

Schedule

SUNDAY, FEB. 1

EVENSONG: Service of Choral Evensong featuring British composers Joanna Forbes L'Estrange, and Grayston Ives' "Canterbury Te Deum"

IPC Choir
Sanctuary

MONDAY, FEB. 2

LECTURE: The Genesis and Genius of the Genevan Psalter (and its relevance for worship today)

Dr. Martin Tel , Princeton University
Great Hall

THURSDAY, FEB. 5

ALPINE BANQUET: Swiss celebration

PROGRAM: Maya Lončar, solo guitar

Great Hall
Banquet cost \$25. Reservations by Feb. 1
(205) 933-3700 or ipcmusic.org

FRIDAY, FEB. 6

EARLY MUSIC CONCERT: "Embracing Winter", a program of baroque music on period instruments with soprano Kathryn Knauer
North Carolina Baroque Orchestra Chamber Players
Great Hall

SUNDAY, FEB. 8

CHORAL CONCERT: A Benjamin Britten Retrospective

IPC Choir and Camerata
Derrick Meador, guest organist
Sanctuary

ALL WEEK

ART DISPLAY: 25 Years of RAF brochures

Parlor

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INDEPENDENT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Kevin Long, Pastor
Jeff McLelland, Director of Music and Fine Arts
Nick Mathes, Administrative Assistant

If you are interested in helping to secure the future of the Religious Arts Festival at IPC, donations may be given to The Religious Arts Festival Endowment Fund. Please call the Music Office for further information.

Music
IS LIKE A
BRIDGE
THAT LEADS US
TO
God.

POPE LEO XIV

55th Annual Religious Arts Festival
February 1-8, 2026

Independent Presbyterian Church
Birmingham, AL



SUNDAY, FEB. 1
Service of Choral Evensong • Sanctuary • 4 p.m.

The IPC Choir, directed from the organ by Dr. Jeff McLelland, will sing beautiful service music by contemporary British composers Joanna Forbes L'Estrange, and the monumental work “Canterbury Te Deum” by Grayston Ives. Come worship with us as we rest in the Heart of God.



MONDAY, FEB. 2
Lecture • Great Hall • 6:30 p.m.
The Genesis and Genius of the Genevan Psalter (and its relevance for worship today)

Dr. Martin Tel, Princeton University
 The sixteenth-century Swiss Reformer, John Calvin, is a foundational figure for Presbyterians. His establishment of congregational psalm singing had long been a hallmark of Reformed liturgy. Following an overview of Presbyterian psalm and hymn singing history, we will consider how the principles of the Genevan Psalter can continue to shape musical arts in contemporary Reformed traditions.



Martin Tel has served as the C. F. Seabrook Director of Music at Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey since 1996. Martin conducts the seminary choirs, teaches courses in church music, and administers the music for the daily seminary worship services.

THURSDAY, FEB. 5
Annual Festival Banquet • Great Hall • 6 p.m.
“A Swiss Celebration”
Program: Danse Rythmique, a solo guitar recital by Maya Lončar
 The program will include works from Bach, Villa-Lobos, and Albeniz, and living composers including styles from Baroque, Spanish, Jazz, Romantic, and Contemporary. Maya completed her studies at The Eastman School of Music and is an active teacher and advocate of music in Leesburg, Virginia.

Banquet cost \$25. Reservations by Feb. 1
 (205) 933-3700 or ipcmusic.org



Maya Lončar is a competition-winning Croatian-American guitarist who has been revered for her “virtuosic technique”, “capacity for fiery sensitivity”, and “deep artistic control”. She began her studies at the age of six with her father and has since been invited as a guest artist for multiple concerts and festivals throughout Europe and America.



FRIDAY, FEB. 6
Early Music Concert • Great Hall • 7 p.m.
“Embracing Winter”

The North Carolina Baroque Orchestra Chamber Players
Barbara Krumdieck, director

Join the North Carolina Baroque Orchestra Chamber Players for “Embracing Winter”, a program of baroque music on period instruments that is sure to warm your heart during the cold winter months! The Chamber Players will be joined by soprano Kathryn Knauer for this concert featuring Vivaldi’s “Gloria” and “Agitata da due venti”, as well as favorite Bach arias. The instrumental ensemble will also bring Vivaldi’s “Winter” from the *Four Seasons* and a Concerto for violin by Telemann.

SUNDAY, FEB. 8
Concert • Sanctuary • 4 p.m.

A Benjamin Britten Retrospective
 Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the death of Benjamin Britten, this concert will feature a lecture by Dr. Jeff McLelland on the life of Britten, with music performed by the IPC Choir and Camerata, accompanied by organist Derrick Meador. Music to include *Jubilate Deo in C*, *Missa Brevis in D*, and *Rejoice in the Lamb*.



Derrick Meador has served as organist/choirmaster at St. Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral in Shreveport, Louisiana since 2021, where he leads an historic music program rooted in the Anglican choral tradition.

The Fine Arts Committee offers these programs as a gift to the community and encourages you to invite your friends. All events are free with the exception of the Thursday banquet which requires reservations.

For further information about the festival, or to make reservations, please contact the Music Office at (205) 933-3700 or visit ipcmusic.org.