

SERMON NOTES

December 8, 2013

Luke 1:26-38

“What We Need for Christmas: Real Power”

The Reverend Richie Sessions

OUR CHURCH TODAY

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, 3rd Floor Conference Room
11:00 a.m.....Worship Service
11:00 a.m..... K-Church (Kindergarten) and Jr. Church (Grades 1 & 2)
5:00 p.m.....25th Annual Service of Lessons and Carols
7:00 p.m.....25th Annual Service of Lessons and Carols

THE 25TH ANNUAL SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

This Evening 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

OUR CHURCH WEDNESDAY

5:30 p.m.....Dinner, Fellowship Hall
5:15 p.m.....Jr. High and Sr. High Choirs Rehearsal
6:30 p.m.....Elementary, Jr. and Sr. High Choirs Program, Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.....Divorce Care, Room 229
7:30 p.m.....Adult Handbell Rehearsal

PORTRAITS OF CHRISTMAS

The Elementary, Junior High and Senior High Choirs of IPC will present *Portraits of Christmas* this Wednesday, December 11, at 6:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary.

WOMEN@IPC

Ladies, join us on Thursday, December 12, for caroling at the Terrace at Trezevant Manor and to visit our homebound members who live there. Meet at IPC at 10:00 a.m. If you have questions, please contact Barbara Collins, bcollins@indepres.org.

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKET NEEDS:

Ample funds for all the needy families
Workers to help unload the delivery trucks (Friday, 12/20)
Workers to distribute (Saturday, 12/21)
The Lord will be shared with each Food Basket delivered

*Please prayerfully consider giving of your time
and finances to support this wonderful IPC ministry.*

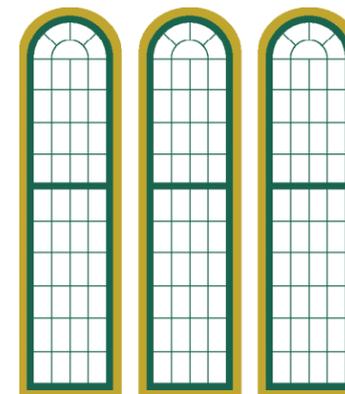
SAVE THE DATE

A PRAYING LIFE SEMINAR
with Paul Miller

January 24 - 25, 2014

Contact Maureen Odiam, modiam@indepres.org, for more information.

Please do not bring your coffee or food into the IPC Sanctuary. Thank you.



INDEPENDENT *Presbyterian Church*

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE



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 for our Fellowship Dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by an adult Bible Study, Small Groups, and youth and children's programs at 6:30 p.m.

Visitors interested in joining IPC are invited to attend our *Pathway Class for Prospective Members*. Please contact the Church Office, 901.685.8206, for more information.

A fully-staffed nursery is available during all services.

THE FLOWERS

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God
by the Women of the Church.*

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.

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.

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

THE EIGHTH DAY OF DECEMBER, TWO THOUSAND AND THIRTEEN
Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'clock

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. — Isaiah 9:6

THE PRELUDE

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” arr. Haan
Jennifer Velázquez, Organist

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 62: 11-12; Isaiah 46:5; 9; 10; 13

The Minister: “Once God has spoken; twice I have heard this:

The Congregation: That power belongs to God, and that to You, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.”

The Minister: “To whom will you liken Me and make Me equal, and compare Me, that we may be alike?

The Congregation: For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me.

The Minister: My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all My purpose,

The Congregation: I bring near My righteousness; it is not far off, and My salvation will not delay.”

*The Reverend Samuel Husband
Assistant Pastor*

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” No. 203

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 SOLO

“Sing for Christ Is Born” arr. Martin/Larson
Amy Moore, Soprano

Let ev'ry nation, all creation, sing in one accord.
Let all rejoice with one great voice and sing for Christ is born!
O crown Him Lord. O crown Him King of kings!
Let ev'ry nation, all creation, sing for Christ is born!
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Let each heart reflect God's glory, make each song a gift of praise.
Shout God's name in truth proclaim His worth for endless days.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, You who shaped out of nothing all that is, forgive us for returning empty-handed. You who called forth light, forgive our preference for the dark! You who sent John to be a voice crying, forgive our unwillingness to say anything at all! Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*
— *The Worship Sourcebook*

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

“But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed.”— *Isaiah 53:5*

THE ADVENT HYMN

“Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

Medieval Latin carol

IN DULCI JUBILO



1. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice, with heart and soul and
2. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice, with heart and soul and



voice; give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is
voice; now ye hear of end-less bliss: Je - sus Christ was



born to - day; earth and heav'n be - fore Him bow, and
born for this! He hath o - pened heav - en's door, and



He is in the man - ger now. Christ is born to -
man is bless - ed ev - er - more. Christ was born for



day! Christ is born to - day!
this! Christ was born for this!

THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

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 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

“The First Nowell” arr. Wilberg
James A. Brown, Jr., Director

The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell! Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star, shining in the East beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heav'nly Lord
That hath made heav'n and earth of nought,
And with His blood mankind hath bought.

THE SERMON

Luke 1:26-38 (*Pew Bible, pages 855-856*)
“What We Need for Christmas: Real Power”
*The Reverend Richie Sessions
Senior Pastor*

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen” No. 211

THE BENEDICTION

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

“Hail the King of Glory!” Tempus Adest Floridum

THE POSTLUDE

“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying” arr. Held

If you would like to pray with someone, please come to the Chapel after the 8:30 or 11:00 service.