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 spulliam@ipcusa.org. "Like" us on Facebook at @IPCBirmingham.

JOIN THE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S (PW) SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS for a special "Interim" study titled *By Bread Alone*, based on Kendall Vanderslice's reflections on hunger, longing, and the goodness of God. This four-week class will take place on Sundays from April 27 to May 18 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 304. We invite you to come and

to May 18 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 304. We invite you to come and engage in meaningful discussions and fellowship as we explore these thought-provoking themes together.

JOIN THE LUNCH BUNCH CREW on Tuesday, April 29, for a great meal and fellowship at The Fish Market (612 22nd St. S., Birmingham, AL). We will meet at the restaurant at 11:30 a.m. This is a self-pay event but please register at ipc-usa.org on the Sign Up Links page, so we will have an accurate headcount.

IPC PLAYGROUND CELEBRATION AND DEDICATION SERVICE:

Join us for a special celebration and dedication of IPC's new playgrounds on Wednesday, April 30, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on the large playground. The Dedication Service for the Cindy Coulter Playground will take place on the 31st Street playground at 6:00 p.m. Families are welcome and light snacks will be provided. We look forward to celebrating this wonderful addition for the children of IPC with you!

IPC CHOIR SPRING CONCERT: Save the date for an afternoon soirée of music on Sunday, May 18, at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Enjoy works by 19th-Century German composers Robert and Clara Schumann, and Johannes Brahms, starting with the well-known *How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place* from Brahms's Requiem. The concert will include Lieder by Robert Schumann, as well as a Romance for oboe. The event concludes with Schumann's rarely heard *Requiem*. This free concert promises to be a lovely afternoon of beautiful music!

CONNECT WITH IPC'S PASTORAL & PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Kevin J. Long Pastor

kevin.long@ipc-usa.org

Rev. Susan A. Clayton

Associate Pastor, Congregational Care and Adult Ministries sclayton@ipc-usa.org

Rev. D. Nicole Newton

Associate Pastor, Discipleship nnewton@ipc-usa.org

Rev. David J. Seamon Associate Pastor, Mission and Outreach

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Cammie Ashworth

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Beth Middleton

Director of Children's Ministries bmiddleton@ipc-usa.org

Stacy Pulliam

Member Engagement and Assimilation Coordinator spulliam@ipc-usa.org

BAPTISM IN TODAY'S SERVICE

MICHAEL MAXWELL GOUDREAU, born May 31, 2024, son of Mrs. Catherine and Mr. Nick Goudreau, brother of Emerson Campbell Goudreau, and granddaughter of Mischelle and Scott Goudreau and Cathie and Jeff Bonner.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Susan A. Clayton Associate Pastor Rev. David J. Seamon **Associate Pastor** Sarah Mason Worship Leader **Brett Burcham** Acoustic Guitar **Eric Onimus** Bass Guitar Leif Bondarenko Drums Jeff Lopez Horns **Tommy Bowen** Horns Oliver Middleton Video & Lights **Hayden Thomas** 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



APRIL 27, 2025
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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 mighty God, but not too mighty to be merciful; O God, high and lifted up, but not too exalted to be tender and true; give me joy in Thy presence, give me comfort in Thy love. Amen.

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 Easter as signified by the color white. Easter isn't just a Sunday—it's a season. One day out of 365 is hardly sufficient to celebrate the great mystery of our faith—that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

Accordingly, the season of Easter lasts seven weeks (a "week of weeks"), spanning the 50 days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday and encompassing the festival of the Ascension of the Lord. The season of Easter is intended to be a joyful time for celebrating the presence of the risen Christ in the church.

Of course, Easter really isn't just a season either. In the fullest sense, Easter is a new way of life—in which we are "dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 6:11), called to "walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:4).

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 spulliam@ipc-usa.org.

Visit our website: ipc-usa.org/welcome

FLOWER DEDICATION

The flowers on the foyer table are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mark L. Miller.

GATHERING

We gather as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God

Prelude

Welcome

Sacrament of Baptism: Michael Maxwell Goudreau

Call to Worship

Leader: On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all

peoples a feast of rich foods, a feast of well-aged

wines

People: And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud

that is cast over all peoples, and he will swallow

up death forever.

Leader: Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from

all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take

away from all the earth.

People: It will be said on that day: Lo, this is our God; we

have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let

us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

All: Let us praise the Lord!

Gathering Songs

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

LISTENING

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

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Lord, we confess that we have often refused the gift of your Spirit. Content in our dimness we shrink from your Light. Comfortable in our coolness, we withdraw from your Fire. We would be moved, but carefully. We would feel, but mildly. We would see your face, but dimly. Forgive us for begrudging your appearance among us, or for accepting your word, only to ignore it. Forgive us and visit us again. We pray, now, in Jesus' name, not for warm thoughts, but for burning hearts. For there is much that we must see, and much that we must do. 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: Luke 24:13-35

Sermon: "When Easter Comes Quietly"

RESPONDING

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

Hymn "Abide with Me"

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. To give online, text OFFERING to (205) 927-3100 and follow the steps.

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
- Communion Song: "Our Great God"
- Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Closing Hymn

"How Great Thou Art"

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.