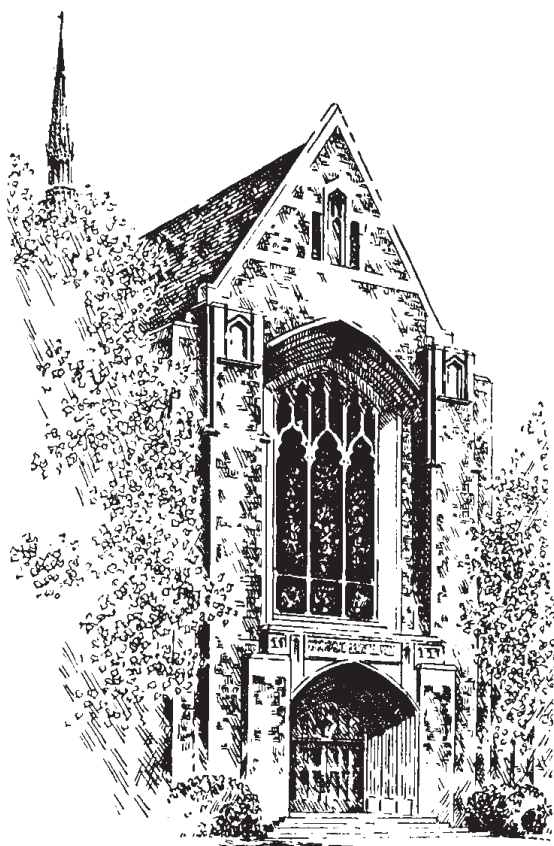


Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Music Dedication Sunday

September 19, 2021

eight forty-five o'clock
eleven o'clock

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Father, I bring my prayer to Thy great heart. I would not persuade Thee but prepare myself. I would not pull Thee down to my way but lift myself up to Thine. Give me to go on asking great and greater things, for Thou art God with power and Thou art my Father with love.

from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmonds

PRELUDE - "Prelude on Psalm 34:6" Herbert Howells
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.

INTROIT - "O praise God in his holiness"George Thalben-Ball
O praise God in his holiness; praise him in the firmament of his power.

* CALL TO WORSHIP Mr. Tyler
Minister: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. Lead the humble and teach them your way.
All: Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.
Minister: For you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.
All: Your paths are steadfast love and faithfulness for those who keep your decrees.
Minister: Let us worship the Lord our God! *from Psalm 25*

* HYMN 624 - "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"TOULON

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Unison: Almighty God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you have made us for yourself so that our hearts are restless until they find rest in you. Mercifully forgive us of our sins. Grant us purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see light, and in your service find perfect freedom.

St. Augustine

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, this is the good news of the gospel.
People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* THE PEACE

Minister: The peace of the Lord Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

Please exchange the peace with the words, "The peace of Christ be with you."

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Rev. Long

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (*eleven o'clock*).....Rev. Clayton

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON - Psalm 34:1-15

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM - " Here, O My Lord"Eleanor Daley
During the singing of this anthem, children, kindergarten and younger, may follow the acolyte down the center aisle to the Ground Floor for worship care.

Here, O my Lord I see Thee face to face, Here would I touch and handle things unseen, here grasp with firmer hand th'eternal grace, And all my weariness upon Thee lean. Here would I feed upon the bread of God, here drink with Thee, the royal wine of heav'n, here would I lay aside each earthly load, and taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n. This is the hour of banquet and of song, this is the heav'nly table spread for me, here let me feast, and fasting still prolong the brief bright hour of fellowship with Thee. Amen. *Horatius Bonar*

SECOND LESSON - John 1:35-39

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON - WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?.....Rev. Long

The Response to the Word

* HYMN 182 - "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say".....KINGSFOLD

* APOSTLES' CREEDRev. 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.

LITANY FOR THE DEDICATION OF THE MUSIC MINISTRY

Minister: Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Our purpose is to commission these persons in the Name of God and of this congregation to a special ministry to which they are called. *(To the choirs)* You have been called to a ministry in this congregation. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?

Choirs: I will.

Minister: Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of your ministry to the honor of God, and the benefit of the members of this congregation?

Choirs: I will.

Minister: I present to you these persons to be admitted to the ministry of Music in this church for the year 2021-2022.

All: Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

* The Offertory Statement

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

* The Prayer of Dedication

The Offertory Anthem – "When In Our Music God Is Glorified"
Thomas Pavlechko

When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia! Alleluia! How oft, in making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! So has the church in liturgy and song in faith and love, through centuries of wrong, born witness to the truth in ev'ry tongue: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia! Alleluia! Let ev'ry instrument be tuned for praise; let all rejoice who have a voice to raise; and may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!

Fred Pratt Green

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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 321 - "The Church's One Foundation"AURELIA

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE - "All Glory Be to God on High"Andreas Armsdorff

* *Congregation standing*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO IPC! We are so thankful that you have joined us today for Worship Services. If you are looking for a church to grow in your faith, you are welcome here at IPC! We invite you to join us at our next IPC WELCOME event to learn more – sign up online at www.ipc-usa.org or email Stacy Pulliam at spulliam@ipc-usa.org. We look forward to personally meeting you.

PLEASE LET US KNOW YOU WERE HERE by signing in using the registers in the pews, then passing them down to those sitting beside you.

THE FLOWERS in the chancel today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Charles Swift Northen III. THE FLOWERS in the Children's Chapel are given to the glory of God and in honor of the baptisms of Dorothy Palma Sorabella and Julie Gesine Sorabella. THE FLOWERS on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jason Hill Estopinal, Private First Class, U.S. Marines; KIA 2010, Afghanistan; grandson of Jean Hill and cousin of Lochrane Coleman Smith.

A SERVICE OF CHORAL EVENSONG by the IPC Camerata is today at 4:00 p.m. as part of Music Dedication Sunday. Rev. Lucy Turner will be the officiant. The service will feature the 16th-century music of Thomas Tallis.

INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR REV. LONG: All are invited to attend Rev. Long's installation service Sunday, Sept. 26, at 4 pm. in the sanctuary with a reception to follow. Please join us in person or watch the service online. There will not be a 5 pm Table worship service on Sept. 26.

THE REPRESENTATIVE NOMINATING COMMITTEE is identifying qualified nominees for the Elder and Deacon classes of 2024, the vice president of the congregation (who will become president in 2023), trustees to serve on the IPC Foundation, and two congregants to serve as members at large on the RNC. Forms are available on the second floor and in the narthex. You may also complete your form online (www.ipc-usa.org/nominations.html) or e-mail your nominations to RNC@ipc-usa.org. The deadline for nominations to be submitted is September 26, 2021.

CIRCLE V meets tomorrow, Monday, September 20, from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. in the Garage at Highland Hall.

GROUPS FOR WOMEN: Women at the Well is reading *Stories Jesus Still Tells: The Parables* by John Claypool. The first meeting is Wednesday, September 22, from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. in the Garage at Highland Hall (book not required for first meeting). Moms in Home for Faith are reading *Giddy Up, Eunice, Because Women Need Each Other* by Sophie Hudson. Meetings are Mondays until November 8, from 9:00– 10:30 a.m. in the Garage at Highland Hall (childcare provided). A Woman's Heart meets Wednesday nights from 5:30-7 p.m. in Room 101.

GLOBAL MISSIONS SUPPER: Join our Global Missions Team on Wednesday, Sept. 22, to hear about previous and future journeys. All are welcome! Please order take-home dinner by noon on Tuesday, Sept. 21, using the Wednesday night dinner link at ipc-usa.org/connect.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

IPC CONNECT FALL CELEBRATION: Join friends and families from IPC from 5 -7 pm on Thursday, Sept. 23, in the outdoor area at Carrigan's Beer Garden for food, beer specials, and an IPC specialty cocktail. This is a self-pay event. Sign-up at ipc-usa.org/connect.

IPC CROPDROP: Sign up to participate in our family-friendly Crop Drop. All ages 5 and up will help sack potatoes for our neighbors who struggle with food insecurity. The deadline to register is Friday, Oct. 1, and you can sign up as a volunteer at ipc-usa.org/connect. The number of IPC volunteers directly correlates to the amount of produce that Society of St. Andrews Alabama Gleaning Network plans on with area farmers and freight carriers. The sign-up deadline is to accommodate this two-week process. Reserve childcare for babies - 4s through the sign-up link.

GRACE GROUPS offer IPC members an opportunity to get to know each other and study the scriptures in a small group setting. Groups meet in various places or via Zoom twice a year over 6 weeks from October 10-November 20. For fall we will study *Acts: Catching Up With the Spirit* by Matthew L. Skinner. Sign up at www.ipc-usa.org/connect.

SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

KIRKWOOD FUNDS: (*Chapel Fund*) In memory of Dr. Edward M. "Ed" Booth. (*Horizon Fund*) In memory of Mr. William F. Edmonds and Mrs. Betty B. Higgins. (*Life Care Fund*) In memory of Mr. Robert G. "Bob" Tate.

BAPTISMS TODAY

DOROTHY PALMA SORABELLA and **JULIE GESINE SORABELLA**, daughters of Katie and Robert Sorabella; sisters of Madeline Sorabella; granddaughters of Gesine and John Connolly, Janice Sorabella, Elaine and Philip Sorabella.

Participants in Today's Services

The Rev. Kevin J. Long, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Susan A. Clayton, Associate Pastor, Congreg. Care & Adult Ed
Mr. JD Tyler, Director of Youth Faith Formation
Dr. Jeff R. McLelland, Director of Music and Fine Arts
The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir
Acolytes: (*eight forty-five*) William Bibb Albright, Sydney Ann Clark,
John Samuel Meriwether IV
(*eleven o'clock*) Heidi Dale Hollingsworth, Julia Mitchell Mather,
William Steel Mather

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This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)
www.ipc-usa.org