

# Independent Presbyterian Church

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA



## Service for the Lord's Day

*Transfiguration of the Lord*

FEBRUARY 15, 2026 | 8:45 A.M. AND 11:00 A.M.

# Welcome to IPC!



FOUNDED IN 1915, Independent Presbyterian Church has long held a commitment to glorifying the triune God through worship, the use of beauty and the arts, and serving our community in Jesus' name. From the beginning, our founders sought to establish a church reflecting God's love for humanity and humanity's love for God.

Today, we continue this legacy by cultivating meaningful worship, nurturing our congregation to grow as disciples of Jesus, and engaging in acts of service that reflect Christ's command to love God and love our neighbors. Whether you are a life-long follower of Jesus, a new believer, or still curious, know that all are welcome here.

If this is your first visit, you are invited to join us at the Welcome Table in the Parlor following the service. We look forward to meeting you and sharing more about the life of our church.

Children are always welcome to worship with us in the Sanctuary. Materials to build a Worship Bag are in the Parlor before each service. Please replace the items when the service ends. Children kindergarten age and younger may follow the acolyte down the center aisle to the Ground Floor for childcare at the time noted in the service.

We are so grateful that you are here. Please sign the friendship pad located in the pew racks, so we know you are worshiping with us today.

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*THE COVER features a 2018 acrylic painting of IPC's exterior by McKenzie Kirk Brannon (1960–2025), a beloved friend of IPC whose spirit and art touched the heart of Community Ministries for many years.*

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# The Gathering for Worship

*We gather as a Family of Faith and prepare our hearts to worship God.*

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## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

My Father, give me eyes to see Jesus still going His way of light among men. I would see Him not far away but at my door, not of long ago but today. Open my ears for his words, my heart of his wondrous news. O Master, lead me away to Thy new health, to Thy new life. Amen.

*from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmonds*

## PRELUDE

"Fantasie in G Major, BWV 572"

J. S. Bach

*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

"Blessed be his glorious name for ever"

George Thalben-Ball

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

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## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Isaiah 12*

**Rev. Newton**

Minister: Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,

**People: For the Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.**

Minister: Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously.

**People: Shout aloud and sing for joy, for great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

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## ❖ HYMN 1

*"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"*

NICAEA

❖ *Rise in body or spirit.*

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❖ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you have made us for yourself so that our hearts are restless until they find rest in you. Mercifully forgive us of our sins. Grant us purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see light, and in your service find perfect freedom. Amen.**

*St. Augustine*

*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."*

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❖ GLORIA PATRI (HYMN 581)      *"Glory Be to the Father"*      GLORIA PATRI

**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.**

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Long

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Medical Benevolence Foundation

Dr. Lee

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## The Word

*We listen for the word of God through confession, passing the peace,  
Scripture, and preaching.*

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mr. Tittle

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 3:1-15

Pew Bible, N.T. pg. 71

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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ANTHEM

*“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”*

Harold Darke

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true and only light, Son of Righteousness, arise, Triumph o’er the shades of night: Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear. Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee; Joyless is the day’s return, Till thy mercy’s beams I see, Till they inward light impart, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart. Visit then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin and grief; Fill me, Radiancy Divine, Scatter all my unbelief; more and more thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.

*Horacio Ríos, trans. Charles Wesley*

*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.*

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SERMON

*“Born Again”*

Rev. Long

❖ *Rise in body or spirit.*

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# The Response to the Word

*We respond to the hearing of God's word through reflection, prayer, and offering.*

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❖ HYMN 177

*"I Will Come to You"*

YOU ARE MINE

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❖ 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.**

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❖ PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

❖ THE DOXOLOGY (HYMN 606)

*"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

OLD HUNDREDTH

**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

❖ *Rise in body or spirit.*

## THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*“O, pray for the peace of Jerusalem”*

Herbert Howells

O, pray for the peace of Jerusalem. They shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls and plenteousness within thy palaces.

*Psalm 122:6-7*

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## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Rev. Seamon**

**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.**

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## The Sending

*We are sent out into the world to love God and our neighbors.*

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### ❖ HYMN 268

*“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*

DIADEMATA

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### ❖ BENEDICTION

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### ❖ POSTLUDE

*“Postlude in D Minor”*

Johann Rinck

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## Flowers

The flowers in the chancel today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
**Mr. & Mrs. Paul A. Porter and Don & Virginia McCormick.**

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The flowers on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
**Clyde Ree Brown**, Army Sergeant; WWII stateside at Fort Bragg; grandfather of Honey Taylor; great-grandfather of Dr. Malcolm Taylor, Lottice Taylor, and Emma Taylor.

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## Announcements

### Medical Benevolence Foundation

**TODAY** | 10:00 a.m. | GHI

Join us for a special Sunday School class with Burton W. Lee, MD, CEO of the Medical Benevolence Foundation, as we celebrate 50 years of partnership with this ministry. Learn how the Medical Benevolence Foundation supports medical missions in Malawi, Kenya, and other parts of the world, and how IPC has been part of this global work.

### Lenten Grace Group Registration

**TODAY** | Register by Sunday, Feb. 15

Grow in faith and fellowship this spring by joining a Grace Group at IPC. Groups will meet February 15-March 28 to study *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws* by Adam Hamilton. Sign up at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org) on the Sign Up Links page.

### Beer & Hymns

Monday, Feb. 16 | 7:00 p.m. | *The Grocery*, 2823 Central Ave., Homewood

Sing old-time hymns (and a few new ones) in a relaxed setting with good food and great company. All are welcome!

### Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday, February 18 | Noon & 6:00 p.m.

Join us for IPC's Ash Wednesday services in the Sanctuary with the imposition of ashes

and communion. Join us for dinner at 5 p.m. by reservation at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org). Childcare is available for the 6 p.m. service.

### Youth Presbytery Retreat

February 20–22 | *Living River*

Join IPC Youth (7th-12th grades) for a meaningful weekend of worship, teaching, and fellowship with churches from across the Presbytery. Register at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org) on the Sign Up Links page.

### Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, February 22 | Noon | Sanctuary

A meeting is called to be convened with the opening prayer at the 11 a.m. worship service. The business meeting will begin immediately following the worship service. The purposes of the meeting are to: receive the 2025 and 2026 financial reports, receive the 2025 report of the IPC Foundation, receive the 2025 report of the IPC Now & Forever Campaign, approve changes to pastoral terms of call, receive the 2025 report of the President of the Congregation, and conduct any other business that may properly come before the Congregation.

### Book Club: Books & Becoming

Monday, February 23 | 5:30 p.m. | RM 303

Join Rev. Nicole Newton for the first gathering of Books & Becoming, a monthly



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## Announcements

book club exploring how reading shapes faith, identity, and the way we live together. Meeting on the fourth Monday of each month, the group will start reading *My Body Is Not a Prayer Request: Disability Justice in the Church* by Amy Kenny.

### Lunch Bunch

*Tuesday, February 24 | 11:30 a.m.*

Join the Lunch Bunch for good food and fellowship at North Italia. This is a self-pay event. Please register at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org) on the Sign Up Links page, so we will have an accurate headcount.

### Lenten Chapel & Lunch

*Wednesdays during Lent: February 25–April 1*

Join us on Wednesdays during Lent for a noonday worship service in the Chapel, followed by a light lunch in the Great Hall. Reservations are only required if you plan to stay for lunch. Reserve lunch by Tuesday at noon each week at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org) on the Sign Up Links page.

### Barbara Noojin Walthall Bible Study Series

*Sunday, March 1 | Worship & Sunday School*

IPC welcomes guest preacher Rev. Dr. Anna M. V. Bowden, Associate Professor of New Testament at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Rev. Dr. Bowden

will also lead an adult Sunday School class in the Great Hall. This series is supported by the Barbara Noojin Walthall Bible Study Fund, maintained by the IPC Foundation as part of the Focus on Faith Committee.

### KultureCity Lunch & Learn

*Sunday, March 1 | 12:15 pm | GHI*

Join us after the 11 a.m. worship service for a Lunch & Learn focused on sensory inclusion, neurodiversity, and IPC's initiative to become KultureCity certified. Please register at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org) on the Sign Up Links page.

### Woven & Wonder Series: Growing Faith Together

*Thursday, March 5 | Two Sessions*

Faith is formed over time through shared practices, meaningful relationships, and the everyday moments of life. Join author and faith-formation leader Meredith Miller for a churchwide day of conversation and reflection. The morning session (10:00–11:30 a.m.) is designed for church leaders, educators, and ministry volunteers, while the evening session (5:00–7:00 p.m.) includes a reception, book signing, and a talk for parents, grandparents, and all who walk alongside children. Sign up at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org).

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## Prayer List

Copies of IPC's current prayer list are available in the Parlor and Narthex. Our Intercessory Prayer Group meets each Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel to pray by name for those on the list. To submit a prayer request for a loved one, yourself, or any prayer need, please contact Connie Logan at [clogan@ipc-usa.org](mailto:clogan@ipc-usa.org).

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## Special Gifts Received

**Food Pantry:** In memory of Matthew Ferriter. In honor of the Chad Lanier Family and Fitz and Maura Kelly O'Donnell.

**Kirkwood Funds:** (*Horizon Fund*) In memory of Mr. William F. Edmonds.

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## Give To IPC

### Mail a Check:

Independent Presbyterian Church  
3100 Highland Avenue S.,  
Birmingham, Alabama 35205

### Give Online:

Scan to give in a secure,  
convenient format online.



### Text to Give:

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

### 2026 Pledge:

Make your annual pledge online by  
texting PLEDGE to (205) 927-3100 and  
following the steps.

### Thank You for Your Gifts:

Questions on how to give can be directed  
to Margaret Lane Hollingsworth at  
[mhollingsworth@ipc-usa.org](mailto:mhollingsworth@ipc-usa.org).

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## Watch Online

We invite you to worship with us  
from wherever you are.  
Join the 11:00 a.m. livestream at  
[YouTube.com/@IPCBirmingham](https://www.YouTube.com/@IPCBirmingham)

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# This Week At IPC

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## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

**8:45 A.M.** Traditional Worship, Sanctuary

**10:00 A.M.** Sunday School

**11:00 A.M.** Traditional Worship, Sanctuary

**5:00 P.M.** Table Worship, Highland Hall

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:00 A.M.

- Medical Benevolence Foundation, GHI
- Discussing John's Gospel of Faith (Reformed Bible Study Class), RM 309
- New Testament Rhetoric (Wonder Years & Seekers Classes), RM 305
- Love Carved in Stone (Presbyterian Women), RM 304
- Presbyterian 101: Digging Deep Into Our Faith (Combined classes: Bridges, Crossroads, Trenches & Foundations), RM 306
- Childcare, (2K-6th Grade), Ground Floor
- Nursery (6 weeks–18 months), RM G05

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## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

**9:15 A.M.** Home for Faith, Garage

**1:00 P.M.** Bridge, RM 308/309

**5:30 P.M.** Yoga, RM 301

**6:00 P.M.** Boy Scouts, Scout Hut

**7:00 P.M.** Lakeview AA, RM 307

**7:00 P.M.** Beer & Hymns, The Grocery

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## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

**9:30 A.M.** Bridge, RM 309

**11:00 A.M.** Intercessory Prayer, Chapel

**1:30 P.M.** Centering Prayer, RM 304

**3:00 P.M.** Chair Yoga, RM 304

**5:30 P.M.** Session, Garage

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## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

**9:00 A.M.** Yoga, RM 301

**10:30 A.M.** Women at the Well, RM 101

**10:30 A.M.** Caregiver Support Group, RM 304

**NOON** Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary

**1:00 P.M.** Bridge, RM 308

**3:00 P.M.** Living After Loss Support Group, RM 304

**5:00 P.M.** Wednesday Night Dinner, Great Hall

**5:30 P.M.** Kids ROCK Musical Rehearsals & Childcare, 1st Floor

**5:30 P.M.** Lakeview Al-Anon, RM 304

**6:00 P.M.** Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary

**6:30 P.M.** IPC Choir Rehearsals, Music Suite

**7:00 P.M.** Lakeview AA, RM 307

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## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

**11:00 A.M.** Knitting Ministry, RM 105

**12:00 P.M.** Noon Bible Study, RM 307

**2:00 P.M.** Mahjong, RM 308

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## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

**6:30 A.M.** Bill Shanks Bible Study, GH2

**12:00 P.M.** Mahjong, RM 308

**FEB. 20-22** Youth Presbytery Retreat, Living River

To learn more about our upcoming events and to register for classes, please *visit [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org)*.

**PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICES:**

**The Rev. Kevin J. Long, *Pastor***

**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***

**Mr. Gaige Tittle, *Seminary Intern***

**Dr. Burton W. Lee, *President & CEO of Medical Benevolence Foundation***

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**Acolytes:**

*(11:00 a.m.) Molly Wykle*

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**The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir**



**I N D E P E N D E N T**  
**P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H**

3100 Highland Avenue, South  
Birmingham, Alabama 35205

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**PHONE: (205) 933-1830**

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**OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays**

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*This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)*

**[ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org)**