



Independent  
Presbyterian  
Church  
Birmingham, Alabama

Vol. 77, No. 40

October 6, 2024

Service for the Lord's Day

8:45 am & 11:00 am

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Holy Communion

World Communion Sunday

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Gracious Father, give us a new vision of Jesus Christ – Image of God, Perfected Man. Declare Him unto us with all his power, mystery and charm. Show us His mastery, His beauty, His love. Amen.

*from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmonds*

PRELUDE ..... Edwin Lemare

“Adagio Cantabile”

*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 ..... George Thalben-Ball

“Draw nigh to God”

Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you.

CALL TO WORSHIP ..... (8:45 am) Mrs. Leaver

(11:00 am) Ms. Warren

Leader: My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

**People: O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt God’s name together.**

Leader: When I sought the Lord, he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

**People: O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in the Lord our God.**

Leader: Let us worship the Lord! *Psalm 34:2-4,8*

\*HYMN 503 ..... O QUANTA QUALIA

“Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation”

**\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Unison:** Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

*A period of silence for personal confession.*

**\* KYRIE ELEISON (from *The Independent Service* by Jeff McLelland)**

Lord have mer - cy up - on us, Christ have mer - cy up - on us,  
 Lord have mer - cy up - on us.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

**\* DECLARATION OF PARDON**

**Leader:** Friends, believe 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."*

**\* GLORIA PATRI (from *The Independent Service* by Jeff McLelland)**

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi-rit:  
 6 As it was in the be - gin - ing, is now, and will be for  
 9 ev - er, world with - out end. A - men.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in 3/2 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, the second staff for the second line, and the third staff for the third line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Rev. Long

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION..... (8:45 am) Mrs. Leaver  
(11:00 am) Ms. Warren

SCRIPTURE LESSON - Philippians 3:1-14 (Pew Bible, p.NT198)

**Minister:** The Word of the Lord.  
**People:** Thanks be to God.

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

\* HYMN 223 ..... HAMBURG  
“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

SERMON ..... Rev. Long  
“Leaving the Past Behind”

The Response to the Word

\* NICENE CREED.....Rev. Clayton  
**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

- \* 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..... Ola Gjeilo  
“Ubi Caritas”  
*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exsultemus, et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Amen.*

Where charity and love are, God is there. We have gathered as one in Christ’s love. Let us rejoice in Him and be glad. Let us fear and let us love the living God. And let us love each other with a sincere heart. Amen. *attrib. to Paulinus of Aquileia*

The Eucharist

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

## 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 (from *The Independent Service* by Jeff McLelland)

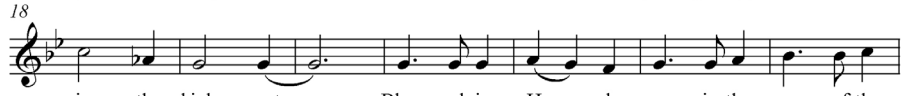
introduction




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of



po-wer and might. Hea-ven 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.

*The minister continues in prayer.*

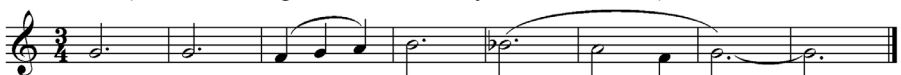
MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (from *The Independent Service* by Jeff McLelland)



Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain!

*The minister continues in prayer.*

AMEN (from *The Independent Service* by Jeff McLelland)



A - men, A - men, A - - - men!

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (*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 ..... Stephanie Martin

“Ave Verum Corpus” from *Four Motets*

*Ave verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine. Vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine; Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit sanguine. Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine. O dulcis, O pie, O Jesu, Fili Mariae, Miserere nobis. Amen*

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross for mankind, from whose pierced side flowed water and blood: Be for us a foretaste [of the Heavenly banquet] in the trial of death! O sweet one, O holy one, O Jesus, son of Mary, have mercy on us. Amen. *13th Century Eucharist Chant*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## The Sending

\*HYMN 450 ..... SLANE  
“Be Thou My Vision”

\*BENEDICTION ..... Rev. Long

\*POSTLUDE ..... Theodore Dubois  
“Sortie”

\*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](mailto:spulliam@ipc-usa.org) or attend our **New Member Interest Class Today, October 6** at 10 am in Great Hall 1.

**THE FLOWERS** on the War Memorial today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Eric E. Thomas, Colonel, U.S. Army; Vietnam, First Airborne Division; awarded the Legion of Merit Bronze Star; father of Marliese Thomas.

**TODAY IS WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY:** Christian churches of many denominations across the globe will share The Lord’s Supper today as a sign of Christ’s prayer that we would be one, united Body of Christ. At IPC this morning, we remember our mission partners across the globe, especially in Mwandi, Zambia; Chiapas, Mexico; Nkhoma, Malawi; Kigali, Rwanda; Nairobi, Kenya; Dominican Republic; Vinnysia, Ukraine; and Lahore, Pakistan.

**EXTENDED ATRIUM:** Children in first through sixth grade will have extra exploration time in the Atrium this morning before joining their parents for communion during the 11 am worship service. Catechists will bring the children into the service at the Doxology, line up with them in the side aisle, and help to quietly find families during the offertory anthem. Parents, please sit on the pulpit/parlor side of the Sanctuary along the outside aisle, if possible.

**HURRICANE HELENE DISASTER RELIEF:** You can help by making a financial contribution or participating in a supply drive. Give directly to **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)** online or write a check to IPC with “Hurricane Relief” in the memo line. Checks can be placed in the offering plate this Sunday. Additionally, IPC will serve as a collection point next week for a **community-wide supply drive**. The following items can be dropped off with the Community Ministries department (ground floor) next week, Monday, October 7, through Thursday, October 10, from 8:30 am to 3 pm each day: Bottled water, Cleaning supplies, Toilet paper, Paper towels, Batteries for flashlights, Flathead shovels, Heavy-duty garden rakes, Heavy-duty garbage bags, Diapers in both adult and child sizes, First aid supplies, Work gloves, Stuffed animals, Dolls, and Board games. No clothing will be accepted. Learn more about how to contribute at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

**IPC FOUNDATION LUNCH & LEARN:** Dr. Laurent Mbanda, the Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Rwanda, will visit IPC on Wednesday, October 9. All are welcome to enjoy lunch and listen to our speaker at 11 am in the Large Dining Room of the Great Hall. Register at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org) under the Connect tab so that we can have an accurate headcount.

**JOIN A GRACE GROUP** this fall to grow in faith and fellowship. Meeting October 13- November 23, each group will study *Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of Christian Faith* by Timothy Keller. Whether you are new to the church or a longtime member, there is a place for you. Register at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org) or you can find a sign-up sheet in the Parlor.

**FOCUS ON FAITH SUNDAY** is October 20. We welcome Guest Speaker Brad H. Young, Ph.D., Founder and President of the Gospel Research Foundation and an internationally recognized authority on the comparative study of the Gospel and Rabbinic Parables. The schedule includes morning worship services with Dr. Young, and he will lead a Sunday School class at 10 am in the Sanctuary. Following 11 am worship, there will be a reception.

**SEED PACKING PARTY:** Join us at IPC's newest intergenerational event and help pack 3,000 cucumber and cabbage seed packets to be distributed to community gardens across Alabama and the US. This event on Sunday, October 20, kicks off our annual Harvest for Hunger campaign and replaces the Crop Drop event. Sign up today under the Connect tab at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org). We need more than 100 volunteers and 16 team leaders!

### SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

**KIRKWOOD FUNDS:** (*Chapel Fund*) In memory of Mrs. Jean Q. Mary. (*Horizon Fund*) In memory of Mrs. Clara H. Carlin, Mr. William F. Edmonds, Mrs. Jane M. Leslie, Mrs. Jean Q. Mary, Mrs. Barbara A. Sturgeon, and Mrs. Katherine Thames (*Walking Trails & Garden Fund*) In memory of Mrs. Marie W. "Ree" Myers.

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### Participants in Today's Services

The Rev. Kevin J. Long, Pastor

The Rev. Susan A. Clayton, Associate Pastor

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

(8:45 am) Mrs. Kathy Leaver, Elder (11:00 am) Ms. Elise Warren, Deacon

The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir

Acolyte: (8:45 am) Sydney Clark, Joe Jones, Jessica Long

(11:00 am) Jessica Long, Katelyn Long, Helen Ray

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Independent Presbyterian Church

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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)**