SERMON - A PRESENT GOD ..... Rev. Clayton

The Response to the Word

\*NICENE CREED (*In unison*)

**I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds; God of God; Light of Light; Very God of Very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; Who for us, and for our salvation, came down from heaven; And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered, and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven; And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Lord and Giver of Life; Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead; And the Life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please continue to remember to support the church. Even during this time when in-person attendance is limited, 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 – “Set Me As a Seal” .....K. Lee Scott  
Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death, for love is strong as death. Many waters cannot quench love, nor the floods drown it. And if one were to give all the possessions of his house for love, it would utterly be despised. Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death!  
*Song of Songs 8:6-7*

The Eucharist

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE.....Dr. Wilkins

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- Minister: The Lord be with you.
- People: And also with you.**
- Minister: Lift up your hearts.
- People: We lift them up to the Lord.**
- Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The minister continues in prayer, and then is sung:

SANCTUS (*All Singing*) ..... arr. Richard Proulx

\*Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The minister continues in prayer:

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (*All Singing*) ..... arr. Richard Proulx

\*Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a - gain.

The minister continues in prayer.

AMEN (All Singing) ..... arr. Richard Proulx

\*A - men, — a - men, a - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (In unison)

**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.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

"O Healing River" ..... Fred Hellerman and Fran Minkoff  
arr. David Cherwien

O healing river, Send down your waters upon this land. O healing river, send down your waters and wash the blood from off the sand. This land is parching, this land is burning, no seed is growing in the barren ground. O healing river, send down your waters, O healing river, send your waters down. Let the seed of freedom awake and flourish. Let the deep roots nourish, let the tall stalks rise. O healing river, send down your waters. O healing river, from out of the skies, O healing river.

*Fred Hellerman and Fran Minkoff*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Sending

\*HYMN 846 - "Fight the Good Fight" ..... DUKE STREET

1 Fight the good fight with all thy might.  
2 Run the straight race through God's good grace;  
3 Cast care a - side; lean on thy guide.  
4 Faint not nor fear: God's arms are near.

Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right.  
lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face.  
God's bound - less mer - cy will pro - vide.  
God chang - eth not, and thou art dear.

Lay hold on life, and it shall be  
Life with its way be fore us lies;  
Trust, and thy trust - ing soul shall prove  
On - ly be - lieve, and thou shalt see

thy joy and crown e - ter - nal ly.  
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.  
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.  
that Christ is all in all to thee.

\*CHARGE

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE - "Finale of *Offertoire sur les grands jeux*" .....François Couperin

\*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 contact us for more information: Stacy Pulliam at 205.933.3690 or [spulliam@ipc-usa.org](mailto:spulliam@ipc-usa.org) and Cindy Shaw at 205.933.3696 or [cshaw@ipc-usa.org](mailto:cshaw@ipc-usa.org).

THE FLOWERS on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Rolla Earl Beck, Jr., First Special Service Force, European Theatre WWII; father of Murray and Reb Beck.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Independent Presbyterian Church is hereby called for Sunday, February 14, 2021, to be convened with the opening prayer at the 11:00 worship service in the sanctuary. The business meeting will begin immediately following the worship service. The purposes of the meeting are: 1) RNC - Election of Officers, 2) Receive the 2020 financial reports, 3) Receive the report of the IPC Foundation, 4) Receive the 2020 report of the President of the Congregation, 5) Susan Clayton's Terms of Call. By order of the Session, Dr. Stephen Goyer, Moderator, and Steve Hunt, Clerk. Find the Zoom meeting link in this week's eUpdate, or sign-up at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org) > connect to have the link sent to your email address.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP RETURNS on February 14 for limited, in-person attendance. IPC will re-open its sanctuary for the 11 am service and Highland Hall for the 5 pm Table service. An Ash Wednesday service will be held at 6:30 pm on February 17. Visit [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org) > worship to see our safety precautions and to make a reservation to join us in-person. All services will continue to be available via livestream on IPC's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

RELIGIOUS ARTS FESTIVAL ENDS TODAY: Join us this afternoon at 4 pm on YouTube or Facebook @IPCBirmingham for a Chamber Music Concert *Glimpses of Grief and Glee* featuring new works composed by Amy McLelland and performed by several local musicians. You can also rewatch our past programs this week on our YouTube channel.

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### Participants in Today's Services

The Rev. Susan A. Clayton, Associate Pastor of Adult & Comm. Ministries  
The Rev. David J. Seamon, Associate Pastor, Faith Formation  
The Rev. Dr. Jay Wilkins, Interim Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care  
Dr. Jeff R. McLelland, Director of Music and Fine Arts  
Ms. Emily Herring, Guest Soprano

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Dr. W. Stephen Goyer, Interim Pastor  
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Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 except Saturday and Sunday

*This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)*

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