

Independent Presbyterian Church

Birmingham, Alabama



PALM SUNDAY

April 13, 2025

8:45 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering for Worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O mighty God, lead us into the experience of triumphing over death. Let us walk humbly and majestically, fearing nothing. May we begin our immortal lives now. Grant that sinking ourselves in Christ we may win His victory in all things. Amen. *from "Beginning the Day" by Henry Edmonds*

PRELUDE Raymond Haan
"Ah, Dearest Jesu" & "O Sacred Head"

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.

INTROIT Michael Praetorius
"Hosanna to the Son of David"
Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest! *Matthew 21:9*

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Long
One: Blessed is the one.
Many: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
One: Blessed is the one.
Many: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of Alabama's poor.
In the name of the sick in Birmingham hospitals,
In the name of the searching on Highland Avenue,
In the name of the hungry and the thirsty at First Light.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
One: Blessed is the coming realm of God:
Many: Blessed is the coming end to war in Ukraine.
Blessed is the coming end to fear in Israel and Palestine.
Blessed is the coming end to hatred and division.
One: Blessed is the end of injustice.
Many: Blessed is the coming end to death.
One: Blessed is the coming realm of God!
Many: Blessed is the coming realm of God!

* HYMN 196 VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"
(11:00 a.m.) The children will lead the procession with palm branches.

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Unison: Over the broken glass of our world,
the rumors meant to hurt,
the prejudice meant to kill,
ride on, trampling our attempts at disaster into the dust.

Over the distance of our half-truths, unkept promises,
and second-best obedience,
ride on until you touch us and heal us.

**In your company and at your side,
we might yet help to bandage,
and heal the wounds of the world.
So, O Christ, ride on, ride on in majesty—
and take us with you. 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. Seamon

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (8:45 a.m.)

John Arthur Jones

*** APOSTLES' CREED (8:45 a.m.)**

**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.**

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATIONRev. Long

SCRIPTURE LESSON - Luke 19:28-40 (Pew Bible, p. NT63)

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 G. F. Handel
“Lift Up Your Heads” from *Messiah*

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in! Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in! Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory. *Psalm 24:7-10*

SERMONRev. Seamon

The Response to the Word

HYMN 160.....ANDUJAR
“A Stable Lamp is Lighted”

Stanza 1: Choir
** Stanzas 2-4: Congregation stands and sings*

*APOSTLES’ CREED (11:00 a.m.).....Rev. Newton

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

One Great Hour of Sharing
You can contribute to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance by placing your donation in the offering plate marked with “One Great Hour of Sharing” or by texting SHARE to (205) 927-3100 and following the instructions.
Thank you for your generosity!

- * 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. John Ferguson

“Ah, Holy Jesus”
Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended? By foes derided, by thine own rejected.
Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus,
hath undone thee. ‘Twas I, Lord Jesus, I crucified thee.
Johann Heermann, tr. Robert Bridges

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 221PASSION CHORALE
“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

*BENEDICTION.....Rev. Seamon

*POSTLUDE Johannes Brahms
“Ah, Dearest Jesus”

*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 on the War Memorial are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Colonel William L. Jackson; Army Air Corps, WWII, Korean War, and Alabama Army National Guard; father of Jan Posey, grandfather of Grace Posey and Lily Jones, and great-grandfather of Samuel Owen Jones and John Arthur Jones.

JOIN US FOR COOKIES IN THE COURTYARD this morning following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. This is our final gathering of the Lenten season for cookies and fellowship.

CHILDREN’S EGG HUNT: Join us today for an Egg Hunt in Rushton Park after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. (Toddlers in the IPC Courtyard.) We will have cookies and lemonade for all and eggs to hunt for all the kids!

NOW & FOREVER ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF DINNER: IPC Foundation and Church present a very special evening featuring Rev. Dr. Tom Tewell. Guests will enjoy a seated dinner with wine while learning how IPC’s mission can thrive for generations to come. Join us Friday, April 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the IPC Great Hall. **Kindly confirm your attendance by April 14 at IPCForever.org.**

LENTEN CHAPEL & LUNCH: Join us Wednesday, April 16 for the final noonday worship service followed by a light lunch. **Reserve your lunch for this week by noon on April 15.** Find the reservation form at ipc-usa.org.

THE REPRESENTATIVE NOMINATING COMMITTEE is identifying qualified nominees for the Elder and Deacon classes of 2028, trustees to serve on the IPC Foundation, two congregants to serve as members at large on the RNC, and the vice president of the congregation (who will become president in 2027). Paper forms are available in the narthex and by the elevator, or you can email RNC@ipc-usa.org. The deadline to nominate is April 21.

E-RECYCLING & SHREDDING EVENT: Join us on Thursday, April 24, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Large Parking Lot! Bring your old electronics and unwanted documents to recycle responsibly. Accepted items include computers, cell phones, laptops, printers, and more. Please, no household appliances or televisions. For more information, contact Catherine Sager at (205) 933-3725 or csager@ipc-usa.org.

WESTERN CAROLINA MISSION TRIP: Make plans to serve with us from June 8-14, where we’ll assist with light construction and rebuilding homes affected by Hurricane Helene. **Extended deadline:** Please complete the interest form on the Sign Up Links page at ipc-usa.org by April 25 or contact Rev. David Seamon at dseamon@ipc-usa.org for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(continued)*

CFAF CLEAN-UP DAY: Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Children's Fresh Air Farm! We need volunteers of all skill levels to help prepare for our Summer Learning Program and Bibletimes Marketplace. Activities include spreading mulch, planting, and classroom organization. Please sign up at ipc-usa.org on the Sign Up Links page. Contact Ivy Spencer for more information at tomivy@bellouth.net.

BAPTISM TODAY

JOHN ARTHUR JONES, born November 29, 2024, son of Lily and Mason Jones, brother of Samuel Owen Jones, and grandson of Angie and Brian Jones and Jan and Robert Posey.

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 17, 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Holy Communion and the Stripping of the Paraments. Childcare available.

Good Friday

Friday, April 18, 12 p.m. (noon) in the Sanctuary

A Penitential Service. Childcare available.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 20

8:00 am, 9:30 am, and 11:00 am in the Sanctuary

5:00 p.m. in Highland Hall

Celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ

No Sunday School. Childcare available at morning services.

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

Dr. Jeff R. McLelland, Director of Music and Fine Arts

Acolytes: (8:45 a.m.) Laden Falls, Heidi Hollingsworth, Jessica Long

(11:00 a.m.) Caroline Hill, Charlie Hill, Andrew Murphree

The Independent Presbyterian Church Choir

Zak Enikeev, viola

Independent Presbyterian Church

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Birmingham, Alabama 35205-1408

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

Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 except Saturday and Sunday

This congregation is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (USA)

www.ipc-usa.org

Cover: *The Two Crowns*, 1900, Sir Frank Dicksee: The Two Crowns of the title are the golden crown of a king and the crown of thorns worn by Christ on the cross.

Image courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.