

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

THE TWENTIETH DAY OF AUGUST, TWO THOUSAND AND SEVENTEEN
Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'clock

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MEDITATION

“Nicaea” Farlee
Jennifer Velázquez, Organist

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Revelation 4:8-11

The Minister: “The four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say,

The Congregation: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is to come!’

The Minister: Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

The Congregation: ‘Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.’”

The Minister: Amen! Let us worship God!

The Reverend Brad Robson, Assistant Pastor (8:30 a.m.)
The Reverend Mike Malone, Assistant Pastor (11:00 a.m.)

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Praise Him! Praise Him!” No. 173

THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

“Holy, Holy, Holy!” Nicaea

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

☞ *Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad at this time.* ☞

THE CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen.*

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Jesus Christ, God takes away our old song of guilt, shame, and despair, and gives us a new song of hope to sing. God's Word says, “They sang a new song, saying, ‘Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.’” Thanks be to God that Jesus, the Lamb slain, ransomed us and set us free to praise him! — *Revelation 5:9-10*

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

“Before the Throne”

Charitie Bancroft and Vikki Cook Vikki Cook



1. Be - fore the Throne of God a - bove, I have a
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to des - pair, and tells me
3. Be - hold him there, the ris - en Lamb! My per - fect,



strong and per - fect plea; a great High Priest whose name is
of the guilt with - in, up - ward I look and see him
spot - less right - eous - ness. The great un - change - a - ble I



Love, who ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is
there, who made an end to all my sin. Be - cause the
Am, the King of Glo - ry and of Grace. One with him -



grav - en on his hands. My name is writ - ten on his
sin - less Sav - ior died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed
self, I can not die. My soul is pur - chased by his



heart. I know that while in heav'n he stands, no tongue can
free. For God, the Just, is sat - is - fied to look on
blood. My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my



bid me thence de - part, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.
him and par - don me, to look on him and par - don me.
Sav - ior and my God, with Christ, my Sav - ior and my God.

THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism
Question and Answer 49-50

Question and Answer 49

The Minister: How does Christ's ascension to heaven benefit us?

The Congregation: First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father. Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head

will also take us, his members, up to himself. Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge. By the Spirit's power we seek not earthly things but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.

Question and Answer 50

The Minister: Why the next words: “and is seated at the right hand of God”?

The Congregation: Because Christ ascended to heaven to show there that he is head of his church, the one through whom the Father rules all things.

THE PRAYER OF INTERCESSION 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, forever. *Amen.*

THE OFFERTORY

“Honor and Glory” Bach/Ehret
Peter Winterburn, Bassoon
James A. Brown, Jr., Director

Honor and glory be to God in the highest,
Hallelujah, sing praises to his name!

THE SERMON

Revelation 4:1-5:14 (*pew Bible page 1030-1031*)
“The Heavens Opened”
Dr. Sean Michael Lucas
Senior Pastor

THE INSTALLATION AND ORDINATION OF

THE RULING ELDERS-ELECT (11:00 a.m.)

Statements Concerning the Offices Dr. Lucas

Questions to the Candidates

Question to the Congregation

Laying of Hands and Prayer The Reverend Mike Malone

Right Hand of Fellowship Session Members

Pronouncement and Declaration Dr. Lucas

Exhortation to the Elders and Congregation Mr. Sam Graham, Ruling Elder

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power” No. 300
Congregation, please join in singing stanzas 2-4.

THE BENEDICTION

THE RESPONSE

“Crown Him the Lord of Years” Diademata
Choir and Congregation

Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me:
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

THE POSTLUDE

“Allegretto” from *Water Music* Handel

SERMON NOTES

1. Heaven’s Praise (4:1-11)
 - A. Scene (1-8a)

 - B. Substance (8b-11)

2. Heaven’s Problems (5:1-4)
 - A. The problem of the scroll (1-4)

 - B. The problem of suffering

3. Heaven’s Provision (5:5-14)
 - A. Who (5-6)

 - B. Worthy (8-14)

WELCOME TO IPC

Visitors are special at IPC. Please fill out the Friendship Pad and pass it down the aisle so that we will know you were here. Join us on Wednesday evenings at 5:30, in the Fellowship Hall, for dinner, followed by teaching at 6:30.

Visitors interested in joining IPC are invited to attend our *Pathway Class for Prospective Members*. For more information or to register, please contact Maureen Odiam, modiam@ipcmemphis.org, or (901) 685-8206.

Our Worship Services are shown via live stream in the Chapel for families with babies/young children, latecomers, and for any other reason you might be more comfortable there. Additionally, a fully-staffed nursery is available during all services.

~Please enjoy your coffee outside of the Sanctuary. Thank you.~

Our services are now available on Sunday mornings via Live Stream. Visit ipcmemphis.org for the link. Please note: the link will be active only on Sunday morning. In addition, audio recordings of this morning’s sermon are available in the bookstore immediately following the 8:30 worship service, or during the following week on our website.

Please see an usher if you are in need of a hearing amplification device.

THE FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God
by Fay and Bill Ham in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

CONGRATULATIONS

to our new Ruling Elders in the Class of 2023:

Mr. Will Chase, Mr. Ralph DelBove, Dr. Hugh Francis III,
Dr. Chuck Halford, Mr. Bryan Hawkins, Dr. Bo Mitchum,
Mr. Rob Mitchum, Mr. David Neubert, and Dr. Mel Payne

OUR CHURCH TODAY | AUGUST 20

8:30 a.m..... Worship Service
8:30 a.m.....K-Church and Jr. Church (Grade 1)
9:45 a.m..... Sunday School
11:00 a.m..... Worship Service/Ruling Elder-Elect Installation and Ordination
11:00 a.m.....K-Church and Jr. Church (Grade 1)

OUR CHURCH WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 23

5:30 p.m.....Dinner — Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m..... *Celebrate the Legacy of the Reformation*: Reverend Scotty Smith
6:30 p.m.....“That Thing” (K-5th)
6:30 p.m.....Jr. High and Sr. High Youth Groups
7:30 p.m.....Adult Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS IN AUGUST

Come Celebrate the Legacy of the Reformation — 500 Years and Beyond!

This Wednesday, August 23, at 6:30 p.m., we continue our celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation with The Reverend Scotty Smith, teacher-in-residence at West End Community Church PCA, Nashville, as our guest teacher. Reverend Smith will teach on the fourth of the Five Solas, *Sola Gratia* (Grace Alone). Please make plans to join us in the Fellowship Hall.

PATHWAY CLASS WEEKEND FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Are you interested in joining IPC? Would you like to know more about what we believe? Our next *Pathway Class Weekend for Prospective Members* is Friday evening, August 25, and Saturday morning, August 26. To register, or for more information, contact Maureen Odiam, modiam@ipcmemphis.org, or (901) 685-8206.

JOIN THE CHOIR!

Have you considered joining the Adult Choir? Would you like your child to be a part of the Children’s Choirs? Now is the time to sign up! For more information about IPC’s Music Ministry, call (901) 685-9707, or email musicoffice@ipcmemphis.org.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY 2017-2018

Our Women’s Ministry activities will resume in September. Join us for brunch and a “welcome game” with Sara and Sean Lucas, Tuesday, September 12, at 10:00 a.m. Bible Study starts Tuesday, September 19, with groups meeting at 10:00 a.m. or 6:00 p.m. For more information on study book and group selections, registration, and child care, email Sandy Martin at smartin@ipcmemphis.org.



INDEPENDENT
Presbyterian Church

THE MISSION OF INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

is to make disciples of Jesus by *gathering* for worship,
growing in community, and *going out* in love.