

Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 10, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O mighty God, lead us into the experience of triumphing over death. Let us walk humbly and majestically, fearing nothing. May we begin our immortal lives now. Grant that sinking ourselves in Christ, we may win His victory in all things. Amen. *from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmonds*

PRELUDE Theodore Dubois
"Cantilène Religieuse"

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Clayton

Minister: Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
People: **He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.**
Minister: He gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless.
People: **Even youths will faint and grow weary, and the young will fall exhausted.**
Minister: But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles.
People: **They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.** *Isaiah 40:28-31*

* HYMN 634 TO GOD BE THE GLORY
"To God Be the Glory"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Unison: **God of mercy, in Jesus Christ you have brought light into the darkness. But we confess that we have chosen to remain in the darkness where we have made our home. You would give us life, but we have grown accustomed to death. You would give us love, but we have nurtured resentment too long. You would give us hope, but we are afraid hope will disappoint us once again. Forgive us, O God, for our lack of trust and obedience. Set us free from our sin that we might live for Christ. In his name we pray. Amen.**
A period of silence for personal confession.

* KYRIE ELEISON

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

* DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, this is the good news of the gospel.
People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

* THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

Minister: 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 (HYMN 581) GREATOR EX

"Glory Be to the Father"

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Rev. Long

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Hudson Perry Wheeler

* APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON - Acts 9:32-43 (Pew Bible, p. NT98)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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

ANTHEM

Francis Poulenc "Priez pour paix"

Nick Mathes, Tenor

Priez pour paix, douce Vierge Marie, reine des cieux, et du monde maîtresse, faites prier; par votre courtoisie, saints et saintes, et prenez votre adresse vers votre Fils, requérant sa haultesse qu'il lui plaise son peuple regarder; que de son sang a voulu racheter, en déboutant guerre qui tout dévoie; de prières ne vous veuillez lasser: priez pour paix, le vrai trésor de joie.

Pray for peace, sweet Virgin Mary, Queen of Heaven and mistress of the world. In your courtesy, have the saints pray too, and address your Son, begging His Highness to deign to look on His people, whom He redeemed with His blood, and to banish war which destroys all. Do not weary of our prayers. Pray for peace, pray for peace, the true treasure of joy.

Charles d'Orléans

SERMON Rev. Long

"Alive"

The Response to the Word

* HYMN 246 TRURO
“Christ Is Alive!”

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Rev. Seamon
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

“Draw Thou My Soul” Janet Sanborn

Nick Mathes, Tenor

Draw Thou my soul, O Christ, closer to Thine. Breathe into every wish Thy will divine; raise my low self above, won by Thy deathless love. Ever, O Christ, through mine let Thy life shine. Lead forth my soul, O Christ, one with Thine own, joyful to follow Thee through paths unknown. In Thee my faith renew, give me Thy work to do. Through me, Thy truth be shown, Thy love made known. Not for myself alone may my prayer be Lift Thou my soul, O Christ, closer to Thee. Cleanse it from guilt and wrong, teach it salvation's song till earth, as Heav'n, fulfills God's holy will.

Lucy Larcom

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

The Sending

* HYMN 265 DUKE STREET
“Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun”

* BENEDICTION Rev. Long

* POSTLUDE Luigi Bottazzo
“Finale alla Marziale”

* 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 The Reverend W. B. (Pete) and Sophia Clifford. **THE FLOWERS** on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in honor of Rick Smith, retired Colonel in the U.S. Air Force; flew in Korea and Vietnam; uncle of Ann Walthall.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS: All students and teachers are invited to bring their backpacks, day school totes, and briefcases to participate in the “Blessing of the Backpacks” next Sunday, August 17 during the 10:00 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary and the 5:00 p.m. Table worship service in Highland Hall.

RECOGNIZING DR. JEFF MCLELLAND: Join us for a reception in the parlor next Sunday, August 17 following the worship service to honor Dr. Jeff McLelland’s 25 years of service as IPC’s Director of Music and Fine Arts.

BEER AND HYMNS: Join us on Monday, August 18, at The Grocery (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.

IPC YOUTH FALL KICKOFF: Join us Sunday, August 24, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Blackjack Farm for Martin’s barbecue, water activities, and games for 7th-12th graders. Youth can enjoy the evening for \$10 per youth, with a \$15 maximum per family. Register online by August 20; click on the Sign Up Links page under the Connect tab in the top navigation. We look forward to welcoming new and returning students to celebrate the new school year!

FAMILY CATECHESIS NIGHT: Families with elementary-aged children are invited to join us for Family Catechesis Night Wednesday, August 27 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on the first floor. This special evening will be a time to enjoy a light supper and spend time together in the Atria. Whether your family attends Catechesis regularly or you’ve never experienced it before, you are welcome. Nursery care is available upon request for children in preschool and younger. Sign up at ipc-usa.org; click on the Sign Up Links page under the Connect tab in the top navigation.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE: On Sunday, August 31, we will observe our Holiday Worship Schedule and gather for one morning worship service in the Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. There will be no Sunday school and no Table worship service that morning.

TOGETHER AGAIN BREAKFAST: You’re invited to a special welcome breakfast on Sunday, September 7 at 10 am in the Great Hall during the Sunday school hour. All are welcome to come enjoy breakfast, coffee, and fellowship as we celebrate the first Sunday back on our regular schedule. Whether you’re new to IPC or looking to reconnect with your family of faith, this is a wonderful opportunity to gather and begin a new season together. Sunday School classes will not meet on September 7 and officially kick off the fall semester on September 14.

BAPTISM TODAY

HUDSON PERRY WHEELER, born February 5, 2025, son of Sallie and Ryan Perry Wheeler, brother of Sophie Phillips Wheeler, grandson of Penny & Randy Wheeler, Jennifer & Mickey Thomas, and Laurie & Jeff Grantham, and great-grandson of Jackie Grantham.

SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

KIRKWOOD FUNDS: (*Horizon Fund*) In memory of Mr. William F. Edmonds and Mrs. Mary L. Ottensmeyer.

Participants in Today's Services

The Rev. Kevin J. Long, Pastor

The Rev. Susan A. Clayton, Associate Pastor, Congreg. Care & Adult Ed

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

Mr. Gregory Roberson, Guest Organist and Member of the IPC Choir

Acolyte: Walter Grover

Nick Mathes, Tenor

Independent Presbyterian Church

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Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. except Saturday and Sunday

This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)

www.ipc-usa.org