

Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 20, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Grant us this day, O God, not to be overtaken by anxious thoughts that can make us feel that you are not near. Give us the chance, to sit at your feet, to enjoy every word and every musical note that we may feel your real presence and in turn live out that presence within our families, our communities, our jobs, and our schools. Prepare us as we journey as your people, to worship and to obey. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, the image of the invisible God, and the firstborn over all creation. Amen.

from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmonds

PRELUDE Malcolm Archer
"Cantilene"

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
"Blessed be his glorious name for ever"

Blessed be his glorious name for ever; and let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Clayton

Minister: The LORD is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear?

People: **The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Minister: One thing I ask – one thing above all do I seek:

People: **to dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,**

Minister: to behold the beauty of the LORD,

People: **and to inquire in God's temple.**

Minister: For there I will find nurture and peace;

People: **there I will bring my offerings, with songs and thanksgiving.**

Minister: "Come," my heart says, "seek the face of Love!"

People: **Your face, LORD, do I seek.**

adapted from Psalm 27

* HYMN 264 KING'S WESTON
"At the Name of Jesus"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Unison: **Merciful God, we confess that we have been distracted by many things.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart and strength.

We have not paid close attention to your Word.

We have allowed those of us who are poor to be neglected and those of us who are weak to be oppressed.

We have been impatient in worship and insincere in our dealings with others.

**We have turned our faces from signs of injustice and held
our tongues rather than speaking out.
Forgive us, we pray.
Teach us the power of repenting and starting again.
Make us steadfast in faith and dedicated to living out your
Gospel.
We pray in Jesus' name. 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. Seamon

MOMENT FOR MISSION: MITCHELL'S PLACE
Sara Nall, Executive Director

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATIONRev. Clayton

SCRIPTURE LESSON - Luke 10:38-42 (Pew Bible, p. NT55)

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.*

ANTHEMAdrian Batten, arr. Crawford R. Thoburn
"O Sing Joyfully"

O sing joyfully unto God our strength: make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob.
Take the song, bring hither the tabret, the merry harp with the lute. Blow up the
trumpet in the new moon ev'n in the time appointed, and upon our solemn feast
day. For this was made a statute for Israel and a law of the God of Jacob.

Psalm 81:1-4

SERMON Rev. Seamon
"Only One Thing?"

The Response to the Word

* HYMN 450 SLANE
“Be Thou My Vision”

*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.**

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 Moonyeen Albrecht
“O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem”

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem. They shall prosper that love thee. Peace
be within thy walls and plenteousness within thy palaces. *Psalms 122:6-7*

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 157 LORD OF THE DANCE
“I Danced in the Morning”

* BENEDICTION Rev. Seamon

* POSTLUDE Malcolm Archer
“Festive Scherzo”

* *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. Felix Calvin Yarboro. **THE FLOWERS** on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Douglas Morris Gover, Captain in the Medical Corps, U.S. Army, WWII; received a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart; was in 5 of 7 campaigns; father of Margaret Alexander.

BEER AND HYMNS: Join us on Monday, July 21, 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.

THE SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM is wrapping up, and we're looking forward to celebrating a summer of hard work and fun with our students and families. You're invited to join us for SLP Graduation on Thursday, July 24 at 10 am in Highland Hall. There's still time to support IPC's mission at the Children's Fresh Air Farm by volunteering, donating snacks, or making a financial contribution. Contact Catherine Sager at (205) 933-3725 or csager@ipc-usa.org.

PROVIDE AND SERVE DINNER AT FIRST LIGHT: Volunteer with your family or a group to provide evening meals for the women and children staying at First Light. IPC will be providing evening meals each night for the week of July 27 - August 2. Sign up at ipc-usa.org; click on the Sign Up Links page under the Connect tab in the top navigation.

FAMILY CATECHESIS CAMP: Join us July 29–31 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for a three-night series exploring Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Families will enjoy a light supper, time in the Atria, and end the evening with fellowship on the playground. This camp is designed for families with elementary-aged children, and 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.

YOUTH GRANT TEAM: Applications are open for the 2025 Youth Grant Team. Rising 11th and 12th graders can apply, with the deadline set for August 1. Consider this opportunity to engage in meaningful philanthropy and make a difference in our community. Questions: Please contact Cammie Ashworth at cashworth@ipc-usa.org.

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" on Sunday, August 17 during the 10 am worship service in the Sanctuary and the 5 pm Table worship service in Highland Hall.

HUNGER DOESN'T TAKE A VACATION: With your help, we can keep the Food Pantry stocked to support our friends and neighbors in need this summer. Please see the pink pew cards in the sanctuary for ideas on what to donate, or contact Catherine Sager at csager@ipc-usa.org with any questions!

MOMENT FOR MISSION SPOTLIGHT

MITCHELL'S PLACE provides comprehensive, research-based services for children and families affected by autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities. Their mission is to unlock the potential of each individual by offering high-quality diagnostic, educational, and therapeutic services in a nurturing environment. IPC has supported this mission by helping provide necessary materials for their classrooms and facilities, contributing to the meaningful work of improving quality of life for their clients and families. To learn more, visit mitchells-place.com or give at mitchells-place.com/giving.

SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

FOOD PANTRY: In honor of Anne and Ira Mitchell and in memory of Mary Clayton Dixon and James W. Rainer.

Participants in Today's Services

The Rev. Susan A. Clayton, Associate Pastor, Congreg. Care & Adult Ed
The Rev. David J. Seamon, Associate Pastor, Mission & Outreach
Dr. Jeff R. McLelland, Director of Music and Fine Arts
Acolyte: Andrew Grover
Members of The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir

Independent Presbyterian Church
The Rev. Kevin J. Long, Pastor
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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