

Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN EASTER
ASCENSION SUNDAY

Mother's Day
Confirmation Recognition

May 12, 2024

8:45 am
11:00 am

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O God, give me the sense of security that a child has in his father's house.
May I sleep closed in with Thy care. May I rise and go out in the morning
followed by Thy love. *from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmonds*

PRELUDE - "Prayer from Christ ascending towards His Father"
Olivier Messiaen

*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 - "Alleluia. The Lord is ris'n indeed"George Thalben-Ball
Alleluia. The Lord is ris'n indeed. O come, let us adore him. Alleluia.

CALL TO WORSHIP(8:45) Caryl Privett, (11:00) Jessica Grover

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord;
People: **Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**
Leader: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
People: **For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all
gods.**
Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down,
People: **Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!** *Psalm 95*

*** HYMN 263 - "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"**CORONATION

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Unison: **Gracious and loving God, we confess to you this morning
that our pride gets in the way of our relationship with
you. We take pride in our ability to solve problems and
achieve success. We like to be self-sufficient and in control.
Forgive us, O God. Help us to remember that you, alone,
are the sovereign Lord God. Everything we have is a gift
from you. By the power of your Spirit at work within us,
give us the courage to truly put our ultimate trust in you!
We pray in the strong name of Jesus Christ. 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**

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 (*The Presbyterian Hymnal*, p. 581)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Dr. Tewell

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON - Philippians 2:3-11 (Pew Bible, p. NT197)

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.

ANTHEM - "O Clap Your Hands" Ralph Vaughan Williams

O, clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph. For the Lord most high is terrible; He is a great King over all the earth. God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises unto our King, sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth; sing ye praises, every one that hath understanding. God reigneth over the heathen, God sitteth upon the throne of His holiness. Sing praises unto our King, sing praises. *Psalms 47:1,2,5-8*

SECOND LESSON - Matthew 10:34-39 (Pew Bible, p. NT11)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON - JESUS' SHOCKING MOTHER'S DAY MESSAGE!.....

Dr. Tewell

The Response to the Word

* HYMN 465 - "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" CONVERSE

RECOGNITION OF 2024 CONFIRMANDS.....Mrs. Ashworth

Emily Biggs Baird

Mary Hanson Borders

David Graves Bowman

Forrest Thomas Crawford

Elizabeth Burgin Franks

Winslow Sutton Gregg

Andrew William Grover

Walter Charles Grover

William Henry Hardee

Charles Bert Hill IV

Heidi Dale Hollingsworth

James Turner Inscoe Jr.

Katelyn Noelle Long

William Alan Long

Julia Mitchell Mather

John Samuel Meriwether IV

William Oliver Middleton

Murphy Carroll Peterson

Benjamin Russell Polson

Macey McMillan Robinson

Nathaniel Phillip Siegel

Elizabeth Lucile Smith

Harrison Field White

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

- * The Prayer of Dedication
The Offertory Anthem – "O Lux Beatissima" Howard Helvey
*O lux beatissima, Reple cordis intima Tuorum fidelium. Sine tuo numine, Nihil
est in homine, Nihil est innoxium.*
O Light most blessed, Fill the inmost heart Of all thy faithful. Without your
grace, There is nothing in us, Nothing that is not harmful.
from the Whitsuntide sequence Veni Sancte Spiritus

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 307 - "God of Grace and God of Glory" CWM RHONDDA

- * BENEDICTION

- * POSTLUDE - "Allegro Moderato" Gerald Near

**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 about our next New Member Class on Wednesday, May 22, please contact Stacy Pulliam at spulliam@ipc-usa.org.

THE FLOWERS in the church today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Merrill H. Stewart, Sr. and Mrs. Judith Stewart Hill. **THE ROSE** in the Children's Chapel is given to the glory of God and in honor of the birth on April 6, 2024, of Florence Emeline Lounsbury ("Effie"), daughter of Lindsay and Brian Lounsbury. **THE FLOWERS** on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Donald Anthony Waitzman, Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Corps; B-24 bombardier in the European theatre of operations, WWII; father of Diane Waitzman Beck; grandfather of Mallie Beck Riggs and Maggie Beck; great-grandfather of Addison Beck, Donnie Wilkerson, and Conrad Riggs.

MOTHER'S DAY BOUQUETS: IPC's Parent Ministry Team invites you to make a flower bouquet in honor or in memory of mothers. With the Guild's assistance, find flowers and supplies in the Parlor beginning at 9:45 am.

IPC CHOIR SPRING CONCERT: Come enjoy music by American composer Randall Thompson in the sanctuary on Sunday, May 19, at 4 pm. The concert features String Quartet No. 1 and the choral work *Frostiana*, a setting of seven poems by Robert Frost. A chamber orchestra will accompany the choir.

6TH GRADE RECOGNITION: We are excited to celebrate our 6th graders as they transition from Children's Ministry to Youth Ministry! We will recognize them during 11 am worship in the Sanctuary next Sunday, May 19. For questions, contact Cammie Ashworth at cashworth@ipc-usa.org.

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: It takes many hands to transform our facilities for Vacation Bible School! Sign up at ipc-usa.org/connect. For questions, contact Beth Middleton at bmiddleton@ipc-usa.org.

DONATIONS NEEDED: Support the IPC Summer Mission Teams. Donate new, uninflated soccer balls and basketballs, hand pumps, paint roller brushes (rollers only, no handles), and small coloring books or sticker books and crayons. Bring to Community Ministries by Wednesday, May 22. For questions, contact Nicholas Mathes at nmathes@ipc-usa.org.

A MEETING OF INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH is hereby called for Sunday May 26, 2024, to be convened with the opening prayer at the 10 am worship service in the Sanctuary. The business meeting will begin immediately following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect 2 Deacons for the class of 2025. By order of the Session, Rev. Dr. Tom Tewell, Moderator. Steve Hunt, Clerk.

FIRST LIGHT SUPPER VOLUNTEERS are needed the week of June 23-29. Find more details and sign up at ipc-usa.org/connect. For questions, contact Nicholas Mathes at nmathes@ipc-usa.org.

SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

KIRKWOOD FUNDS: (*Chapel Fund*) In memory of Mrs. Ann C. Tate. (*Horizon Fund*) In memory of Mr. William F. Edmonds, Mrs. Pamela C. "Pam" Kontzen, and Mrs. Patricia E. "Pat" Mosher. (*Life Care Fund*) In memory of Mr. William H. Ray, Jr.

PASTOR'S NOTES

"Planting an Acorn of Faith"

Read Philippians 2:3-11 and savor each verse as if it were a favorite food or a delicious dessert.

Reflection Questions

1. Author and theologian C.S. Lewis says that pride is THE MOST DEADLY of the Seven Deadly Sins. The reason that pride is a major barrier to Christian maturity is that it makes us feel self-sufficient. Pride makes us forget our need for God. When have you in the recent past admitted your need for God and asked God to give you help? Is that a regular practice on your journey of faith? If not, why not?
2. Proverbs 16:18 says, "Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall." What does the author of Proverbs mean by this? Why does pride often go before a fall?
3. In his sermon today, Dr. Tewell said that pride is different from self-worth and healthy self-esteem. He mentioned that pride is dangerous when it places our own self-interest above the interests of others. Think of someone in your life who has placed your interests above their own. Have you thanked them recently for sacrificing for you?
4. Take 10 minutes in prayer and ask God to reveal to you the name of someone to whom God wants you to reach out. Ask God to reveal to you how you might put their interests ahead of your own. Then, pray for the courage and the perseverance to do it!

Participants in Today's Services

Dr. Thomas K. Tewell, Pastor-in-Residence

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

Mrs. Cammie Ashworth, Director of Youth Ministries

Caryl Privett and Jessica Grover, Elders

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

The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir

Acolytes: (8:45) Jessica Francis Long

(11:00) Katherine Evans Austin, Mary Hanson Borders

The Rev. Kevin J. Long, Pastor

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