

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

WELCOME VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS! If this is your first visit, we would love to say hello and welcome you to our church family. **Contact us:** To learn more about joining IPC, please send an email to membership@ipc-usa.org or visit the *New to IPC* page on our website.

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

BACK-TO-SCHOOL: Students and teachers are invited to pick up an IPC bag tag for their backpacks, day school totes, or briefcases. Bag tags are available in Highland Hall in the foyer.

BEER & HYMNS: Come to The Grocery (2823 Central Avenue in Homewood) on Monday, August 17 for some old-timey hymns (and a few new ones) in a relaxed setting with good food and great company. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Music starts at 7:00 p.m.

ACOLYTE REGISTRATION: Calling all new and returning acolytes! Grades 7th-12th can register now at ipc-usa.org on the Sign Up Links page. The training will be held Sunday, August 23.

PLANNING FOR WHAT MATTERS: WILLS, POWER OF ATTORNEY, AND THE WHAT-IFS: Whether you're starting from scratch or revisiting decisions you've already made, there's no better time than now to have a plan. Join IPC members and estate planning professionals Sheri Robinson and Jessica Grover on Sunday, August 23, at 11:00 a.m. in the Highland Hall Garage for a practical conversation about wills, medical and financial powers of attorney, common misconceptions, frequently used terms, and resources for next steps. Brunch will be provided, and childcare is available with registration. Please register at ipc-usa.org on the Sign Up Links page.

CELEBRATING REV. SUSAN CLAYTON'S 25 YEARS OF MINISTRY: On Sunday, August 30, join us for a reception in the Parlor following the 10:00 a.m. worship service to honor Rev. Susan Clayton's 25 years of faithful service as IPC's Associate Pastor. Enjoy light refreshments, cake, and fellowship as we gather and celebrate!

FALL AT IPC: We look forward to the return of our fall schedule at IPC. Wednesday Night Programming and Dinner resume on September 9. On Sunday, September 13, we'll return to our regular worship schedule with services at 8:45 and 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary and 5 p.m. at Highland Hall. We'll also gather for our Second Annual Together Again Breakfast from 9–11 a.m. in the Great Hall to celebrate the start of a new season together. More details about fall programming will be shared soon.

THE LITURGICAL YEAR

IPC follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in the Season after Pentecost, also known as Ordinary Time. It is signified by the color green which represents new life and growth. Ordinary Time is observed from Pentecost until the beginning of Advent.

CONNECT WITH IPC'S PASTORAL & PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Kevin J. Long
Pastor
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Rev. Susan A. Clayton
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Rev. D. Nicole Newton
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Cammie Ashworth
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Beth Middleton
Director of Children's Ministries
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PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Gaige Tittle, Seminary Intern
Rev. Nicole Newton, Assoc. Pastor
Sarah Mason, Worship Leader
Brett Burcham, Acoustic Guitar
Eric Onimus, Bass Guitar
Carlos Pino, Electric Guitar
Fred Rogan, Steel Guitar

Leif Bondarenko, Drums
Jeff Lopez, Horns
Tommy Bowen, Horns
Hayden Thomas, Sound



Independent Presbyterian Church

Church office: 3100 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, AL 35205
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. | Phone: 205.933.1830
ipc-usa.org | facebook.com/ipcbirmingham
This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)

THE TABLE

Independent Presbyterian Church



AUGUST 16, 2026

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Gathering Song “There Is a Fountain”

Welcome

Opening Hymn “10,000 Reasons”

Chorus: Bless the Lord oh my soul, Oh my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
I’ll worship Your Holy name

Verse 1: The sun comes up; It’s a new day dawning
It’s time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass
And whatever lies before me
Let me be singing, when the evening comes

Repeat Chorus

Verse 2: You’re rich in love and You’re slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Repeat Chorus

Verse 3: And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

LISTENING

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

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. 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: “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson: Jonah 1:1-2:2

Sermon: “When Grace Smells Fishy”

RESPONDING

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

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.

- Offering Song: “There Is a Redeemer”
- 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: “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”
- Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Closing Hymn “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”

Verse 1: Oh-oh the deep, deep love of Jesus
Vast unmeasured, boundless, free
Rolling as a mighty ocean
In its fullness over me

Verse 2: Underneath me, all around me
Is the current of His love
Leading onward, leading homeward to
Thy glorious rest above

Verse 3: Oh-oh the deep, deep love of Jesus
Tis a heav’n of heav’ns to me
And it lifts me up to glory
For it lifts me up to Thee

Verse 4: Oh-oh the deep, deep love of Jesus
Spread His praise from shore to shore
How He loveth, ever loveth
Changeth never, nevermore

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.*