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## LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

**WELCOME VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS!** We would love to welcome you as a new member of our family of faith at IPC. Please indicate your interest by contacting Stacy Pulliam at [spulliam@ipc-usa.org](mailto:spulliam@ipc-usa.org). "Like" us on Facebook at @IPCBirmingham.

**LENTEN CHAPEL & LUNCH:** Join us each Wednesday (March 12-April 16) for a noonday worship service followed by a light lunch. Reserve your lunch for this week by noon on March 11. Find the reservation form and discover more about Lent at IPC at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org).

**NEW WEDNESDAY NIGHT GARDENING CLASS** starts March 12. Join us for "Nurture Nature: Our Way to a Homegrown Habitat" running consecutive Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm in Room 302 through April 2. Discover the beauty of native Alabama flora and fauna in the Highland Avenue medians and learn how to create your own vibrant gardens, led by Certified Master Gardener Gail Pless.

**LAST CALL:** Join Rev. David Seamon and Dr. Jeff Leonard as Biblical Explorations and IPC journey to Rome and Assisi May 31 - June 8. A few spots are still available, so don't miss your chance! March 15 is our deadline. The itinerary includes historical sites, stunning churches, and breathtaking art. Find the interest form at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org) on the Sign Up Links page.

**THE CHIAPAS MISSION TEAM** is collecting supplies for their trip March 22-29, where they will construct a church and run programs for local children. Please consider donating new supplies from the list below or visit our Amazon wish list at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org) on the Sign-Up Links page. Bring supplies to the Community Ministries office on the ground floor off 31st Street. **Supplies needed by March 20:** Paint brushes (16), paint rollers (16), paint roller frames (8), work gloves (12), queen sheets (5 sets), king sheets (2 sets), children's puzzles (12), 8-pack Crayola crayons (120), coloring books (20), basketballs (6), soccer balls (3), and hand-held, portable ball pumps (3).

**YOUTH SUNDAY ON MARCH 16:** Our Youth (7-12th grade) have been preparing since January to lead the congregation in all elements of worship including preaching, music, liturgy, and more during all services. We will also recognize high school seniors in the 11 am traditional service.

**COME SEE THE CHILDREN'S SPRING MUSICAL, "It's Cool in the Furnace"** next Sunday, March 16, at 10 am here in the Highland Hall Assembly Room. Join us for the timeless story of a Godly guy named Daniel, his three side-kicks, and a fiery furnace. It's about as cool as it gets!

**HONOR THE MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES** with an Easter Memorial donation. To ensure the names of your loved ones are included in the Easter bulletin, please submit your contribution by Sunday, April 6. You can pick up a contribution envelope today from the lobby. Find our online donation form on the Sign Up Links page at [ipc-usa.org](http://ipc-usa.org).

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## CONNECT WITH IPC'S PASTORAL & PROGRAM STAFF

**Rev. Kevin J. Long**  
Pastor  
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**Rev. Susan A. Clayton**  
Associate Pastor, Congregational  
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**Rev. D. Nicole Newton**  
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**Rev. David J. Seamon**  
Associate Pastor, Mission and  
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**Stacy Pulliam**  
Member Engagement and  
Assimilation Coordinator  
[spulliam@ipc-usa.org](mailto:spulliam@ipc-usa.org)

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## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

<b>Rev. Kevin J. Long</b>	Pastor
<b>Rev. David J. Seamon</b>	Associate Pastor
<b>Sarah Mason</b>	Worship Leader
<b>Brett Burcham</b>	Acoustic Guitar
<b>Eric Onimus</b>	Bass Guitar
<b>Leif Bondarenko</b>	Drums
<b>Carlos Pino</b>	Electric Guitar
<b>Fred Rogan</b>	Steel Guitar
<b>Jeff Lopez</b>	Horns
<b>Oliver Middleton</b>	Video & Lights
<b>Hayden Thomas</b>	Sound

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## TODAY'S BAPTISM

**GRAHAM DOGGETT RUSHTON**, born October 21, 2024, son of Ms. Meg Rushton and grandson of Dr. Francis Rushton and Mrs. Margaret Rushton.



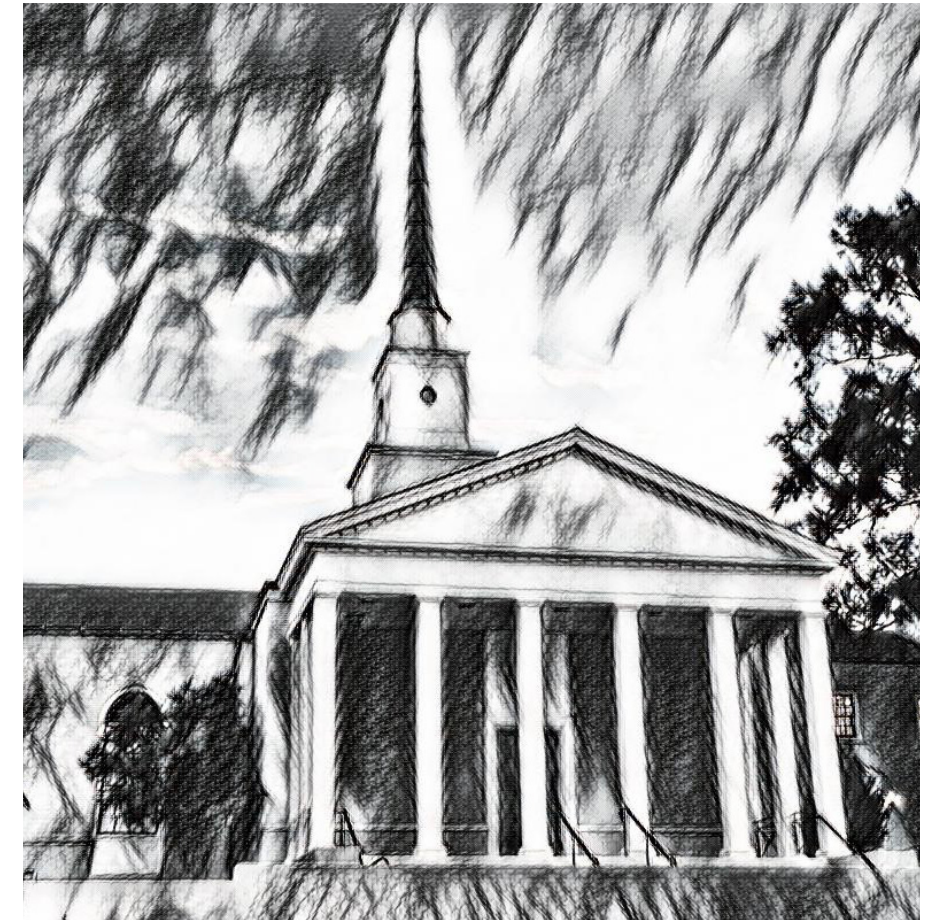
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### Independent Presbyterian Church

Church office: 3100 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, AL 35205  
Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 | Phone: 205.933.1830  
[www.ipc-usa.org](http://www.ipc-usa.org) | [www.facebook.com/ipcbirmingham](https://www.facebook.com/ipcbirmingham)  
This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)

# THE TABLE

## Independent Presbyterian Church



MARCH 9, 2025

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

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## WELCOME TO THE TABLE

Open · Affirming · Welcoming

WORSHIP is at the center of the life of The Table.

As you prepare yourself for worship,  
we invite you to reflect quietly on these words:

*God, give us faith that whatever ought to be will be. May we be confident that we can do whatever Thy will is that we shall do. May we find out Thy way, may we join ourselves to it, then leave all the rest with Thee. Amen.*

*from Beginning the Day by Henry Edmonds*

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## THE LITURGICAL YEAR

IPC follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in the season of Lent as signified by the color purple, which symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice.

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## IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST VISIT:

**E-mail or call us:** We would love to say hello and welcome you to our church family. Please reach out to us by contacting Stacy Pulliam at [spulliam@ipc-usa.org](mailto:spulliam@ipc-usa.org).

**Visit our website:** [ipc-usa.org/welcome](http://ipc-usa.org/welcome)

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## FLOWER DEDICATION

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

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## GATHERING

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

### *Prelude*

### *Welcome*

**Sacrament of Baptism:** *Graham Doggett Rushton*

### *Call to Worship*

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

People: **Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!**

Leader: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

People: **But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.**

Leader: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.

People: **O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.** *Psalm 130*

### *Gathering Songs*

*"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"*

*"A Mighty Fortress"*

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## LISTENING

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

### *Prayer of Confession (unison)*

Gracious and Holy God, in Jesus Christ you have brought light into the darkness to awaken us to new life. But we confess that we prefer to remain asleep in the darkness where we have grown comfortable. Though we desire to be faithful to you, we confess that we are weak and faithless. Forgive us, O God, for abandoning you when discipleship becomes hard. Forgive us for being afraid. Forgive us for all the ways we betray our Lord Jesus. In his name we pray. 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."*

### *Confessional Response*

*"Gloria Patri"*

### *Prayer for Illumination*

**Scripture Lesson:** Mark 14:26-50

**Sermon:** *"The Betrayal"*

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## RESPONDING

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

### *Hymn*

*"Abide with Me"*

### *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. 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: *"I Surrender All"*

- Prayer after Communion

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## SENDING

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

### *Closing Hymn*

*"Blessed Assurance"*

### *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.*