
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:** To learn more about joining IPC, please send an email to membership@ipc-usa.org or visit the *New to IPC* page on our website.

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

VBS HELPERS NEEDED: Please let us know if you are able to lend a hand with decorating for Vacation Bible School (VBS) May 15 and 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Childcare is available on May 15. You can also volunteer to help during VBS week, May 18-21! Ready to join the crew, please send an email to virginiasauer11@gmail.com.

“BON VOYAGE” CONCERT: On May 17 at 4:00 p.m., the IPC Choir will present their Spring “Bon Voyage” Concert in the Sanctuary. The music will consist of well-known anthems to be presented in concert during the 2026 Choir Tour to Switzerland, and the choir, with string orchestra, will perform the *Solemn Vespers* by W.A. Mozart. Soloists will be soprano Kristine Hurst-Wajszczuk, alto Lara Wilson, tenor Austin Green, and bass Patrick Evans. Please come to wish the choir *bon voyage!*

BEER & HYMNS: Come to The Grocery (2823 Central Avenue in Homewood) on Monday, May 18 for some old-timey hymns (and a few new ones) in a relaxed setting with good food and great company. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Music starts at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome!

SUMMER SCHEDULE AT IPC: From May 31 to August 30, we move to a combined traditional worship service in the Sanctuary each Sunday at 10:00 a.m., and the Table worship service will continue in Highland Hall at 5:00 p.m. Sunday School will be held at 9:00 a.m. with a combined class for adults and youth. Childcare will be available for infants through rising 6th graders on the ground floor. **Please note we observe our Holiday Worship Schedule**, which means there will be no Sunday School or Table Worship, on the following Sundays: May 24, July 5, and September 6.

BIBLICAL EXPLORATIONS, with Rev. Susan Clayton and Dr. Jeff Leonard, invites you to join us for a ten-day journey through Greece October 3-13, 2026. From Paul to the Parthenon, this itinerary includes a host of sites connected with both the journeys of the Apostle Paul and the foundations of Western civilization. We are working on a date for an interest meeting soon. Contact Susan at sclayton@ipc-usa.org if you are interested in learning more or making plans to join us.

THE LITURGICAL YEAR

IPC follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in the season of Easter as signified by the color white. Easter isn't just a Sunday—it's a season. One day out of 365 is hardly sufficient to celebrate the great mystery of our faith—that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

Accordingly, the season of Easter lasts seven weeks (a “week of weeks”), spanning the 50 days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday and encompassing the festival of the Ascension of the Lord. The season of Easter is intended to be a joyful time for celebrating the presence of the risen Christ in the church.

Of course, Easter really isn't just a season either. In the fullest sense, Easter is a new way of life—in which we are “dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus” (Rom. 6:11), called to “walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:4).

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

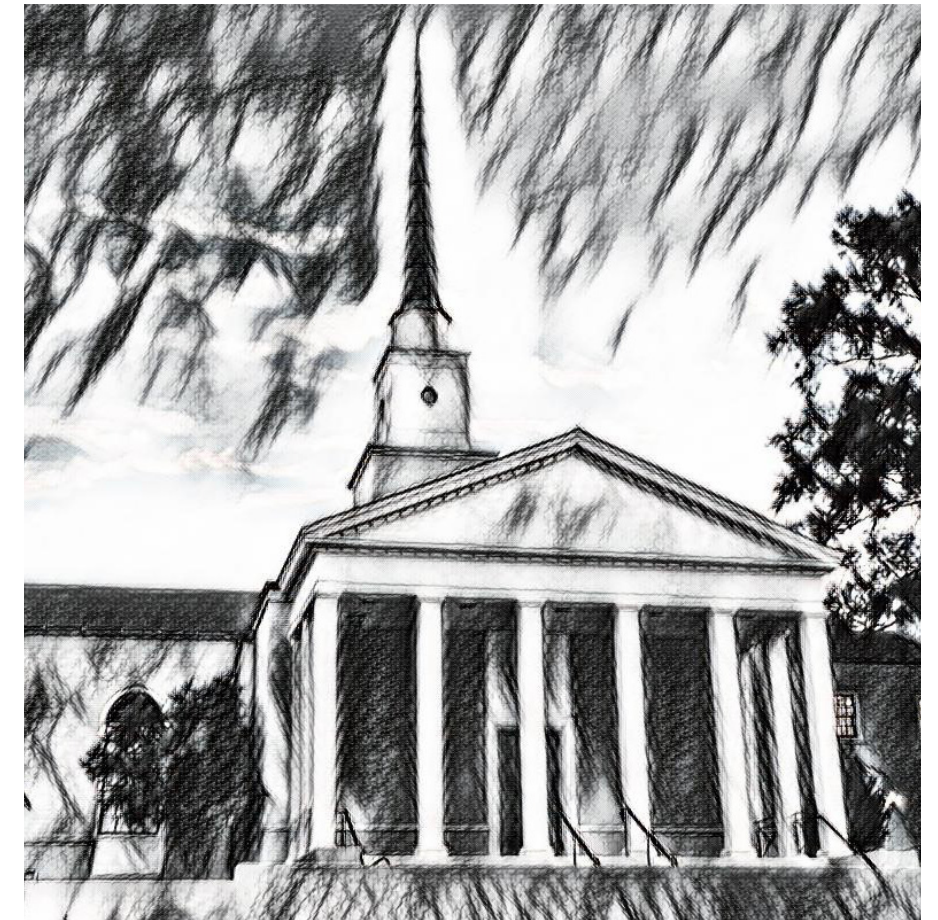
PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

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



MAY 10, 2026

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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)

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Gathering Song

Welcome

Opening Hymn

“How Great Thou Art”

Verse 1: Oh Lord, my God
When I, in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Chorus: Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

Verse 2: And when I think that God, His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

Repeat Chorus

Verse 3: When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration
And then proclaim, my God, how great Thou art

Repeat Chorus

LISTENING

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

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. 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: “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: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Sermon: “By His Wounds”

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: “Have Mercy”
- 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: “All Belong Here”
- Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Closing Hymn

“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”

Verse 1: **What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer**

Verse 2: **O what peace we often forfeit
O what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer**

Verse 3: **Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer**

Verse 4: **Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer**

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.*