

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

WELCOME VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS! If this is your first visit, we would love to say hello and welcome you to our church family. **Contact us:** Please reach out to Stacy Pulliam at spulliam@ipc-usa.org. **Visit our website:** ipc-usa.org/welcome

FLOWER DEDICATION: The flowers on the foyer table are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mark L. Miller.

LENTEN GRACE GROUP REGISTRATION: 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. Each small group is led by IPC members and meets at different times and locations, so you can find a group that works for you. Sign up at ipc-usa.org on the Sign Up Links page.

55TH ANNUAL RELIGIOUS ARTS FESTIVAL: Make plans to attend our week-long festival February 1–8. “Music is like a bridge that leads us to God” will feature an IPC Choir Evensong, a Lecture on Calvin and the Psalter, an Alpine Banquet, Baroque music with period instruments, and a Retrospective on Benjamin Britten. Visit ipcmusic.org for more information. **The reservation deadline is today for the annual banquet on February 5.**

BEER & HYMNS: Come to The Grocery (2823 Central Avenue in Homewood), on Monday, February 16 for some old-timey hymns (and a few new ones) in a relaxed setting with good food and great company. Doors open at 6 p.m. Music starts at 7 p.m.

JOIN US FOR IPC'S ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES on Wednesday, February 18 at Noon and 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary with the imposition of ashes and communion. Childcare is available for the 6:00 p.m. service.

SUMMER CAMPS: Registration is open for Vacation Bible School (VBS, May 18-21) and Bibletimes Marketplace (BTMP, June 1-5). VBS is designed for preschool children ages 2-5, and BTMP is open to elementary students and youth in grades rising 1st-12th grade. Register and find additional details on the Sign Up Links page at ipc-usa.org.

DAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION is open for the 2026-2027 school year. Visit the Sign Up Links page at ipc-usa.org to access the registration link and learn more.

ANNUAL PLEDGE: We are so grateful for those who have given generously to support the mission of Jesus Christ at IPC. If you have not yet submitted a pledge, join us in joyful generosity as we share our gifts to bless others. You can make your pledge online by texting PLEDGE to (205) 927-3100 and following the prompts.

THE LITURGICAL YEAR

IPC follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time is observed between the end of Christmas and the beginning of Lent and again between the end of Easter and the beginning of Advent. Signified by the color green for new growth, it is the season in which we celebrate the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and what it means to be his disciple. The name of this season is derived from the word ordinal, meaning “to count.” We call this season Ordinary Time because we count and name the weeks in number order (i.e., Second, Third, etc.).

CONNECT WITH IPC'S PASTORAL & PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Kevin J. Long
Pastor
kevin.long@ipc-usa.org

Rev. Susan A. Clayton
Associate Pastor, Congregational Care and Adult Ministries
sclayton@ipc-usa.org

Rev. D. Nicole Newton
Associate Pastor, Discipleship
nnewton@ipc-usa.org

Rev. David J. Seamon
Associate Pastor, Mission & Outreach
dseamon@ipc-usa.org

Cammie Ashworth
Director of Youth Ministries
cashworth@ipc-usa.org

Beth Middleton
Director of Children's Ministries
bmiddleton@ipc-usa.org

Stacy Pulliam
Member Engagement and Assimilation Coordinator
spulliam@ipc-usa.org

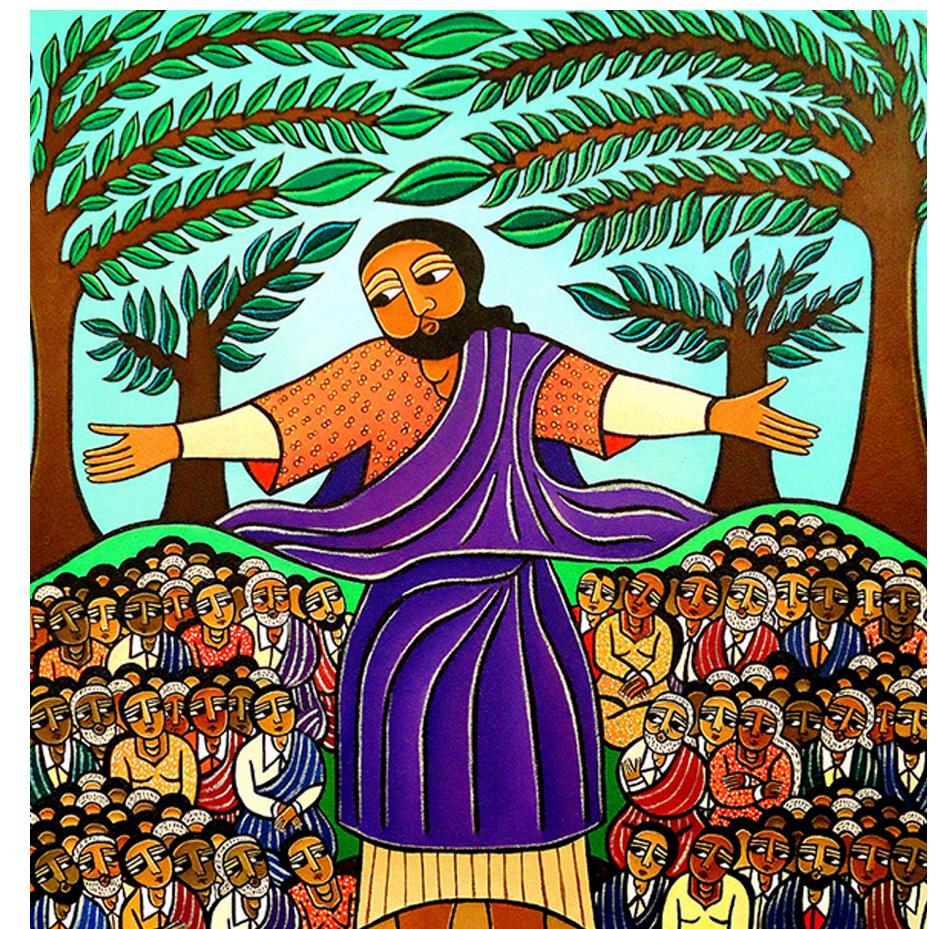
PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. David Seamon, Associate Pastor
Sarah Mason, Worship Leader
Brett Burcham, Acoustic Guitar
Eric Onimus, Bass Guitar

Carlos Pino, Electric Guitar
Jeff Lopez, Horns
Fred Rogan, Steel Guitar
Tommy Bowen, Horns
Hayden Thomas, Sound

THE TABLE

Independent Presbyterian Church



FEBRUARY 1, 2026

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME



Independent Presbyterian Church

Church office: 3100 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, AL 35205

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. | Phone: 205.933.1830

ipc-usa.org | facebook.com/ipcbirmingham

This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)

Cover Image: Laura James, Sermon on the Mount 2010

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

GATHERING

We gather as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God

Prelude

Gathering Song

"Angel Band"

Welcome

Opening Hymn

"His Mercy Is More"

Verse 1: What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many His mercy is more!

Verse 2: What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Chorus: Praise the Lord His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness new every morn
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Verse 3: What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

(Repeat Chorus)

LISTENING

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

Prayer of Confession (unison)

You asked for our hands, that you might use them for your purpose; we gave them for a moment, then withdrew them, for the work was hard. You asked for our mouths to speak out against injustice; we gave you a whisper, for we were afraid. You asked for our eyes to see the pain of the world; we closed them, for we did not want to see. Forgive us, O God, for our calculated efforts to serve you— only when it is convenient for us to do so, only in those places where it feels safe to do so, and only with those who make it easy to do so. Forgive us, renew us, and send us out to hear your call and claim anew. Amen.

Please observe a period of silence for personal reflection.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Friends, this is the good news of the gospel.
All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Peace

Leader: May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
All: 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."*

Holy Interruption

Confessional Response: "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"
Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon: "Beatitude"

RESPONDING

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

Invitation to Discipleship

Sharing of Gifts

In gratitude for the love and grace extended to us by God, we share our resources to support ministries of justice, mercy, and beauty.

- Offering Song: "Blessed Are The Merciful"
- To give online, text OFFERING to (205) 927-3100 and follow the steps.

Celebration of the Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

- Prayers of the People and 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.

- Words of Institution
- Communion of the People
- Communion Song: "Blessed are the Poor"
- Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Closing Hymn

"God Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

Verse 1: God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store: nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door, gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Verse 2: Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the Church made one. Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone; born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Verse 3: Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred; ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the Gospel Word. Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call, healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

Benediction

Postlude

*Our service is over, let our service begin.
fed by mystery, forgiven of sin.*

*Now our faith made real, when brokenness we heal.
our service is over, let our service begin.*