

Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama

CHRIST THE KING HYMN FESTIVAL

A Festival of Scripture and Song for the Last Sunday of the Christian Year
based upon the life of Christ and the Nicene Creed

8:45 am and 11:00 am

Vol. 77, No. 47

November 24, 2024

Service for the Lord's Day

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in Heaven:

Be ever present with those who seek through art, music, and liturgy to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth;
and grant them even now glimpses of your beauty and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. ~ IPC Choir Prayer

PRELUDE - "Cantilene"Craig Phillips
"Siciliano"J.S. Bach

*The service of worship begins with the music of the organ and brass. Through its power and brilliance may you feel the majesty
and glory of God; in its quietness, His peace.*

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF INVOCATION.....(8:45 am) Jay Turner, (11:00 am) Don Myers

Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth

Leader: Almighty God, you guide people in exile and in exodus.

**People: You are the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon,
the God of foreigners and immigrants.**

Leader: In Christ, you were born a displaced Galilean who fled his country with his parents when his life was in
danger.

People: Guide us by your Holy Spirit,

Leader: the eternal immigrant among us, who speaks all languages and lives in all countries.

People: Unite us as one people, distinct as we are in experience.

Leader: Make the church a secure home for all your diverse saints,

**People: and bring us to that life eternal in which no one will be an immigrant,
but all will be citizens of heaven, which will never end. Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 850 - "In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness"DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Stanza 1-2. Choir

arr. By Earlene Rentz

*Stanza 3-4. All *(Please remain seated until stanza three)*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness:

**People: To the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others,
and the life of the world.**

Leader: Deliver me, O LORD

People: from lying lips, from a deceitful tongue.

Iona and Ps 120:2

Silence is kept.

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: The LORD keeps you from all evil;
God keeps your life, your going out and your coming in,
from this time on and forevermore.

**People: We in this place remember and speak again
what we have heard: God's free, redeeming word.**

Leader: In Christ, we are forgiven.

People: Amen.

*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) - "Glory Be to the Father".....GREATOREX

**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.**

ANTHEM (11:00 am) - "Make a Joyful Noise" Children's Choir

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Rev. Long

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00 am) - Virginia Carroll AlversonRev. Clayton

*APOSTLES' CREED (11:00 am)

**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.**

INTERLUDE - "Aria for Soprano and Guitar" from *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5*..... Heitor Villa-Lobos
Rachel Hancock, soprano

Creation

CREED (*unison*).....Rev. Long

**We believe in One God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

LESSON - Psalm 104:1-9 (Pew Bible, p. OT554)

*HYMN 26 - "Earth and Stars"..... EARTH AND ALL STARS

Stanza 1. All
Stanza 2. Higher Voices
Stanza 3. Lower Voices
Stanza 4. All

Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany

CREED (*unison*).....Rev. Clayton

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary

and became truly human.

HYMN - "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"..... VENI EMMANUEL



O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran-som cap-tive Is - ra - el,



that mourns in lone-ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap-pear.

LESSON - Psalm 121 (*chanted*)

(Cantor) 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills;

from where is my help to come?

(All) 2 **My help comes from the LORD,**
the maker of heaven and earth.

3 The LORD will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

4 **Behold, the keeper of Israel**
will neither slumber nor sleep;

5 the LORD watches over you;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

6 **the sun will not strike you by day,**
nor the moon by night.

7 The LORD will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.

8 **The LORD will watch over**
your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.




O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa-tan's tyr - an-ny;




from depths of hell thy peo - ple save and give them vic-tory o'er the grave.

LESSON - Luke 2:1-7 (Pew Bible, p. NT58)



O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our heav'n - ly home;



make safe the way that leads__ on high, and close the path to mi - se - ry.

LESSON - Matthew 2:13-15 (Pew Bible, p. NT2)

HYMN 122 - “Silent Night”.....STILLE NACHT

Childhood of Jesus

LESSON - John 10:11-15 (Pew Bible, p. NT103).....Rev. Long

HYMN 803 - “My Shepherd will supply my need”.....RESIGNATION
arr. By Mack Wilberg

- Stanza 1. Lower Voices
- Stanzas 2. Higher Voices
- Stanza 3. All (softly)

Lent

CREED (unison).....Rev. Long
**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

LESSON - Philippians 2:5-11 (Pew Bible, p. NT197)

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

HYMN 221 - “O Sacred Head”.....PASSION CHORALE
ANTHEM - “Pilgrim’s Hymn”Stephen Paulus

- Hymn Stanza 1. All on melody
- Anthem Interlude. Choir
- Hymn Stanza 2. All in parts
- Anthem Interlude. Choir
- Hymn Stanza 3. All on melody

Easter and Ascension

CREED (unison).....Rev. Clayton
**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

LESSON - John 20:1-9 (Pew Bible, p. NT114)

*HYMN 232 - “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” EASTER HYMN

Pentecost

CREED (*unison*).....Rev. Long

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

LESSON - Acts 2:1-4 (Pew Bible, p. NT119)

HYMN 285 - “Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song” BRIDEGROOM

The Eternal Church

CREED (*unison*).....Rev. Clayton

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

LESSON - Revelation 7:9-10, 13-17 (Pew Bible, p. NT249)

ANTHEM - “O How Amiable ” RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

*All stand and sing on cue:

**O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS.....Rev. Long

To give online, text OFFERING to (205) 927-3100 and follow the steps.

*Offertory Statement

*Doxology (*The Presbyterian Hymnal*, p. 606)..... OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

The Offertory - “Pavane” Gabriel Fauré

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER.....Rev. Clayton

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.

*HYMN 35 - “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty” LOBE DEN HERREN

- * **BENEDICTION**.....Rev. Long
The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens of heaven may the King of Kings bring us all. Amen.
- * **POSTLUDE** - “Septimi Temp” Robin Dinda
- * *CONGREGATION STANDING*

BAPTISM TODAY

VIRGINIA CARROLL ALVERSON, born April 14, 2024, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Frank Martin Alverson, Jr.; sister of Hayes Borden Alverson; granddaughter of Mr. Frank Martin Alverson, Sr.; Ms. Laurie Hardin Norman; Mr. and Mrs. Burr Weatherly, Sr.; and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Magro.

HARVEST FOR HUNGER DEDICATION SUNDAY

Thank you so much to each and every person that generously filled up Harvest for Hunger bags to stock the IPC Food Pantry and Blessing Boxes for our neighbors as well as our Weekend Buddy Bags to support children at Hayes K-8 School. Through your generosity, we are able to show the love and compassion of Christ with members of our community by helping meet their basic needs so that they can grow and thrive. We are so grateful for your support of this incredibly important ministry and hope that you will continue to share with our food ministry throughout the year whenever you are able!

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

Next Sunday, December 1, we will observe our Holiday Worship Schedule and will gather for one morning worship service at 10 am. There will be no Sunday school and no Table service that day.

Please note, church offices will be closed November 27-28 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

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 Dr. John Roberts Faucette. **THE FLOWERS** on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Raymond W. Terry, Jr., Private, U.S. Army Air Corps, WWII; father of Anne Terry Johnson, grandfather of Alicia Johnson Coomes and Phillip A. Johnson, Jr.

MUSIC NOTE: Today, we celebrate the last Sunday in the Christian year— Christ the King— with a festival of hymns. The various sections of the hymn service highlight the liturgical seasons and reflect the corresponding parts of the Nicene Creede which the congregation will recite before each scripture lesson. *The Presbyterian Hymnal* has a vast wealth of hymns; many are not frequently sung. This service uses a mixture of both well-known and lesser-known hymns in an effort to broaden the knowledge of this valuable resource. So, sit back (or stand when indicated by the *), and make a joyful noise!

2025 ANNUAL GIVING: We are so grateful for those who have given generously and support the mission of Jesus Christ at IPC. For those who have not yet submitted a pledge, no time is better than 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. **We ask all to submit 2025 pledges by Thanksgiving.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

TABLE WORSHIP SERVICE: At the November meeting, Session voted to move the Table worship service back to 5 pm beginning December 8. For the last three Sundays of Advent, each of the three associate pastors will preach in person on one Sunday, followed by a rotating schedule of pastors when the service resumes in January. We hope you will join us in Highland Hall for evening worship during the Advent season!

THE SIXTIETH ANNUAL NOVEMBER ORGAN RECITAL SERIES concludes with a recital today at 4 pm by Bryan Anderson from Houston, Texas. All of the recitals are free and open to the public.

CELEBRATING VANESSA WOODS: After 43 years of dedicated service to IPC, Vanessa Woods is retiring! Please join us Sunday, December 1 during worship as we recognize Vanessa for her faithful contribution to our ministry and celebrate her retirement. Financial gifts for Vanessa can be made at ipc-usa.org or through Venmo by using "Vanessa" in the comments. Additionally, cash or checks will be accepted at IPC in person or by mail (Attn: IPC Finance Office, 3100 Highland Avenue S., Birmingham, AL 35205).

CHAMBER CONCERT: MUSIC4ROMANIA cordially invites you to an eclectic evening of music and poetry that honors the profound impact of music, love, and faith in our lives; uplifting us and uniting us. Join us at the Chamber Concert: Music for Romania, taking place on Sunday, December 1 at 7:00 pm in the Great Hall. For more information, contact Nick Mathes at nmathes@ipc-usa.org or visit ipcmusic.org.

ORDERS FOR CHRISTMAS CITRUS FRUIT will be accepted until Sunday, December 1. All proceeds support the IPC Choir. Fruit order forms are available around the church and from any choir member. You may order online at ipc-usa.org on the Sign Up Links page.

GIFT AN IPC YOUTH COOKBOOK filled with cherished recipes generously shared by members of our congregation this holiday season. **Purchase a gift-wrapped cookbook in the Parlor today** or each Sunday until we sell out. Proceeds help support scholarships for IPC Youth trips and retreats. For questions, contact Grace Daniels at gdaniels@ipc-usa.org.

IPC'S BOY SCOUT TROOP 28 is now selling Christmas greenery at the lot located at Shades Cahaba Elementary School in Homewood. All sales will benefit Troop 28 and other area Boy Scout troops, regardless of when you purchase the greenery. Additionally, all are invited to the Troop 28 Christmas Party on Sunday, December 15 from noon - 2:00 pm in the foyer of Highland Hall — current, former and prospective Scouts and their families are welcome! For more info, please contact Stacy Pulliam at spulliam@ipc-usa.org.

ADVENT AT IPC

Learn more and register at ipc-usa.org on the Sign-Up Links page.

WEDNESDAY CHAPEL & LUNCH begins December 4. Throughout the Advent Season, join us each Wednesday for a noonday Chapel Service followed by a light lunch in the Great Hall. Register for your lunch by noon on the previous Tuesday.

JOIN IPC PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FOR OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON! This year, we welcome Chef Scott Peacock as our speaker on Thursday, December 5 at 11 am in the Great Hall. The James Beard Foundation awarded Chef Peacock "Best Chef in the Southeast" in May 2007, and his biscuits been featured in Gourmet, Food & Wine, Better Homes & Gardens, The New York Times, and on The Martha Stewart Show and TODAY. **Tickets can be purchased online and in the Parlor today.**

CHILDREN'S ADVENT WORKSHOP is on Saturday, December 7, in Highland Hall. Come and go from 9 am to 12 pm. Christmas PJs are encouraged while we enjoy snacks, fellowship, Advent crafts and more! Volunteers are needed.

ADVENT FLOWERS: Honor and remember loved ones by making an Advent flower donation in their names. Your contribution provides for fresh flowers and greenery throughout the church during the Advent and Christmas Season. Look for envelopes at the receptionist desk or our online donation form. The names of your loved ones will be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. The deadline for submission is Monday, December 9.

ADVENT AT IPC (*Continued*)

ANGEL TREE: Help us spread Christmas cheer for the students at the Children's Fresh Air Farm's Summer Learning Program. You can sponsor a student or family by choosing a child or all siblings from the same household. **Angels can be picked up in the Parlor today** or selected online. All gifts are due by Monday, December 9. For questions, contact Becky Wright at bwright@ipc-usa.org or (205) 601-5608.

THE ANNUAL IPC CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT will be Sunday, December 8 at 4 p.m. The program will include the "Christmas Oratorio" by Camille Saint-Saëns, and other beautiful choral and orchestral music by John Tavener, Jonathan Dove, Ottavio Respighi, and Andrej Makor. Invite your friends to this beautiful afternoon of music for the season.

FUZZY SOCKS FOR FIRST LIGHT: Children's Ministries is collecting fuzzy sock donations through December 11. Please drop off your donations in the purple bins at IPC. These cozy socks will be donated to the First Light Women's Shelter to help keep them warm this winter. Donations will be delivered during our Christmas Caroling event at First Light on December 11.

75TH ANNIVERSARY HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR & TEA: Join us Saturday, December 14, to celebrate our milestone Holiday House anniversary with home tours plus an additional option for a seated Afternoon Tea. **Tickets are available in the Parlor today;** visit ipcholidayhouse.com to learn more.

SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

KIRKWOOD FUNDS: (*Chapel Fund*) In memory of Mr. Fred Rogers. (*Horizon Fund*) In memory of Mrs. Ellen "Pinkie" Ashley, Mr. William F. Edmonds, and Mrs. Carolyn "Susan" Newman.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICES

The Rev. Kevin J. Long, Pastor
The Rev. Susan A. Clayton, Associate Pastor
Dr. Jeff R. McLelland, Director of Music and Fine Arts
Joe Ardovino, trumpet
Brad Sargent, trumpet
Adam Pandolfi, horn
Jay Evans, trombone
Andrew Miller, tuba
Greg Gumina, timpani
Lisa Wienhold, flute
Mac Spencer, guitar
(8:45 am) Jay Turner, Elder (11:00 am) Don Myers, Deacon
Acolytes: (8:45 am) Mary Hanson Borders, Sydney Clark, Jessica Long
(11:00 am) Sutton Greg, Joe Jones, Andrew Murphree
The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir

Independent Presbyterian Church
3100 Highland Avenue
Birmingham, Alabama 35205-1408
Phone: (205) 933-1830; Fax: (205) 933-1836
www.ipc-usa.org
Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 except Saturday and Sunday
This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)