

# THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

THE TWENTY-NINTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN  
*Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'clock*

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*  
— John 1:1

## THE PRELUDE

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come” Pachelbel  
*Jennifer Velázquez, Organist*

## THE CALL TO WORSHIP — based on Psalm 80:1-17

*The Minister:* “The Lord is glorious and exalted.

*The Congregation:* Lord, shine in our hearts and lives.

*The Minister:* God's people are often in distress and sorrow.

*The Congregation:* Lord, show Your might and deliver us from evil.

*The Minister:* We sometimes do not feel the Lord's presence.

*The Congregation:* O Lord, let Your face again shine on us.

*The Minister:* The Lord was the shepherd of His people Israel.

*The Congregation:* Lord, lead us in our way and guide us in our walk.

*The Minister:* In this Advent season we hope with anticipation —

*The Minister and Congregation:* Immanuel, invade our lives. *Amen.*”

*The Reverend Justin Jones  
Assistant Pastor*

## THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” No. 196

## THE INVOCATION 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.*

## THE GLORIA PATRI

Adeste Fideles

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
glory to God in the highest;

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

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

## THE DUET

“Angels from the Realms of Glory” Hopson  
*Lauren Hoyle, Soprano Lance McGee, Tenor*

Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
As you sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Come and worship, Come and worship, Come and worship the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing, Yonder shines the infant Light.  
Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar:  
Seek the great Desire of nations; You have seen the natal star.  
Come and worship, Come and worship, Come and worship the newborn King.

Saints, before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending, In His temple shall appear.  
Come and worship, Come and worship, Come and worship the newborn King.

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Lord Christ, we confess our willingness to be loved but also our reluctance to love. We confess our readiness to accept Your forgiving love but also our refusal to forgive. We confess our eagerness to grasp Your offer of redeeming love but also our resistance to follow You without question. In this Advent time, forgive us our failure to respond as we should. Come to us anew, and by Your grace, assist us to receive You with joy, as the shepherds; with gratitude, as Simeon; with obedience, as Mary; with love, as You have loved us. Even so: come, Lord Jesus. *Amen.* — *The Worship Sourcebook*

## THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

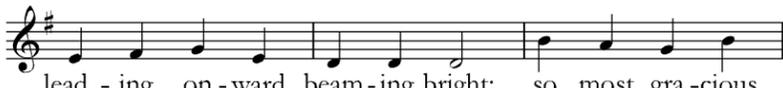
“Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord! O Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy! If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption. And He will redeem Israel from all His iniquities.” — *Psalms 130*

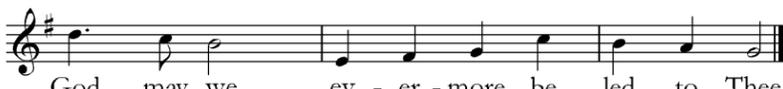
## THE ADVENT HYMN

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

  
1. As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing  
2. As with joy-ful steps they sped to that low-ly  
3. As they of-fered gifts most rare at that cra-dle

  
star be-hold; as with joy they hailed its light,  
cra-dle-bed, there to bend the knee be-fore  
rude and bare; so may we with ho-ly joy,

  
lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright; so, most gra-cious  
Him whom heav'n and earth a-dore; so may we with  
pure, and free from sin's al-loy, all our cost-liest

  
God, may we ev-er-more be led to Thee.  
will-ing feet ev-er seek Thy mer-cy seat.  
treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King.

## THE STATEMENT OF FAITH Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 29, 31

*The Minister:* “Why is the Son of God called ‘Jesus,’ meaning ‘savior’?”

*The Congregation:* Because He saves us from our sins, and because salvation should not be sought and cannot be found in anyone else.

*The Minister:* Why is He called ‘Christ,’ meaning ‘anointed’?”

*The Congregation:* Because He has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our chief prophet and teacher who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our deliverance; our only high priest who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of His body, and who continually pleads our cause with the Father; and our eternal king who governs us by His Word and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us in the freedom He has won for us.”

## THE DOXOLOGY

Regent Square

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;  
evermore Your voices raising to th' eternal Three in One:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King. *Amen.*

## THE OFFERTORY

“For unto Us a Child Is Born” from *Messiah* G. F. Handel  
*James A. Brown, Jr., Director*

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given:  
And the government shall be upon His shoulder,  
And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor,  
The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

## THE SERMON

“Christmas in Troubled Times”  
*Dr. Richard L. Pratt, Jr.*  
*President, Third Millennium Ministries*

## THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” No. 201

## THE BENEDICTION

## THE CHORAL RESPONSE

“Rejoice, O Israel!” Veni Emmanuel

## THE POSTLUDE

“The King Shall Come when Morning Dawns” arr. Johnson



## SERMON NOTES

November 29, 2015

“Christmas in Troubled Times”

Dr. Richard L. Pratt, Jr.

### 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. Please 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 next *Pathway Class for Prospective Members*. For more information, or to register, please contact the Church Office, 901.685.8206.

A fully-staffed nursery is available during all services.

### THE FLOWERS

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God* in loving memory of Paul Osborne Schaefer on the occasion of Paul's November birthday. They are given by his parents, Joan and Dudley Schaefer.

### OUR CHURCH TODAY | NOVEMBER 29

8:30 a.m.....Worship Service  
8:30 a.m..... K-Church (Kindergarten) and Jr. Church (Grades 1 & 2)  
9:45 a.m..... Sunday School  
9:45 a.m..... Pathway Class  
11:00 a.m.....Worship Service  
11:00 a.m.....K-Church (Kindergarten) and Jr. Church (Grade 1)  
4:00 p.m. .... Adult Choir *Lessons and Carols* Rehearsal  
5:00 p.m. .... Combined Jr. High and Sr. High Choir Rehearsal

### OUR CHURCH WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 2

5:30 p.m.....Dinner, Fellowship Hall  
5:30 p.m. .... Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
5:30 p.m. .... Jr. High Choir Rehearsal (Grades 6-8)  
6:00 p.m..... Divorce Care (Room 233)  
6:20 p.m.....Preschool and Kindergarten Choirs *The First Christmas*  
6:30 p.m. .... Children's Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 p.m..... Adult Choir Rehearsal

#### PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

#### CHOIRS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Join us after our Wednesday evening dinner this week at 6:20, in the IPC Fellowship Hall, for the Preschool and Kindergarten Choirs Christmas Program, *The First Christmas*.

Afterward, we will enjoy coffee, dessert and bingo for children and adults!

#### DINNER FOR EIGHT

The *Dinner for Eight* project is part of IPC's Special Events Ministry and is a great way to meet new people at church and to get to know your church family better. During November and December, you may register online at [www.indepres.org](http://www.indepres.org), or you may fill out a registration form and put it in the box in the lobby. For more information, visit our website, or contact Elizabeth Fowlkes, [efowlkes@indepres.org](mailto:efowlkes@indepres.org).

Join us next Sunday, December 6

for

#### THE 27TH ANNUAL SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

In the Sanctuary ~ 5:00 p.m.\*

Adult and Children's Choirs with Members of  
the Memphis Symphony Orchestra

and

In the Sanctuary ~ 7:00 p.m.\*

Adult, Senior and Junior High Choirs with Members of  
the Memphis Symphony Orchestra

\*Nursery available

#### A LOOK AHEAD

Thursday, December 3 — Women's Ministry decorates the church

Sunday, December 6 — *Lessons and Carols*, 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

(Nursery available)

Monday, December 7 — Children's Ministry Gingerbread Contest

Tuesday, December 8 — Women's Ministry Christmas Caroling at Trezevant

Wednesday, December 9 — Graded Choir Christmas Program, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 16 — “Back to IPC” College Students Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 18 — Food Basket set-up, 2:00 p.m.

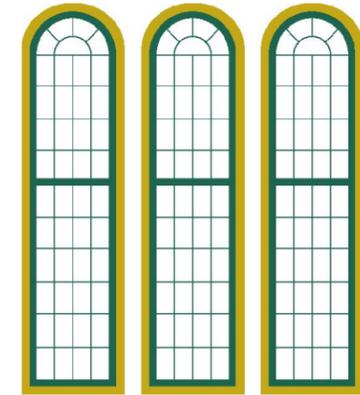
Saturday, December 19 — Food Basket assembly and delivery, 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 20 — *Messiah* Sing-Along, 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 24 — Christmas Eve Services, 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 27 — Congregational Brunch, 9:45 a.m.

(No Adult or Children's Sunday School classes. Nursery is provided.)



# INDEPENDENT Presbyterian Church

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

THE MISSION OF INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH is to make disciples of Jesus Christ in Memphis, calling them into a devoted community of worshiping and maturing believers, and sending them out to be salt of the earth and light in the world,  
*all to the glory of God.*

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 the internet at [www.indepres.org](http://www.indepres.org).

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