

Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Commissioning of Teachers and Leaders in Christian Education

September 15, 2024

8:45 am

11:00 am

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O great God, we praise Thee for Thy promises, so manifold, so rich and so true.
Thou art a covenant-keeping God. Thou performest all Thy vows. Thou hast never
forgotten or forsaken or made ashamed any who put their trust in Thee. Amen.
from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmonds

PRELUDE Craig Phillips
"Ode and Salutation"

*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
"As many are led by the Spirit"
As many are led by the Spirit of God, they are the people of God.

CALL TO WORSHIP (8:45 am) Jay Turner, (11:00 am) Don Myers
Leader: Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those
who hope in his steadfast love.
People: **To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive
in famine.**
Leader: Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and shield.
People: **Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.**
Leader: Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope
in you.
People: **Let us worship the living God!** *Psalm 33:18-22*

*HYMN 1 NICAEA
"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Unison: **O Lord, renew our spirits and draw our hearts unto thyself,
that our work may not be to us a burden, but a delight.
Forgive us for laboring with a spirit of bondage as slaves,
and for despairing as if we have no Savior. Teach us to
take our delight in thee that we may carry glad hearts
throughout our days.** *Benjamin Jenks, d. 1724*

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

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."

*GLORIA PATRI (HYMN 581) GREATOREX

“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

TEACHER AND LEADER RECOGNITION

Please refer to the insert for the Litany for the Commission of Teachers and Leaders

COMMISSIONING PRAYER

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (8:45 am) Jay Turner
(11:00 am) Don Myers

FIRST LESSON - Psalm 63:1-8 (Pew Bible, p. OT527)

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 worship care.

ANTHEMMorten Lauridsen

“O Nata Lux” from *Lux Aeterna*

O nata lux de lumine, Jesu redemptor saeculi, dignare clemens supplicum laudes precesque sumere. Qui carne quondam contegi dignatus es pro perditis.

Nos membra confer effici tui beati corporis.

O Light born of Light, Jesus, redeemer of the world, with kindness deign to receive the praise and prayer of suppliants. You who once deigned to be clothed in flesh for the sake of the lost, grant us to be made members of your blessed body.

Latin Hymn, 10th Century

SECOND LESSON - Philippians 1:12-27a (Pew Bible, p. NT196).....

Rev. Long

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON“Under the Circumstances”

The Response to the Word

*HYMN 833ST. MARGARET

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

* APOSTLES' CREED Rev. Clayton
**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 David Hurd
“Love Bade Me Welcome”
Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back, guiltie of dust and sinne. But
quicke’y’d Love observing me grow slack from my first entrance in, drew nearer
to me, sweetly questioning, if I lacked anything. A guest, I answer’d, worthy to
be here: Love said, you shall be he. I, the unkinde, ungrateful? Ah, my deare, I
cannot look on thee. Love took my hand and smiling did reply, who made the
eyes but I? Truth, Lord but I have marr’d them: let my shame go where it doth
deserve. And know you not, sayes Love, who bore the blame? My deare, then I
will serve. You must sit down, sayes Love, and taste my meat: so I did sit and eat.
George Herbert

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 463 FOUNDATION
“How Firm a Foundation”

*BENEDICTION

- *POSTLUDE Gerald Near
“Broadly” from *Triptych of Fugues*

*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 Charles Swift Northen III. THE FLOWERS on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Thomas Pankey, U.S. Army; and in honor of Thomas Pankey, junior, U.S. Navy; Maggie Adams Jones, U.S. Marines; Bradley Jones, U.S. Marines; William Pankey, U.S. Navy; and John Pankey, U.S. Navy; family of Valerie Pankey and Valerie Watson.

SERVE AT FIRST LIGHT: Claim a night with your family or a group to provide evening meals for the women and children staying at First Light the week of September 15-21. **Volunteers are urgently needed tonight as well as Friday and Saturday night.** Sign up under the Serve tab at ipc-usa.org.

BEER & HYMNS: Join us on Monday, September 16 at 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:00 pm) at Iron City Grill. Beer & Hymns is exactly what it sounds like. We sing old-timey hymns (plus a few new ones) while enjoying good food and beverages.

JOIN THIS YEAR'S HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD: We are helping build a home in Bessemer for the Baylor family alongside Birmingham-area churches in the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley. At least 15 IPC volunteers are needed on September 21 and November 16. IPC is the only volunteer group on these days. Email Melissa Self Patrick at mpatrick@ipc-usa.org to sign up.

GET READY FOR AN EXCITING FALL line-up at IPC. Sunday school classes, Wednesday Night Dinner, and weekday programming are back. Visit ipc-usa.org to learn more or see our flyers in the Parlor. We hope you will find ways to connect with your IPC family and deepen your faith this season.

JOIN A GRACE GROUP this fall to grow in faith and fellowship. Starting the week of October 13 and running through November 23, each group will study *Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of Christian Faith* by Timothy Keller. Grace Groups is a small group study to delve deeper into scripture. Whether you are new to the church or a longtime member, there is a place for you. **Registration is now open** at ipc-usa.org or you can find a sign-up sheet in church information areas.

DINNERS FOR EIGHT: Sign up to host or attend dinners twice a year in members' homes, restaurants, or anywhere else you can make a "table." The deadline is today to register. You can reach out to Fairy Sutherland at fairsutherland@gmail.com to sign up or inquire.

FALL CHORAL EVENSONG: Join us on Sunday, September 29 at 4 pm in the Sanctuary or via livestream for a Choral Evensong by the IPC Choir and Rev. Lucy Turner. Here you will experience beauty, and welcome the voice of God into your heart through art, music, and liturgy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

ORDER YOUR IPC YOUTH COOKBOOK filled with cherished recipes generously shared by members of our congregation. We have a limited supply of cookbooks available for purchase both online and in-person in the Parlor. If there is enough interest, we will consider doing a second print run. Proceeds help support scholarships for IPC Youth trips and retreats. For questions, contact Grace Daniels at gdaniels@ipc-usa.org.

IPC T-SHIRTS AND COFFEE MUGS: If you missed our IPC merchandise table at the Home on Highland event, you can still make a purchase. We have Comfort Colors 100% cotton t-shirts, and 14 oz. ceramic coffee mugs available with our home logo. Find the link to shop online in our weekly e-newsletter or on our Special Events page at ipc-usa.org.

SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

KIRKWOOD FUNDS: (*Chapel Fund*) In memory of Mr. John M. Chumley, Mrs. Marie W. “Ree” Myers, and Dr. James E. “Buddy” Wise. (*Horizon Fund*) In memory of Mrs. Lyda Couch, Mr. William F. Edmonds, Mr. Frank C. Jones, Mr. Harold E. Phillips, and Dr. James E. “Buddy” Wise. In honor of Joe and Patsy Arnold. (*Life Care Fund*) In memory of Mrs. Eileen Bostick. In honor of Ms. Irene Nicole. (*Walking Trails & Garden Fund*) In memory of Mrs. Marie W. “Ree” Myers.

The Rev. Kevin J. Long, Pastor
The Rev. Susan A. Clayton, Associate Pastor
Dr. Jeff R. McLelland, Director of Music and Fine Arts
Elders: (8:45 am) Jay Turner, (11:00 am) Don Myers
The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir
Acolytes: (8:45 am) Sydney Clark, Heidi Hollingsworth, Jessica Long
(11:00 am) Spencer Cobbs, Laden Falls, Shep Ray

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

COMMISSION OF TEACHERS AND LEADERS

Minister: We are called by God to be the church of Jesus Christ, a sign in the world today of what God intends for all humankind.

All: The great ends of the church are the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the kingdom of heaven to the world.

Minister: The call of Christ is to willing, dedicated discipleship. Our discipleship is a manifestation of the new life we enter through baptism. Discipleship is both a gift and a commitment, an offering and a responsibility.

The grace bestowed on you in Baptism is sufficient for your calling because it is God's grace. By God's grace we are saved and enabled to grow in the faith and to commit our lives in ways that serve Christ. Christian Education teachers and leaders, God has called you to particular service. Show your purpose by answering these questions:

Do you profess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

Teachers: I do.

Minister: With God's help, will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

Teachers: I will.

Minister: Do you welcome the responsibility of this service because you are determined to follow the Lord Jesus, to love neighbors, and to work for the reconciling of the world?

Teachers: I do.

Minister: With God's help, will you serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love, relying on God's mercy and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit?

Teachers: I will.

Minister: Do we, members of Independent Presbyterian Church, confirm the call of God to our sisters and brothers to labor with us in the service of Jesus Christ?

Congregation: We do.

Minister: Will you support and encourage them in this ministry?

Congregation: We will.