

**INDEPENDENT**  
Presbyterian Church

A NEW PEOPLE. A NEW MEMPHIS.

Our text this morning in Revelation 12 has several strange and overlapping scenes. But central to them all is this sense that we as God's people are engaged in a holy war against principalities and powers, spiritual forces of darkness, and supernatural evil. We often forget this and think that our opposition is merely human; as a result, we only use human instruments. But our battle is spiritual and requires spiritual weapons — Word, sacrament, and prayer.

Thankfully, we have a faithful God who sustains us in the midst of the battle. In Jesus Christ, he has transferred us from the kingdom of darkness to his own kingdom by his blood shed on the cross. And we venture forth in boldness to do what Jesus's church does in this time between times, worship and witness. May God grant us his Spirit today to see the world and our task as they actually are and may he equip us to fight the good fight of faith!

## WELCOME TO INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

As a fellowship of believers, we like to know all who are worshipping with us today, so please fill out the Friendship Pad and pass it down the aisle. If you are a visitor, thank you for joining us. Any questions about our church? We encourage you to ask a member on your aisle, an usher, or a minister for help. They can answer your questions or assist you in finding someone who can.

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 *Pathway Class for Prospective Members*. For more information or to register, please contact Maureen Odiam, [modiam@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:modiam@ipcmemphis.org), or (901) 685-8206.

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.

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



## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Levi Ayden Garrott Robson (8:30 a.m.)*

## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Benjamin Michael Sykes (11:00 a.m.)*

## THE CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

O gracious and gentle and condescending God, God of peace, Father of mercy, God of all comfort: we confess before you the evil of our hearts; we acknowledge that we are too inclined toward anger, jealousy, and revenge, to ambition and pride, which often give rise to discord and bitter feelings between others and us. Too often have we thus both offended and grieved you, O long-suffering Father. Forgive us this sin and permit us to partake of the blessing you have promised the peacemakers, who shall be called the children of God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

## THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We confess our sins with a sure confidence in the Good News of Jesus. Colossians assures us, “He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption the forgiveness of sins.” Thanks be to God that we serve a risen Savior who has granted us full and free redemption! — *Colossians 1:13-14*

# THE HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“O Church, Arise”

Getty/Townend



1. O church, a - rise and put your ar - mor on; hear the  
2. Our call to war, to love the cap - tive soul, but to  
3. Come, see the cross where love and mer - cy meet, as the  
4. So Spir - it, come, put strength in ev' - ry stride, give



call of Christ our cap - tain; for now the weak can say that  
rage a - gainst the cap - tor; and with the sword that makes the  
Son of God is strick - en; then see his foes lie crushed be -  
grace for ev' - ry hur - dle, that we may run with faith to



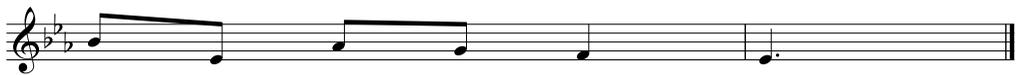
they are strong in the strength that God has giv - en. With shield of  
wound - ed whole we will fight with faith and val - or. When faced with  
neath his feet, for the Con - quer - or has ris - en! And as the  
win the prize of a ser - vant good and faith - ful. As saints of



faith and belt of truth we'll stand a - gainst the dev - il's  
trials on ev' - ry side, we know the out - come is se -  
stone is rolled a - way, and Christ e - merg - es from the  
old still line the way, re - tell - ing tri - umphs of his



lies; an ar - my bold whose bat - tle cry is "Love!" reach - ing  
cure, and Christ will have the prize for which he died, an in -  
grave, this vic - t'ry march con - tin - ues till the day ev' - ry  
grace, we hear their calls and hun - ger for the day when, with



out to those in dark - ness.  
her - i - tance of na - tions.  
eye and heart shall see him.  
Christ, we stand in glo - ry.

*Children (5-6 years old) may be dismissed to their worship leader on the last verse.*

## THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

Ephesians 6:10-18

*The Minister:* “Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

*The Congregation:* For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

*The Minister:* Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

*The Congregation:* Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of grace.

*The Minister:* In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;

*The Congregation:* And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.”

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

*The Congregation:* Thanks be to God!

## 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

“Be Thou My Vision”  
*James A. Brown, Jr., Director*

Rutter

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,  
Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;  
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,  
Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,  
Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord;

Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;  
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;  
Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;  
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:  
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise:  
Be thou mine inheritance now and always;  
Be thou and thou only the first in my heart:  
O Sov'reign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,  
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won;  
Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

## THE SERMON

Revelation 12:1-17 (*pew Bible pages 1034-1035*)

"The Holy War"

*Dr. Sean Michael Lucas, Senior Pastor*

## SERMON NOTES

1. War on earth: redemption (1-6)
  - A. Signs (1-4)
  - B. Savior (5-6)
2. War in heaven: no condemnation (7-12)
  - A. Defeat (7-9)
  - B. Declaration (10-12)
3. War on earth: persecution (13-17)
  - A. Persecution (13-14)
  - B. Protection (15-17)

## THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

No. 92

## THE BENEDICTION

## THE RESPONSE

Aurelia

*Choir and Congregation*

The church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend,  
To guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end;  
Though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,  
Against or foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.

## THE POSTLUDE

“God Is My Strong Salvation”

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arr. Young

There will be no Sunday Evening Praise tonight,  
but please join us at 6:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary,  
*for*

### SONGS OF REFORMATION

*A Concert of Sacred Music*

We have the privilege of hosting Ligonier Ministries and Dr. R.C. Sproul for a concert debuting new hymns written by Dr. Sproul and Emmy-nominated composer Mr. Jeff Lippencott, celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. Dr. Sproul will provide narration during the concert, and Mr. Lippencott will direct the orchestra. More than 300 people have already registered from all over the country to attend with Ligonier. IPC members and friends do not have to register, but should plan to arrive early.

***You will not want to miss this very special event in the life of our Church!***

## THE FLOWERS

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

## OUR CHURCH TODAY | SEPTEMBER 24

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 8:30 a.m. ....  | Worship Service  |
| 8:30 a.m. ....  | Children's Church (Kindergarten)                                   |
| 9:45 a.m. ....  | Sunday School  |
| 11:00 a.m. .... | Worship Service  |
| 11:00 a.m. .... | Children's Church (Kindergarten)                                   |
| 1:00 p.m. ....  | Ligonier Concert Orchestra Rehearsal                               |
| 3:00 p.m. ....  | Ligonier Concert Choir Rehearsal                                   |
| 4:00 p.m. ....  | Jr. High Small Groups  |
| 4:00 p.m. ....  | Sr. High Small Groups  |
| 6:00 p.m. ....  | Songs of Reformation: <i>A Concert of Sacred Music</i> - Sanctuary |

## COMMUNION | SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

The Lord's Supper will be observed next Sunday, October 1,  
during the 8:30 and 11:00 morning worship services.

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45-10:45

|   |                             |                               |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Nursery & Preschool –<br><i>First floor, rooms divided by age</i> | 2nd grade — <i>Room 215</i> | 5th grade — <i>Room 204</i>   |
| Kindergarten — <i>Room 220-222</i>                                | 3rd grade — <i>Room 217</i> | Junior High — <i>Room 155</i> |
| 1st grade — <i>Room 216</i>                                       | 4th grade — <i>Room 201</i> | Senior High — <i>Room 254</i> |

- 20s Community | Samuel Husband | *Room 131*
- 30s Community | Parker Tenent | *Fellowship Hall South*
- 40s Community | Jeremy Jones | *Fellowship Hall North*
- 50s Community | Ed Norton | *Chapel*
- 60s+ Community | Mike Malone | *Room 237*
- The Westminster Class | Jurey Howard and Ray Wilson | *Room 233*
- Line by Line Class | Rankin Fowlkes | *Room 132*

## OUR CHURCH WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 27

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 5:30 p.m. .... | Dinner, Fellowship Hall   |
| 5:30 p.m. .... | Jr. High Choir Rehearsal (Grades 6-8)                           |
| 6:00 p.m. .... | Divorce Care (Room 233)   |
| 6:30 p.m. .... | <i>On Being Presbyterian</i> , Fellowship Hall — Dr. Sean Lucas |
| 6:30 p.m. .... | Grace Groups and Small Groups                                   |
| 6:30 p.m. .... | Preschool and Children's Choirs Rehearsals                      |
| 6:30 p.m. .... | Christ in Action (C.I.A.) — Romper Room                         |
| 6:30 p.m. .... | Jr. High Youth Group  |
| 7:30 p.m. .... | Adult Choir Rehearsal   |

## WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN THE FALL

Dr. Sean Lucas is teaching from his widely-used book,  
*On Being Presbyterian: Our Beliefs, Practices, and Stories.*

You can join the larger group at 6:30 p.m.,  
in the Fellowship Hall where Sean is speaking,  
or follow the study with a small group. Come at 5:30 for dinner.

This Wednesday's menu: Slow cooked pot roast, Potatoes and Carrots  
Steamed green beans, Dinner roll, Apple cobbler with ice cream, Cookies.

Kids meal: Hamburger Sliders

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall Fest and Church Picnic | Sunday, October 1 | After 11:00 a.m. Service

Hurricane Flood Buckets Assembly | Saturday, October 7

Reformation Service @ Second Presbyterian Church | Sunday, October 29 | 6:00 p.m.

Reformation Day Luncheon | Tuesday, October 31 | 11:45 a.m.

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## OUTREACH & MINISTRIES

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

*Tuesdays*

10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

### RECREATION MINISTRY

Registration deadline for youth  
basketball (ages 6-17) is October 1.

Sign up at [ipcmemphis.org/  
ministries/recreation-fitness](http://ipcmemphis.org/ministries/recreation-fitness).

### COME JOIN

### THE KNITTING MINISTRY

Do you knit or want to learn how?

Join the Knitting Ministry, meeting every

Thursday morning from 9:30-11:30,

in Room 233 of the church. Laughter, fun,

and fellowship guaranteed. No experience

required. We'll teach you! Can't meet every

Thursday? Come or pop in when you can,

and knit at home. Want more information?

Call Susan Strong at 901-756-5356,

or email her at [susansstrong@bellsouth.net](mailto:susansstrong@bellsouth.net).

## PRAYER MINISTRY

Men's Prayer Breakfast in Fellowship Hall | Tuesdays | 6:30 a.m.

*Come and join a group of men who meet faithfully for a time of prayer in the Fellowship Hall.*

*Enjoy a good, hot breakfast for \$3.00.*

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Women's Prayer Time | Led by Suzanne Wexler | Bride's Room | Tuesdays | 9:00 a.m.

### ARTS FOR JOBS IS THIS WEEK

Art for Jobs is Thursday, September 28, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Advance Memphis Warehouse, 575 Suzette Street. The annual art sale featuring works by over 100 artists supports Advance Memphis' ministry helping adults in the Cleaborn & Foote communities acquire knowledge, resources and skills to be economically self-sufficient through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

For details, go to [advancememphis.org/art-for-jobs-2017](http://advancememphis.org/art-for-jobs-2017).

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### HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF ASSISTANCE

IPC is organizing an effort to assist the victims of Hurricane Harvey by assembling flood buckets with cleanup supplies. Our goal is to deliver 1,000 buckets (approximate cost of \$70 each) to be distributed by MNA to Texas and Louisiana flood areas. Please consider donating to the effort by dropping a check or cash in the locked collection box labeled HURRICANE HARVEY FLOOD BUCKET RELIEF FUND in the Rotunda. You can also mail a check to the IPC Flood Bucket Relief Fund. We will assemble the buckets on October 7.

Details will be forthcoming.

### FALL FEST

*Mark your calendar for fun!*

Join your church family next Sunday, October 1, following the 11:00 service for a picnic and fall festival on our Avon Street lawn. We'll have fun for all ages, including games led by our Senior High students, hayrides, music, a cake walk, and prizes. \$5 admission fee includes lunch cooked by the famous IPC Grill Team.

There will be special reserved covered seating for our 60s+ Community members.

Others should bring a blanket or chairs.

If it rains, we'll move to the gym.

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### CANDY AND CAKES NEEDED!

The IPC Fall Fest needs donations of wrapped candy for game prizes PLUS cakes and cupcakes (store-bought or homemade) for the cake walk. Beginning this Sunday, we will have bins in the Rotunda and Avon entrance foyer for collecting candy donations. Cake donations should be brought to church on Friday, September 29, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or on the morning of the Fall Fest, Sunday, October 1. To help our planning, please email [stukenborg@aol.com](mailto:stukenborg@aol.com) if you will be donating a cake or cupcakes.

## PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. Sean Michael Lucas  
*Senior Pastor*  
Rev. Edward Norton  
*Associate Pastor*  
Rev. Samuel Husband  
*Assistant Pastor*  
Rev. Jeremy Jones  
*Assistant Pastor*  
Rev. Mike Malone  
*Assistant Pastor*  
Rev. Brad Robson  
*Pastor of Student Ministries*  
Rev. Parker Tenent  
*Assistant Pastor*  
Rev. Ford S. Williams, Jr.  
*Pastoral Associate*  
Rev. Bill Hogan  
*Pastor Emeritus*

## MINISTRY STAFF

James A. Brown, Jr.  
*Director of Music and Worship*  
Pam Brown  
*Director of Children's Choirs*  
Hannah Callaway  
*Assistant Director of Junior High Ministry*  
Gwen Carpenter  
*Food Services Manager*  
Gary Cummings  
*Director of Operations*  
Ben Ervin  
*Audio Visual Coordinator*  
Mary Virginia Felker  
*Assistant Director of Senior High Ministry*  
Stephen Felker  
*Interim Director of Student Ministries*  
Leigh Fox  
*Hospitality Consultant*  
Lucy Green  
*Director of Children's Ministry*  
Rob Howard  
*Director of Recreation Ministries*  
Debbie McCallen  
*Covenanters' Corner Bookstore*  
Lisa Turner  
*Director of Women's Ministry*  
Jennifer Velázquez  
*Music Ministry Associate | Organist*  
Suellen Warren  
*Business Administrator*  
Rachel Wukasch  
*Assistant Director of Children's Ministry*

## IPC OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.  
8:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m. Friday

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Church's Main Office | 901-685-8206 |
| Music Office         | 901-685-9707 |
| Recreation Office    | 901-763-3857 |

## COVENANTERS' CORNER BOOKSTORE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
901-763-3932

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Independent Presbyterian Church is to make disciples of Jesus by gathering for worship, growing in community, and going out in love.

 @IPCmemphis

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