



**INDEPENDENT**  
Presbyterian Church

A NEW PEOPLE. A NEW MEMPHIS.

## THE FIRST WORD ON WORSHIP

We begin our fall study through the letters of John this Sunday morning. As we do, we will be looking at the whole matter of assurance with two purposes in mind: first, we desire to gain assurance that we are in fact converted; but second, we also want to ask questions to ascertain whether we truly belong to Christ. These purposes were John's own in writing his letters: he tells us that he wrote 1 John so that "you may know that you have eternal life."

And so, our worship this morning will focus our hearts on Jesus, who came to save sinners and draw us near to God. Both in Word and sacrament, God draws near to us by the Spirit of Jesus, reminding us that he is our greatest good, the joy of our hearts, the boast of our tongues. From our call to worship from Psalm 27 and John 4:23 to the assurance of pardon, from the prayers to Word and sacrament, we long to know this God who has come to us in Jesus Christ! May God grant you blessed assurance today that Jesus is yours, and you are his!

## WELCOME TO INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

If you are a visitor, thank you for joining us. Please be sure to stop by our Visitor Welcome Center in the Rotunda, where we will have a gift for you. Any questions about our church? We encourage you to ask an usher or member on your aisle. Our Welcome Center greeters are also eager to assist you or answer your questions. Please see an usher if you need a hearing amplification device.

More opportunities for teaching and fellowship at IPC are listed in the back of this bulletin. Visitors interested in joining IPC are invited to attend our next *Pathway Weekend Class for Prospective Members*, August 9-10. For more information or to register, please contact Tamera Rackley, (901) 685-8206, or [trackley@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:trackley@ipcmemphis.org).

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

We also live stream our 8:30 and 11:00 services at [ipcmemphis.org](http://ipcmemphis.org). 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.

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please silence your mobile devices.*

# THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

THE FOURTH DAY OF AUGUST, TWO THOUSAND AND NINETEEN

*Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'clock*

## THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE MEDITATION

"How Great Thou Art"

arr. Purifoy

*Ric Browning, Trumpet*

## THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 27; John 4:23

*The Minister:* We come to worship God, our light and our salvation.

*The Congregation:* The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

*The Minister:* We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in his holy temple.

*The Congregation:* We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.

*The Minister:* Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

*All:* Teach us your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and always. Amen! Let us worship God!

*The Reverend Robert O. Browning, Associate Pastor (8:30 a.m.)*

*The Reverend Parker Tenent, Assistant Pastor (11:00 a.m.)*

## THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"O Love of God, How Strong and True"

No. 81

## THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

## THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

Greatorex

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.

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

## THE CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

O Lord, great God, all holy, Father most gracious, filled with mercy and steadfast love, we are embarrassed to come before you, for we have preferred the ways of this world to your ways. We have rebelled against your wisdom. We have gotten into trouble, for we have rejected your fatherly guidance. We have gotten lost altogether. To you belongs righteousness, O Lord, and to us confusion of face. O Lord, great God, all holy, filled with awe, filled with mercy and steadfast love, incline your ear to our troubles. Hear us when we pour out our sorrows before you. Forgive us, not on the ground of our own righteousness, but on the ground of your great mercy in the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. In his name we pray, *Amen. — based on Daniel 9*

## THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. — *1 John 2:1-2*

## THE DOXOLOGY

Tallis' Canon

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

*Children (Kindergarten) may be dismissed to their worship leader.*

## THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

## THE PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

## THE OFFERTORY

"Creation Hymn"

Courtney

*Brandon Rushing, Horn*

*Harrison Howle, Director*

His praise appears in all I see, The stars declare his hands to be;  
Creation speaks in sky and sea and shore,  
Proclaiming forth their sov'reign Maker, "Lord."

High mountains rising to the sky, Bow down before their Author's eye;  
Sea depths now echoing the land's refrain,  
Their vast expanse too small to hold his name; He is Lord.

But though I see, my heart cries out, "So great a God, cares he for me?"  
Yes, he who rules the hosts above, Surrendered, yet, his life in Love,  
Embraced me on a mountain full of pain,  
Released me from an ocean's debt of shame; He is Lord.

Yes, now I see, my heart cries out, "So great a God, he cares for me!"  
And, thus, a new creation made, I see him more and more each day;  
With all the wonders that his hands have laid,  
I rise to glory in the Son, and say, "He's my Lord!"

## THE SERMON

1 John 1:1-4 (*pew Bible page 1021*)

*The Minister:* This is the Word of the Lord.

*The Congregation:* Thanks be to God!

Questions for Assurance: Studies in John's Letters

"Blessed Assurance"

*Dr. Sean Michael Lucas*

*Senior Pastor*

## SERMON NOTES

1. Objective: assurance is rooted in the truth of the Gospel (1-2)

A. A person who is real

B. A proclamation we can trust

2. Subjective: assurance is rooted in the work of the Gospel (3-4)

A. Work in us: Fellowship with God

B. Work through us: Fellowship with others

# THE HYMN OF PREPARATION

“Thy Mercy, My God”

*Drew Lucas, Guitar Tim Keith, Bass*

Words: John Stoker

Music: Sandra McCracken



1. Thy mer - cy, my God, is the theme of my song, the  
2. With - out thy sweet mer - cy I could not live here;  
3. Thy mer - cy is more than a match for my heart, which  
4. Great Fa - ther of mer - cies thy good - ness I own and the



joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue. Thy  
Sin would re - duce me to ut - ter des - pair; but  
won - ders to feel its own hard - ness de - part; dis -  
cov - e - rant love of thy cru - ci - fied Son; all



free grace a - lone from the first to the last hath  
through thy free good - ness my spir - its re - vive and  
solved by thy good - ness, I fall to the ground, and  
praise to the Spir - it whose whis - per di - vine seals



won my af - fec - tions and bound my soul fast.  
he that first made me still keeps me a - live.  
weep to the praise of the mer - cy I've found.  
mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness mine.



All praise to the Spir - it whose whis - per di - vine seals



mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness mine!

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

### THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." — *1 Corinthians 11:26*

## THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Blessed Assurance"

No. 693

## THE BENEDICTION

## THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Assurance

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

## THE POSTLUDE

"Toccata on 'Assurance'"  
*Jennifer Velázquez, Organist*

Watanabe



## THE FLOWERS

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God*  
with love and in honor of the memory of their father, Clinton M. Early, Sr.,  
by Clint Early, Jr. and Dorothy Bryant Early. CHRIST IS KING!

### BIRTH

*Congratulations to*  
Khrystya and Clarke Norton on the birth  
of their son, Mark Edward Norton,  
on July 24.

### DEATH

*We extend our sympathy to*  
Rebekah and Jeff Payne on the death  
of her father, James Alton Griffin,  
on July 23.

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING | AUGUST 18\*

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, August 18, 10:00 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall, for the purposes of revising the IPC by-laws, electing ruling elders for the class of 2025, and hearing ministry reports. Those who wish to see the by-laws with the proposed revisions may pick up a hard copy at the reception desk, or contact Gayle Hardee via email, [ghardee@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:ghardee@ipcmemphis.org).

The men who have been certified to stand for election as ruling elder are: Cannon Allen, David Caldwell, Richard Carter, Rankin Fowlkes, Stephen Guenther, Holt Hall, Ralph Janikowsky, William Martin, Dan McEwan, Rick Powell, and Scott Suddoth. **You must be present at the meeting to vote.** Communing members may vote for as few or as many of these men as they wish; in order to be elected, a candidate must receive fifty percent of the total eligible ballots cast.

*\*Please note: There will be no Adult Sunday School.*

### OUR CHURCH TODAY | AUGUST 4

8:30 a.m. .... Worship Service and Communion  
8:30 a.m. .... Children's Church (Kindergarten)  
9:45 a.m. .... Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. .... Worship Service and Communion  
11:00 a.m. .... Children's Church (Kindergarten)



## SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45-10:45

Nursery & Preschool –  
*First floor, rooms divided by age*  
Kindergarten — *Room 220-222*

1st grade — *Room 216*  
2nd grade — *Room 215*  
3rd grade — *Room 217*

4th grade/5th grade — *Room 201*  
Junior High — *Room 155*  
Senior High — *Room 254*

College | Mr. Zach Hood | *Room 125*

20s Community | Rev. Robert Browning and Teaching Team | *Room 131*

30s Community | Rev. Parker Tenent | *Fellowship Hall South*

40s Community | Rev. Jeremy Jones | *Fellowship Hall North*

50s Community | Rev. Ed Norton | *Chapel*

60s+ Community | Rev. Mike Malone | *Room 237*

The Westminster Class | Mr. Jurey Howard and Dr. Ray Wilson | *Room 233*

Line by Line Class | Mr. Rankin Fowlkes | *Room 132*

## OUR CHURCH WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 7

5:30 p.m. .... Dinner | Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. .... August 2019 Christian Life Conference Begins | Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. .... That Thing | Romper Room (K - 5<sup>th</sup> grade)  
7:30 p.m. .... Adult Choir Rehearsal

### Menu

Late Summer Vegetable Plate with Field Peas, Greens with Ham,  
Lisa’s Corn Casserole, Fried Okra, and Fresh Tomatoes; Mexican Cornbread;  
Watermelon, Homemade Lemon Icebox Pie

Kid’s Menu: Ham and Cheese Sliders, with Chips, Carrot Sticks, Watermelon



## OUTREACH & MINISTRIES

### USHERS AND GREETERS TRAINING SESSION

The IPC Usher and Greeter teams are recruiting individuals and families to welcome and assist our visitors, regular attendees, and members on assigned Sundays. Learn more at the next training session on Saturday, August 10, 9:00-11:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

If you have any questions, please contact Calvin Purcell, [calvin.purcell@gmail.com](mailto:calvin.purcell@gmail.com).

## COMMON GRACE FOR THE COMMON GOOD

### *August 2019 Christian Life Conference*

Our August Christian Life Conference kicks off this **Wednesday, August 7**, with **Dr. Sean Michael Lucas** as our speaker for the evening.

Join us for dinner at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall, then plan to stay and hear Dr. Lucas discuss *What Is the Common Grace? Why the Common Good?*

#### ***Future Speakers and Topics:***

**Dr. Steven Garber** | August 14 | *Singing Songs the Whole World Can Hear*  
**Beth Winterburn, Hillary and David Butler** | August 21 | *Art for the Common Good*  
**Dr. Luke Bobo** | August 28 | *Living Life Vocationally: What the Church Must Do*

In addition to guest speakers on the four Wednesday nights in August, we are thrilled to be hosting **a seminar Friday night and Saturday morning, August 16-17, led by Dr. Steven Garber**. Director of the Leadership, Theology, and Society program at Regent College in Vancouver, Dr. Garber is also an eloquent speaker, award-winning author, and consultant to a wide range of businesses, foundations, and educational institutions.

\$25 seminar cost covers meals and a copy of Dr. Garber's acclaimed book, *Visions of Vocation: Common Grace for the Common Good*.

***To register for the seminar with Dr. Garber, or for more information on the August Christian Life Conference Wednesday night speakers, go to [ipcmemphis.org](http://ipcmemphis.org).***

## PATHWAY CLASS WEEKEND FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS | AUGUST 9-10

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 9, and Saturday morning, August 10.

To register, or for more information, contact Tameria Rackley, [trackley@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:trackley@ipcmemphis.org), or 901-685-8206.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Promotion Sunday for Nursery-4<sup>th</sup> Grade** | Today

**Christian Life Conference** | *Common Grace for the Common Good* | August 7, 14, 21, 28

**That Thing** | August 7, 14, 21, 28 | 6:30 p.m. | Romper Room (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

**Pathway Class for Prospective Members** | August 9-10

**Usher and Greeter Training Session** | August 10 | 9:00-11:30 a.m. | Chapel

**Senior High Choir Ski Day** | August 10 | Pickwick Lake

**College Flapjack Freshman Friday** | August 15 | 10 a.m.-noon

**Visions of Vocation Seminar with Dr. Steven Garber** | August 16-17 | Fellowship Hall

**Congregational Meeting and Officer Elections** | August 18 | 10:00 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

**Sunday Evening Praise and Four Corners Resume** | August 18

**99 Balloons rEcess New Volunteer Training** | August 25 | 9:45 a.m. | Bride's Room

**Women's Luncheon** | August 27 | 11:30 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

**In the Word Men's Bible Study Resumes** | August 29 | 6:30 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

**Labor Day Holiday** | September 2 | Church Office and Bookstore Closed

**Junior High Choir Ski Day** | September 7 | Horseshoe Lake

**Wednesday Evenings @ IPC Resume** | Wednesday, September 4 | Large Group Study,

Grace Groups, BLAST!, Choirs, DivorceCare, Youth Groups, Scouts

**99 Balloons rEcess Resumes** | Friday, September 6

**WOC Simply Tuesday Bible Study Resumes** | September 10 | 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

**Fall Festival and Church Picnic** | Sunday, September 29



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