

Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 26, 2025

Ordination and Installation of Officers

Kirkin' o' the Tartan

8:45 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Teach me, my Father, the ministry of gratitude. May I remember to be glad. Help me to brighten my life and lighten my load by praise. May repining for what I have not be lost in rejoicing for what I have. Give me a song to drive away my sigh. *from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmonds*

PRELUDE Percy Whitlock
"Folk Tune"

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 YE BANKS AND BRAES
"We Cannot Measure How You Heal"

So, some have come who need your help, and some have come to make amends. As hands which shaped and saved the world are present in the touch of friends. Lord, let your Spirit meet us here to mend the body, mind, and soul, to disentangle peace from pain, and make your broken people whole.

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Newton

Minister: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

People: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

Minister: Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

People: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Minister: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

People: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. *Psalm 95*

*HYMN 336 (8:45 a.m.) KREMSER
"We Gather Together"

*KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN PROCESSION (11:00 a.m.)

*BLESSING O' THE TARTAN (11:00 a.m.) Rev. Long

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Unison: Eternal God, forgive us for being hesitant to love the church we have received. Forgive us for going each to our own way, and forgive us for demanding that the church go with us. Help us to remember the ministry of those who have served before us. When in danger, give us their comfort, and when in difficulty, their perseverance; that we too may be faithful until we rejoice with all of the saints in your eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

John Calvin

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) 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

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Rev. Newton

FIRST LESSON - Nehemiah 8:1-10 (Pew Bible, p. OT341)

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 ST. PATRICK'S BREASTPLATE

arr. by K. Lee Scott

"I Bind unto Myself Today"

I bind unto myself today the strong name of the Trinity: by invocation of the same, the Three in One and One in Three. I bind this day to me forever by power of faith, Christ's incarnation: His baptism in the Jordan river, His death on the Cross for my salvation. His bursting from the spiced tomb, His riding up the heavenly way, His coming at the day of doom. I bind unto myself today! I bind unto myself today the power of God to hold and lead, His eye to watch, his might to stay, His ear to hearken to my need, the wisdom of my God to teach, His hand to guide, his shield to ward. the Word of God to give me speech, His heavenly host to be my guard! I bind unto myself today the power of the great cherubim, the sweet "well done" in judgment hour, the service of the seraphim, confessors' faith, apostles' word, patriarchs' prayers, the prophets' scrolls, all good deeds done unto the Lord, and purity of virgin souls. I bind unto myself today the virtues of the starlit heaven, the glorious sun's life-giving ray. The whiteness of the moon at even, the flashing of the lightning free, the whirling wind's tempestuous shocks, the stable earth, the deep salt sea around the old eternal rocks. Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger. I bind unto myself today, the strong name of the Trinity: by invocation of the same, the Three in One and One in Three, of Whom all nature hath creation, Eternal Father, Spirit, Word. Praise to the Lord of my salvation — Salvation is of Christ the Lord! *St. Patrick, paraphr. Cecil Frances Alexander*

SECOND LESSON - Hebrews 12:1-3 (Pew Bible, p. NT177)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Dr. Pomerville
“Respect For The Past, Hope For The Future”

The Response to the Word

*HYMN 459 MUNICH
“O Word of God Incarnate”

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS (11:00 a.m.)

Session

Bo Grisham
Susan Murphy
Robert Posey
Paul Romjue
Jean Shanks
Dorothy Smith
Marion Walker
Thomas Wells, Jr.

Deacons

Lee Baker
Kim Bourn
Morgan Cole
Chelsea Crenshaw
Jon Edwards
Matt Evans
Dany Hollingsworth
MaryWills LeCroy
Sara Anne Lester
Matt Moody
Coley Puckett
Sonny Williams

Youth Elder

Murphy Peterson

Youth Deacon

Macey Robinson

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS (11:00 a.m.) Rev. Long

CONGREGATIONAL QUESTIONS (11:00 a.m.) Hon. Caryl Privett,
President of the Congregation

1. Do we, the members of the church, accept these ruling elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?
2. Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is the Head of the Church?

PRAYER FOR ORDINATION (11:00 a.m.) Rev. Seamon

*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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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..... Randall Thompson
 “Alleluia”
 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Amen.

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 625 HOW GREAT THOU ART
 “O Lord My God”
- *BENEDICTION..... Dr. Pomerville
- *POSTLUDE Robert J. Powell
 “Awake, My Heart, and Render”
- *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 Mr. Joseph W. Schreiber. **THE FLOWERS** on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Charles Mixson Miller, Marine, Private First Class, WWII; husband of Elizabeth Miller and father of Georgia Miller.

JOIN THE LUNCH BUNCH crew on Tuesday, January 28 for a great meal and fellowship at Magnolia Point. We will meet at the restaurant at 11:30. Please register to help us with an accurate head count at ipc-usa.org under the Connect tab.

SERVE WITH IPC: We need **Substitute Tutors for our Stair 3.0 program**, helping 3rd-graders at Hayes K-8 on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:15-4:15 p.m. Join us to serve and provide dinner to women and children staying at **First Light** each night the week of February 9 - 15. Sign up at ipc-usa.org.

54TH ANNUAL RELIGIOUS ARTS FESTIVAL: Make plans to attend our week-long festival January 31 through February 6. “Be Joyful in the Lord: A Celebration of Smiles, Kindness, and Community” will feature Piffaro: the Renaissance Band, a multi-media concert about Smiles, lectures on humor and comedy in Art and application to daily life, and an evening of Improv at the Festival Banquet. Visit ipcmusic.org for more information. **Reservations for the annual banquet on Feb. 6 are required by Feb. 2.**

2025 ANNUAL GIVING: We are so grateful for those who have given generously to support the mission of Jesus Christ at IPC. If you have not yet submitted a pledge, the time is now to join us in responding to Christ’s call for our church. Find pledge cards at the reception desk, or make an online pledge by texting PLEDGE to (205) 927-3100 and following the prompts.

GUEST PREACHER

Rev. Dr. Andrew Pomerville

President of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Andrew Pomerville, president of Louisville Seminary, has a successful record in both higher education and ecumenical parish ministry—a record defined by INNOVATION, ENERGY, and JOYFUL COMMUNICATION. Ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Andrew is a graduate of three Presbyterian schools: BA in history and religious studies, Alma College (2001); MDiv, Princeton Theological Seminary (2007); and DMin, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (2018), focusing on Reformed Theology in a joint program with the University of Aberdeen. In addition, Andrew holds a certificate in Adaptive Leadership from Michigan State University’s College of Business, an Executive Certificate for Religious Fundraising (ECRF) from the Lake Institute on Faith & Giving at Indiana University (IUPUI), and a certificate in Presidential Leadership Development from CREDO.

The Rev. Kevin J. Long, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Andrew Pomerville, President of Louisville Presbyterian
Theological Seminary

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

The Rev. D. Nicole Newton, Associate Pastor, Discipleship

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

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

Acolytes: (8:45 a.m.) Sydney Clark, Stephen Tribble, Gavin Vanlandingham
(11:00 a.m.) Spencer Cobbs, Laura Donovan, Heidi Hollingsworth

The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir

Mr. Daniel Akin, Bagpiper

Independent Presbyterian Church

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Birmingham, Alabama 35205-1408

Phone: (205) 933-1830; Fax: (205) 933-1836

Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 except Saturday and Sunday

This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)

www.ipc-usa.org