

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.

“THE GOSPEL AT RISK? CONFESSING THE FAITH TODAY” is a four-week Sunday School series Oct. 11-Nov. 1 led by professors from Columbia Theological Seminary exploring the meaning and importance of our Creeds. Join us in room 305 at 10:00 a.m. to examine whether the gospel is at risk today and how generations of Christians dealt with that issue in their time through confessional statements.

HARVEST FOR HUNGER KICK-OFF: Harvest for Hunger is IPC’s annual campaign to fill every available shelf in our Blessing Boxes and Weekend Buddy Bags room with food and hygiene items. Beginning next Sunday, Oct. 18, you can 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. 22, which is Harvest for Hunger Dedication Day.

IPC CROP DROP + FAMILY FUN FINALE: Kick off our annual Harvest for Hunger campaign and help bag sweet potatoes for neighbors facing food insecurity at IPC’s Annual Crop Drop from 2:00–4:00 p.m. Ages 5 and up are invited to serve, with preschool childcare provided. Families are invited to stay for our NEW! Family Fun Finale, featuring inflatables, Son’s Donuts, face painting, and more, which begins once all the potatoes are bagged. It’s also “Nice to Have You in Highland Park Day,” and we hope to welcome our Highland Park neighbors. Register at ipc-usa.org on the Sign Up Links page.

BEER & HYMNS: Come to The Grocery (2823 Central Avenue in Homewood) on Monday, October 19 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.

WHEN THE GENERATIONS MEET: CARING FOR AGING PARENTS: Adults caring for aging parents while also supporting children, work, or other family responsibilities are invited on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 5:30 p.m. in GH1 to hear Dr. Beverly E. Thorn, Professor Emerita of Psychology at the University of Alabama, discuss aging, dementia care, end-of-life issues, and the challenges of caring across generations. Dinner and childcare are included with preregistration at ipc-usa.org on the Sign Up Links page.

BLACK BELT IMMERSION TRIP: Join the Global Ministries team for a hands-on immersion trip Nov. 6-8 in Alabama’s Black Belt. The trip will include a service project alongside Rural Studio, along with visits to sites central to the area’s civil rights and cultural history. Learn more at ipc-usa.org.

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

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PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE

Rev. Kevin Long, Pastor
Sarah Mason, Worship Leader
Brett Burcham, Acoustic Guitar
Eric Onimus, Bass Guitar
Carlos Pino, Electric Guitar
Fred Rogan, Steel Guitar

Leif Bondarenko, Drums
Jeff Lopez, Horns
Tommy Bowen, Horns
Hayden Thomas, Sound



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)

THE TABLE

Independent Presbyterian Church



OCTOBER 11, 2026

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Gathering Song “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

Welcome

Opening Hymn “Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons)”

Verse 1: Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?

Verse 2: Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?

Verse 3: Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean
In you and you in me?

Verse 4: Will you love the “you” you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found
To reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?

Verse 5: Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
And never be the same.
In your company I’ll go
Where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow
In you and you in me.

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 and mind and strength. 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. Through Jesus Christ 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: “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: Revelation 3:14-22

Sermon: “Seven Deadly Sins: Sloth”

RESPONDING

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

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: “For the Beauty of the Earth”
- 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 Stand Amazed (How Marvelous)”
- Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Closing Hymn “O Love That Will Not Let Me Go”

Verse 1: O love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

Verse 2: O Light that follows all my way,
I yield my flick’ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine’s blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

Verse 3: O Joy that seekest me thru’ pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow thru’ the rain
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

Verse 4: O cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life’s glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

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.*