

Independent Presbyterian Church
Birmingham, Alabama



THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 31, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

My Father, send me about working the miracles of love. Give me to love the weak into strength, the timid into confidence, the ugly into beauty. Let me add luster to my own life by losing myself in love. Amen.
from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmonds

PRELUDEJean Langlais
"Modal Prelude"

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.

INTROITGeorge Thalben-Ball
"O praise God in his holiness"
O Praise God in his holiness; praise him in the firmament of his power.

CALL TO WORSHIPRev. Long
Minister: Come, with hearts open to serve and welcome all.
People: **We follow God's call to bring healing and hope to the world.**
Minister: Come, with courage to confront injustice, with a willingness to enter into places of brokenness.
People: **We follow Christ's call to love our neighbors.**
Minister: Come, with the patience of a teacher guiding young children, with the tenderness of a nurse tending the sick.
People: **We follow the Spirit's call to be sanctuaries of grace and compassion.**
Minister: Come, let us worship the Lord.

* HYMN 26EARTH AND ALL STARS
"Earth and All Stars!"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Unison: **Loving God, we confess that we do not always live into the call you have placed on our lives. Too often we cling to comfort, avoiding the ways you call us to risk, serve, and follow. We turn inward, guarding our plans and desires, forgetting that you invite us into work, relationships, and service that extend beyond ourselves. Forgive us, O Lord. Rescue us from fear and hesitation, that we may step into your purposes with courage. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may bear witness to your dreams for the world. Drench us in the love of Jesus Christ, that we may live fully into the calling you have given us, for the sake of your kingdom. 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

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."

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

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Rev. Newton

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON - Jeremiah 1:4-10 (Pew Bible, p. OT532)

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 childcare.

ANTHEM Gerald Near
"Christ Hath a Garden"

Christ hath a garden walled around, A Paradise of fruitful ground, Chosen by love and fenced by grace From out the world's wide wilderness. Like trees of spice his servants stand, There planted by his mighty hand; By Eden's gracious streams, that flow To feed their beauty where they grow. Awake, O wind of heav'n and bear Their sweetest perfume through the air: Stir up, O south, the boughs that bloom, Till the beloved Master come: That he may come, and linger yet Among the trees that he hath set; That he may evermore be seen To walk amid the springing green.
Isaac Watts

SERMONRev. Newton
"Just A Kid"

The Response to the Word

* HYMN 432 REPTON
"How Clear Is Our Vocation"

*APOSTLES' CREED..... Rev. Seamon

**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 (*HYMN 606*).....OLD HUNDREDTH
“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

**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

The Offertory Anthem..... arr. Virgil Thomson
“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

My Shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is his Name. In pastures fresh he
makes me feed Beside the living stream. He brings my wand'ring spirit back
When I forsake his ways. He leads me for his mercy's sake In paths of truth
and grace. When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay.
One word of thy supporting breath Drives all my fears away, Thy hand, in sight
of all my foes, Doth still my table spread. My cup with blessings overflows,
Thine oil anoints my head. The sure provisions of my God Attend me all my
days, O may thy house be my abode And all my work be praise. There would
I find a settled rest, While others go and come, No more a stranger or a guest,
But like a child at home. *Isaac Watts*

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 691 LAND OF REST
“Lord, When I Came into This Life”

* BENEDICTION..... Rev. Newton

* POSTLUDE David McCabe
“Trumpet Tune in C Major”

* 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, please contact Stacy Pulliam at spulliam@ipc-usa.org.

THE FLOWERS in the chancel today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. Robert Simson Watson, Mr. Thomas Blankenship Maddox Pankey Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Paul McFadden Pankey Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Estes Moore. **THE FLOWERS** on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of 1st Lt. Samuel J. Fisher, Jr., B-17 Pilot, U.S. Army Air Corps; July 8, 1944, over France.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE: Today, we observe our Holiday Worship Schedule and gather for one morning worship service in the Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. There is no Sunday school and no Table worship service.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS RETURN beginning September 3. Join us for a delicious dinner prepared by Kim Martin with options for adults and children, plus the salad bar. Find opportunities for all ages with adult classes:

- Wednesday Night Dinner, Great Hall, 5:30 - 6 PM, RSVP for dinner (\$10) each Tuesday by Noon
- Bible Study with the Pastor, RM 218, 6 - 7 PM
- Youth Grant Team, Youth Room 101, 5 - 6 PM
- Christian Doctrine, RM 305/306, 5 - 6 PM
- Kids ROCK, Ground & 1st Floor, 5:30 - 7:30 PM
- Home for Faith, RM 105, 5:30 - 7:00 PM
- Whimsy Wednesdays, RM 302, 6 - 7:30 PM
- Traveling the Path of Labyrinth (starts Sept. 10), RM 301, 6 - 7 PM

Visit ipc-usa.org/worship/wednesday-nights for details and to reserve dinner.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7: You're invited to our "Together Again" breakfast from 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. in the Great Hall. All are welcome to come enjoy breakfast, coffee, and fellowship as we celebrate the first Sunday back on our regular schedule. Worship services will be held at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and 5:00 p.m. in Highland Hall. Please note, Sunday School classes will not meet on September 7 and will officially begin the fall semester on September 14.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held Sunday, September 14, in the Sanctuary immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect new church officers.

SERVICE OF CHORAL EVENSONG: The IPC Choir will sing the Service of Choral Evensong on Sunday, September 14 at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Directed from the organ by Dr. Jeff McLelland, the service will feature beautiful service music by contemporary British composer 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

STAIR 3.0 TUTORS NEEDED: Volunteers are needed for the fall semester to work one-on-one with 3rd-graders at Hayes K-8 through our STAIR 3.0 program. Sessions are held Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:15–4:15 p.m., September 23 - December 17. This is an opportunity to make a lasting difference in a child's life while helping them strengthen their reading skills. Register at stairbirmingham.org/tutor. Questions? Contact Marion Dukes at mdukes@ipc-usa.org.

MALAWI MEDICAL MISSION TRIP: All are invited to experience meaningful service, learn more about yourself, and engage with IPC's mission partners while making a difference in the world. This trip, designed for those with a heart for medical missions, will take place January 31 - February 10, 2026. For questions or more information, contact Rev. David Seamon at dseamon@ipc-usa.org.

SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

KIRKWOOD FUNDS: (*Employee Christmas Fund*) In Memory of Mrs. Jane B. Dulin. (*Horizon Fund*) In memory of Mr. William F. Edmonds and Mrs. Avis W. Elrod.

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

Mr. Gregory Roberson, Guest Organist and Member of the IPC Choir

The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir

Independent Presbyterian Church

3100 Highland Avenue

Birmingham, Alabama 35205-1408

Phone: (205) 933-1830; Fax: (205) 933-1836

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. except Saturday and Sunday

This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)

www.ipc-usa.org