

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain” No. 224

THE BENEDICTION

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

“Worship Christ the Newborn King!” arr. Powell

THE POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World” arr. Burkhardt
Emilee Garrett, Organ



SERMON NOTES

December 22, 2013

Luke 2:8-21

“What We Need for Christmas: Real Acceptance”
The Reverend Richie Sessions

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 beginning January 8, 2014, 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 next *Pathway Class for Prospective Members*, February 2014. Please email Gayle Hardee, ghardee@indepres.org, to register.

A fully-staffed nursery is available during all services.

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 FLOWERS

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

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
11:00 a.m.....Worship Service
11:00 a.m..... K-Church (Kindergarten) and Jr. Church (Grades 1 & 2)

LESSONS AND CAROLS BROADCAST

Did you miss it? Would you like to hear it again? Tune to WKNO - FM 91.1, tomorrow, December 23, at noon, for the broadcast of the 2013 IPC *Service of Lessons and Carols*.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Family Service — Fellowship Hall, 4:00 p.m.

Perfect for families with young children

Nursery is provided for children ages 2 and under

Candlelight Communion Service — Sanctuary, 5:30 p.m.

with Choir and Instruments

Nursery is provided for infants through preschool

Candlelight Communion Service — Sanctuary, 11:00 p.m.

No nursery available

HOLIDAY OFFICE AND BOOKSTORE HOURS

The Church Offices will close at noon on December 24, and will reopen at 8:30 a.m., on Thursday, December 26. The Offices will also close at noon on December 31, and will reopen at 8:30 a.m., on Thursday, January 2, 2014.

The Bookstore will close at noon on December 24, will be open on Sunday, December 29, and will be closed again the week of Monday, December 30. It will reopen on Sunday, January 5, 2014, with regular hours.

HOLIDAY GATHERING

There will be no Adult or Children’s Sunday School on December 29. Instead, join us in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 a.m., for coffee and breakfast.

COMMUNION

The Lord’s Supper will be observed on Sunday, January 5, 2014, at the 8:30 and 11:00 Worship Services.

SAVE THE DATE

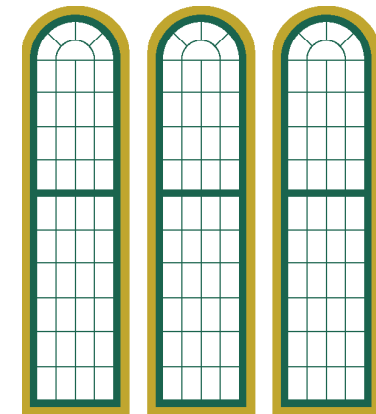
A PRAYING LIFE SEMINAR

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

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

THE PRELUDE

“Let Us Adore Him”

Powell

*Lauren Conley, Rob Halford, Justin Post, Taylor Post, Collin Thompson, Ryan Thompson,
Priscilla Tsai, Elena Velázquez, Mary Wright, and Wes Wright, Violins
Arron Powell, Viola Antonietta Rodriguez and Diego Rodriguez, Cellos
Sandra Cox, Flute Luke Folse and Catherine Meadows, Clarinets
Abby Powell and Brandon Rushing, Horns Van Kingma, Trumpet Daniel Scott, Tuba
Jennifer Velázquez, Piano*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 9:6-7

The Minister: “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

The Congregation: And the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

The Minister: Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

The Congregation: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.”

*Dr. Murray Garrott
Associate Pastor*

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

No. 208
(arr. Willcocks)

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

Gloria

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King,
Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

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

THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

Carolyn Faith Preston, 11:00 a.m.

THE DUET

“Gesù Bambino”

Yon

Beth Rushing, Soprano Randal Rushing, Tenor

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night
Was born the child, the Christmas Rose The King of Love and Light.
The angels sang, the shepherds sang, The grateful earth rejoiced,
And at His blessed birth the stars Their exultation voiced.

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

Again the heart with rapture glows, to greet the holy night
That gave the world its Christmas Rose, Its King of Love and Light.
Let ev'ry voice acclaim His name, The grateful chorus swell,
From paradise to earth He came That we with Him might dwell.

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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, the light of the world. *Amen.*
— *The Worship Sourcebook*

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Psalms 103:10-12

The Minister: He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him;

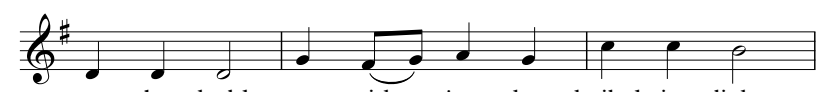
The Congregation: As far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us.

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
□. Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day keep us in the



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,
nar-row way; and when earth-ly things are past,



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
bring our ran-somed souls at last where they need no



God, may we ev-er-more be led to Thee.
will-ing feet ev-er seek Thy mer-cy seat!
treas-ures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King!
star to guide, where no clouds Thy glo-ry hide.

THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 1

The Minister: What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

The Congregation: That I belong, body and soul, in life and in death, not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of His own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that He protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit His purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

THE DOXOLOGY

Regent Square

Glory be to God the Father, and to Christ His only Son;
praise we too the Holy Spirit, binding all the church in one:
as it was in the beginning, is for now and ever more. *Amen.*

THE OFFERTORY

“Angels and Men Rejoice”

arr. Powell

Harrison Howle, Director

Choir and Congregation:

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ 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:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!

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.

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Earth and heav'n before Him bow, and He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

THE SERMON

Luke 2:8-21 (*Pew Bible, page 857*)

“What We Need for Christmas: Real Acceptance”

*The Reverend Richie Sessions
Senior Pastor*

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