#### 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.

# 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 by contacting 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.

**FOCUS ON FAITH SUNDAY:** We welcome Dr. Mark Labberton, former President and Professor of Preaching at Fuller Theological Seminary and author of several books. This evening's service features a video replay of his morning sermon. You can also watch the replay of his Sunday School class on IPC's YouTube channel by searching @IPCBirmingham.

**FALL GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP:** A new session of Living After Loss, a support group for those navigating the emotional and spiritual journey of grief following any kind of loss, begins Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 304. The group meets each Wednesday and will be facilitated by Dr. Stewart Jackson, licensed counselor, with participation from Rev. Susan Clayton.

IPC CONNECT FALL COCKTAIL SOCIAL: Join us for a fall evening with IPC Connect friends on Thursday, Nov. 6, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the home of Merrill Stewart. Enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres, beverages, and good company as we gather in fellowship and friendship. Please register by Monday, Nov. 3 at ipc-usa.org on the Sign Up Links page.

**ELEMENTARY FALL RETREAT:** All elementary-age children are invited to the Fall Retreat at Living River, Nov. 7–9. This weekend getaway offers a chance to unplug, explore nature, and grow in faith and friendship. Please register at ipc-usa.org on the Sign Up Links page.

**ANNUAL PLEDGE:** Join us in joyful generosity as we share our gifts to bless others. Your annual pledge provides the foundation for ministry, mission, and growth. Find 2026 pledge cards at IPC, or make your pledge online by texting PLEDGE to (205) 927-3100.

HARVEST FOR HUNGER CAMPAIGN: Help fill every available shelf in our Blessing Boxes and Weekend Buddy Bags room with food and hygiene items. Pick up a Harvest for Hunger grocery bag at IPC. The list of needed items will be printed on the bag and available at ipc-usa.org. Please return filled bags by Sunday, Nov. 23, which is Harvest for Hunger Dedication Day.

#### THE LITURGICAL YEAR

IPC follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together. We are currently in the Season after Pentecost, also known as Ordinary Time. It is signified by the color green which represents new life and growth. Ordinary Time is observed from Pentecost until the beginning of Advent.

#### 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. Nicole Newton,** 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



November 2, 2025
The Thirty-First 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 www.ipc-usa.org | www.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** 

"Come And Listen"

Welcome

Opening Hymn

"How Great Thou Art"

Verse 1: O Lord my God

When I in awesome wonder Consider all the works Thy hands have made

I see the stars

I hear the rolling thunder

Thy pow'r thru'out 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)

O God, by your mercy strengthen those who are exposed to the rough storms of trouble and temptation. Help us stand against our own negligence and cowardice. Defend us against the treachery of our unfaithful hearts, and forgive us our sins. Help us, we implore you. Bring us safe to your haven of peace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

St. Augustine

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

Daniel 3:1-18

Sermon: "Discerning the Dangers"

As part of Focus on Faith Sunday, the sermon in this evening's service is a video replay of this morning's preacher,

Dr. Mark Labberton

#### 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: "O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"
- 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: "New Wine"
- Prayer after Communion

#### SENDING

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

# Closing Hymn

"In Christ Alone"

Verse 1: In Christ alone my hope is found

He is my light my strength my song This Cornerstone this solid Ground

Firm through the fiercest drought and storm What heights of love what depths of peace When fears are stilled when strivings cease

My Comforter my All in All

Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2: In Christ alone who took on flesh

Fullness of God in helpless babe This gift of love and righteousness

Scorned by the ones He came to save Till on that cross as Jesus died

Till on that cross as Jesus died The wrath of God was satisfied For every sin on Him was laid

For every sin on Him was laid Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3: There in the ground His body lay

Light of the world by darkness slain Then bursting forth in glorious Day Up from the grave He rose again

And as He stands in victory Sin's curse has lost its grip on me For I am His and He is mine

Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4: No guilt in life no fear in death

This is the power of Christ in me From life's first cry to final breath lesus commands my destiny

Jesus commands my destiny No power of hell no scheme of man

Can ever pluck me from His hand Till He returns or calls me home

Here in the power of Christ I'll stand