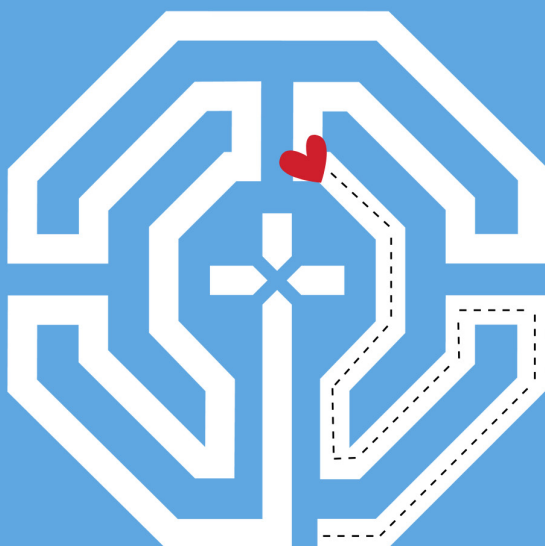


Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



Let Love Lead
Youth Sunday

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

March 16, 2025

8:45 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

The Gathering for Worship

Gracious God, we pray that you help guide us today as we sing and hear your word. Give us the strength to silence our minds and open our ears to hear you. Thank you for gifting us the opportunity to worship you, O God. Amen.

Jessica Long, IPC Youth

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.

Leader: We come to this place bearing worries and anxieties.

All: Lead us towards peace.

Leader: We come to this place seeking community.

All: Lead us towards fellowship.

Leader: We come to this place ready to hear your voice.

All: Lead us towards love. Let us worship God.

*HYMN 366..... HYFYDOL
 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (8:45 a.m.) Gavin Vanlandingham
(11:00 a.m.) Macey Robinson

Unison: Dear Lord, we confess our jealousy masks our compassion. Our anger influences our actions, and our stress and anxiety pull us away from peace. We acknowledge that our selfish tendencies lead us off Your path. Forgive us for the times we've misused our words. Sometimes, we get so caught up in our own problems that we forget to let You lead. Help us to be more patient, more kind, and more aware of Your presence. Guide us, O God, through life's highs and lows, and help us trust in You through it all. Let Your love surround us in our struggles and remind us that we are never alone. In Your name we pray. Amen.

A period of silence for personal confession.

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

*DECLARATION OF PARDON.....(8:45 a.m.) Gavin Vanlandingham
(11:00 a.m.) Shep Ray

Leader: Friends, this is the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*THE PEACE

Leader: May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: 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."

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Mrs. Ashworth

RECOGNITION OF SENIORS AND SENIOR ACOLYTES (11:00 a.m.)...

Mrs. Ashworth, Ms. Daniels

Leader: As you go from this place, remember us, and we will remember you.

People: As you go from this place, pray for us, and we will pray for you.

Seniors: As we go from this place, we take many memories, and we'll come back to visit soon.

Leader: We send you from this place to be the body of Christ in this world.

People: We send you from this place to be the church wherever you go.

Seniors: We are sent, equipped by love, to participate in the mission of God in all that we do.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND SENIOR ACOLYTES

Sydney Clark ☙

Spencer Cobbs ☙

Laura Donovan ❖

Mary Richard Elkus

Laden Falls ❖

Addison Hardee

Hartwell Higgins

Owen Kracke

Jessica Long ❖

Will Mather

Andrew Murphree ☙

Liam Powell

John Snyder

Joseph Spencer

Bart Stephens

Tempie Stokes

Stephen Tribble ☙

Jack Walthall

Reed Warburton

☙ 2023-2024 Graduating Senior Acolyte

❖ 2023-2024 Graduating Senior Acolyte Captain

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION(8:45 a.m.) Andrew Grover
(11:00 a.m.) Andrew Murphree

SCRIPTURE LESSON- 1 John 4: 7-21 (Pew Bible, p. NT72).....

Leader: The Word of the Lord. (8:45 a.m.) Sam Meriwether

People: Thanks be to God. (11:00 a.m.) Jessica Long

During the singing of this HYMN, children kindergarten age and younger may follow the acolyte down the center aisle to the Ground Floor for childcare.

HYMN 215WONDROUS LOVE

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

SERMON..... (8:45 a.m.) Spencer Cobbs, Laura Donovan, Reed Warburton
(11:00 a.m.) Spencer Cobbs, Reed Warburton, Laden Falls
“Let Love Lead”

The Response to the Word

*HYMN 157 LORD OF THE DANCE
“I Danced in the Morning”

*APOSTLES’ CREED..... (8:45 a.m.) Heidi Hollingsworth
(11:00 a.m.) Bob Pringle

**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.**

COMMISSIONING OF CHIAPAS MISSION TEAM (11:00 a.m.).....
Rev. Long

Hollis Bankhead
Grace Daniels
Dany Hollingsworth
Heidi Hollingsworth
Laden Falls
Jessica Long
Katelyn Long
Rebecca Long

Mary Harbin Porter
Heather Ray
Helen Ray
Jacob Ray
Shep Ray
Rev. David Seamon
Millie Seamon

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS.... (8:45 a.m.) Jessica Long
(11:00 a.m.) Jake Falls

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

* The Offertory Statement

* The Doxology (HYMN 606)..... OLD HUNDREDTH
“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* The Prayer of Dedication

The Offertory Anthem..... Paul Baloche
“Open The Eyes Of My Heart”

Murphy Peterson, *soloist*

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. I want to see You. To see You high and lifted
up, shining in the light of Your glory. Pour out Your power and love as we sing
holy, holy, holy. *adapt. Ephesians 1:18*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER
(8:45 a.m.) Murphy Peterson
(11:00 a.m.) Anne Pringle

**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 300THEY’LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS
“We Are One in the Spirit”

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE William Boyce
“Voluntary in A Minor”

*CONGREGATION STANDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO IPC! Please join us at the Welcome Table in the Parlor immediately following the service where we can tell you more about our church. We look forward to meeting you! For more information, please contact Stacy Pulliam at spulliam@ipc-usa.org.

THE FLOWERS in the chancel today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. Paul S. Woodall. **THE ROSE** in the Children’s Chapel is given to the glory of God and in honor of the birth of Mary Burton Lanier, daughter of Amanda & Luke Lanier, sister of Luke Lanier III, granddaughter of Barbara & Barney Lanier, born on February 26, 2025. **THE FLOWERS** on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Don Herbert Maring, Sr., who joined the French Army at the beginning of WWI. He later transferred to the American Expeditionary Forces and joined General John J. Pershing’s staff as Chief Ordinance Officer. He was awarded the French Legion of Honor.

IN KEEPING WITH TRADITIONAL LITURGICAL PRACTICES, the worship services during Lent will change slightly to observe this most penitential season. The choir will process silently, the Gloria Patri will be omitted, and the postlude will take on a more reflective nature. Another way the nature of Lent is observed is by the use of the plain brass cross on the Communion Table. These few changes are meant to help make your observance of Lent more meaningful so that the glorious nature of Easter will be even more bountiful in your life.

JOIN US FOR COOKIES IN THE COURTYARD this morning and each Sunday during Lent following the 11 am worship service.

BEER AND HYMNS: Join us on Monday, March 17 **at our NEW! location, The Grocery at 2823 Central Ave., in Homewood!** The Beer & Hymns music starts at 7:00 p.m. and is exactly what it sounds like. We sing old-timey hymns (plus a few new ones) while enjoying good food and beverages.

LENTEN CHAPEL & LUNCH: Join us each Wednesday through April 16 for a noonday worship service followed by a light lunch. **Reserve your lunch for this week by noon on March 18.** Find the reservation form and discover more about Lent at IPC at ipc-usa.org.

THE PATRICIA BYRNE MEMORIAL CONCERT SERIES on Tuesday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m., presents the internationally acclaimed organist Ken Cowan and 42 members of the Alabama Symphony performing organ concertos Rheinberger and Jongen, and the hauntingly beautiful *Adagio* by Tomaso Albinoni.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

THE CHIAPAS MISSION TEAM is collecting supplies for their trip from March 22-29, where they will construct a church and run programs for local children. Please consider donating new supplies from the list below or visit our Amazon wish list at ipc-usa.org on the Sign Up Links page. Bring supplies to the Community Ministries office on the ground floor off 31st Street. **Supplies needed by March 20:** Paint brushes (16), paint rollers (16), paint roller frames (8), work gloves (12), queen sheets (5 sets), king sheets (2 sets), children's puzzles (12), 8-pack Crayola crayons (120), coloring books (20), basketballs (6), soccer balls (3), and hand-held, portable ball pumps (3).

JOIN US FOR "NATURE NURTURE: Our Way to a Homegrown Habitat" running Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm in Room 302 through April 2. Discover what is growing in the Highland Avenue medians and how you, too, can nurture plots of beautiful flora and fauna native to Alabama, led by Certified Master Gardener Gail Pless.

HONOR THE MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES with an Easter Memorial donation. To ensure the names of your loved ones are included in the Easter bulletin, please submit your contribution by Sunday, April 6. You can pick up a contribution envelope today from the pew racks or at the receptionist's desk. Find our online donation form on the Sign Up Links page at ipc-usa.org.

SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

FOOD PANTRY: In memory of John Lyons and Betty Jo Cowin. In honor of the Installation of Rev. Nicole Newton.

CFAF: In memory of Veronica and James Halbleib, Frank Lee, John Lyons, and Mary Tom Stubbs.

IPC MUSIC: In memory of Betty Jo Cowan and Debbie McCorquodale.

Participants in Today's Services

The Rev. Kevin J. Long, Pastor

The Rev. David J. Seamon, Associate Pastor, Mission & Outreach

Mrs. Cammie Ashworth, Director of Youth Ministries

Ms. Grace Daniels, Assistant Director of Youth Ministries

Dr. Jeff R. McLelland, Director of Music and Fine Arts

Acolytes: (8:45 a.m.) Layton Meriwether, Sam Meriwether, Joseph Scholl

(11:00 a.m.) Andrew Murphree, Anne, Pringle, Bob Pringle

The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir

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