
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@ipc-usa.org. "Like" us on Facebook at @IPCBirmingham.

JOIN THE LUNCH BUNCH CREW on Tuesday, March 25 for a great meal and fellowship at Olexa's in Mountain Brook Village. We will meet at the restaurant at 11:30. 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 head count.

LENTEN CHAPEL & LUNCH: Join us each Wednesday (March 12-April 16) for a noonday worship service followed by a light lunch. **Reserve your lunch for this week by noon on March 25.** Find the reservation form and discover more about Lent at IPC at ipc-usa.org.

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.

WESTERN CAROLINA MISSION TRIP: Make plans to serve with us from June 8-14, where we'll assist with light construction and rebuilding homes affected by Hurricane Helene. We'll be staying in a couple of homes on Cataloochee Mountain and working in the Canton area. Open to participants aged 14 and up. Please complete the interest form on the Sign Up Links page at ipc-usa.org by April 10 or contact Rev. David Seamon at dseamon@ipc-usa.org for more information.

JOIN US FOR A FAMILY SOCK HOP on Friday, April 11, 2025, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in Highland Hall. IPC Children's Ministries will host a fun-filled evening with a hot dog and hamburger dinner, an ice cream station, a photo booth, music by a DJ, and games. Costumes are encouraged!

THE REPRESENTATIVE NOMINATING COMMITTEE is identifying qualified nominees for the Elder and Deacon classes of 2028, trustees to serve on the IPC Foundation, two congregants to serve as members at large on the RNC, and the vice president of the congregation (who will become president in 2027). The online form is available at ipc-usa.org or email RNC@ipc-usa.org. The deadline for nominations is April 21.

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

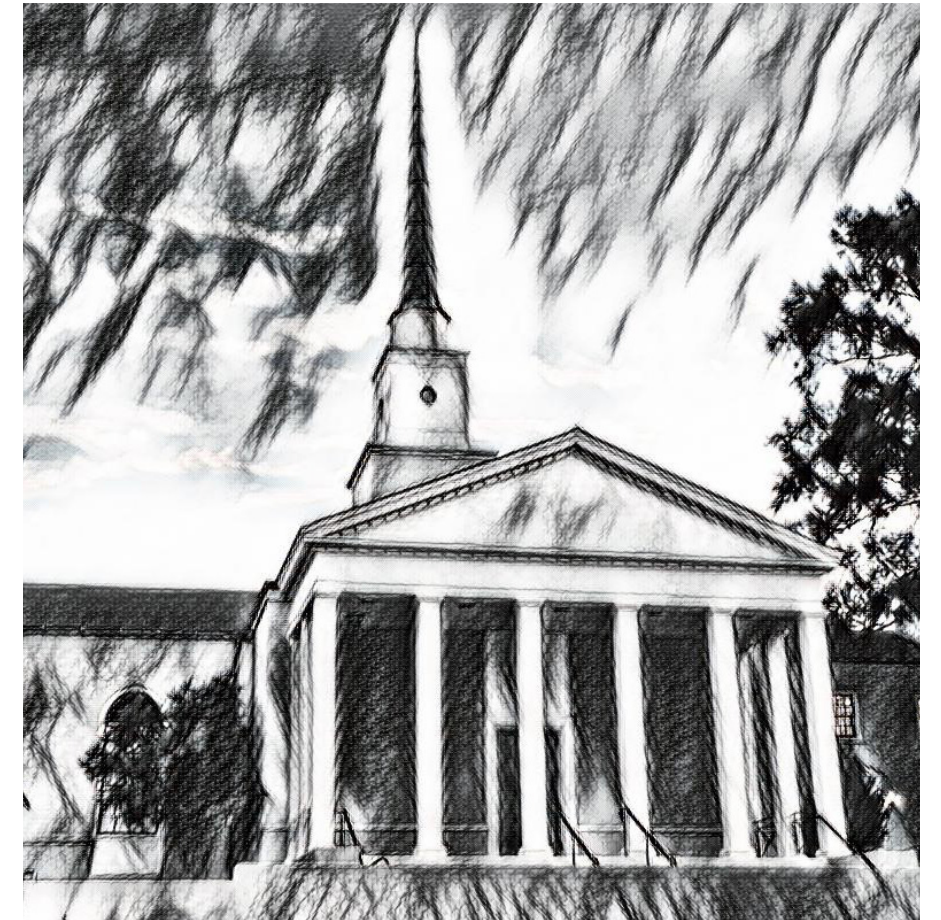
Stacy Pulliam
Member Engagement and
Assimilation Coordinator
spulliam@ipc-usa.org

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

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

THE TABLE

Independent Presbyterian Church



MARCH 23, 2025

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



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)

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:

My Father, give me eyes to see Jesus still going His way of light among all people. I would see Him not far away but at my door, not of long ago but of today. Open my ears for His words, my heart for His wondrous news. O Master, lead me away to Thy new health, to Thy new life. 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 Lent as signified by the color purple, which symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice.

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

Call to Worship

Leader: Seek the Lord while he may be found,
Call upon him while he is near;
**People: Let the wicked forsake their way,
And the unrighteous their thoughts;**
Leader: Let them return to the Lord, that he may have
mercy on them,
And to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
**People: For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For just as the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are my ways higher than your ways
And my thoughts than your thoughts.**
All: Let us worship the God of our salvation!

Gathering Songs

*"Living Waters"
"Because He Lives"*

LISTENING

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

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed to live in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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 13:1-9

Sermon: "Making Space for Grace"

RESPONDING

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

Hymn

"Blessed Are The Merciful"

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: "New Wine"
- Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Closing Hymn

"In Christ Alone"

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.*