

INDEPENDENT
Presbyterian Church

A NEW PEOPLE. A NEW MEMPHIS.

THE FIRST WORD ON WORSHIP

This morning, we begin an Advent series called “Christmas in Exodus: True Mediator, New Exodus.” What I hope we will see is the way in which the entire Bible points us to Christmas because the entire Bible points us to Jesus. And it is especially the case with Exodus. Jesus himself told us this: “If you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?” (John 5:46-47). Since that’s the case, we would expect to hear echoes of Exodus at Christmas time. And in this opening scene from Exodus 2, we find parallels between the birth of Moses, a special child, and the birth of Jesus, the special child, the one who came to set his people free.

It is no wonder, then, that God calls us to sing praise to him, to shout, “Joy to the world! The Lord is come!” That familiar Christmas song is actually Isaac Watts’s setting of Psalm 98, which serves as our call to worship this morning. And as we move through the elements of the service — adoration, confession, supplication, Word and sacrament, thanksgiving — ask the Lord to open your heart to see him in his glory and to rest in him once again in power, goodness, and grace! May God meet you in this Advent season for his glory and your good!

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 next *Pathway Class for Prospective Members*. For more information or to register, please contact Tameria Rackley, (901) 685-8206, or 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. 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.

PLEASE ENJOY YOUR COFFEE OUTSIDE OF THE SANCTUARY.

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

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

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MEDITATION "Comfort Ye" from *Messiah* Handel
Randal Rushing, Tenor
Leah Hendrick, Violin Arron Powell, Viola Daniel Strawser, Cello Brandon Rushing, Horn
Jennifer Velázquez, Organist

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 98

The Minister: Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The Congregation: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth; burst into jubilant song with music; make music with the harp and the sound of singing. Shout for joy before the Lord, the King!

The Minister: Let the sea resound, and everything in it; the world, and all who live in it. Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy; let them sing before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.

All: Joy to the world! The Lord has come, and he is coming again!

The Reverend Brad Robson, Assistant Pastor (8:30 a.m.)
The Reverend Parker Tenent, Assistant Pastor (11:00 a.m.)

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 208

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

Antioch

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad at this time.

THE CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Lord, we have not kept watch for you. We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns. We have not waited to find your will for us. We have not noticed the needs of the people around us. We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us. Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness. Help us to wait to know your will. Help us to look out for the needs of others. Help us to work and watch for your coming. In your name, *Amen*.

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We confess our sins in the sure confidence that Jesus died and lives to deliver us from all our and his enemies. Hear the Good News: "Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery." Thanks be to God that he has delivered us from our sin, the world, and the devil through Jesus Christ! — *Hebrews 2:14-15*

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.

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; 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 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

“There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob”

Mendelssohn

from *Christus*

Harrison Howle, Director

There shall a star come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel,
With might destroying princes and cities! As bright the star of morning gleams,
So Jesus sheddeth glorious beams, of light and consolation.
Thy Word, O Lord, radiance darting, truth imparting, gives salvation;
Thine be praise and adoration!

THE SERMON

Exodus 2:1-10 (*pew Bible page 45*)

The Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

The Congregation: Thanks be to God!

A True Mediator, A New Exodus: Christmas in Exodus

“A Special Child”

Dr. Sean Michael Lucas

Senior Pastor

SERMON NOTES

1. A pure child

2. A protected child

3. A princely child

THE HYMN OF PREPARATION

“Come, Behold the Wondrous Myst’ry”

Congregation, please join in singing stanzas 2-4.

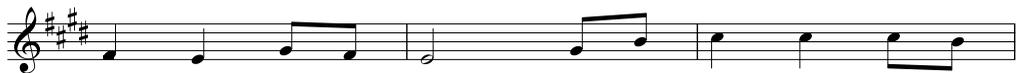
Words and Music:
Boswell, Papa, and Bleecker



1. Come, be-hold the won-drous mys - t'ry in the dawn-ing of the
2. Come, be-hold the won-drous mys - t'ry, he the per - fect Son of
3. Come, be-hold the won-drous mys - t'ry, Christ the Lord up - on the
4. Come, be-hold the won-drous mys - t'ry; slain by death the God of



King. He the theme of heav-en's prais - es robed in
Man. In his liv - ing, in his suf - fering, nev - er
tree. In the stead of ru - ined sin - ners hangs the
life. But no grave could e'er re - strain him; praise the



frail hu - man - i - ty. In our long - ing, in our
trace nor stain of sin. See the true and bet - ter
Lamb in vic - to - ry. See the price of our re -
Lord; he is a - live! What a fore - taste of de -



dark - ness now the light of life has come. Look to
Ad - am, come to save the hell-bound man. Christ the
demp - tion; see the Fa - ther's plan un - fold. Bring - ing
liv - 'rance; how un - wav - er - ing our hope. Christ in



Christ, who con-de-scend-ed, took on flesh to ran-som us.
great and sure ful - fill - ment of the law; in him we stand.
man - y sons to glo - ry, grace un-meas-ured, love un - told.
pow - er res - ur - rect - ed, as we will be when he comes.

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

"Away in a Manger"

No. 204

THE BENEDICTION

THE RESPONSE

Veni Emmanuel

Choir and Congregation

O Come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

THE POSTLUDE

"Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor"

arr. Powell

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor;
Thrones for a manger didst surrender, sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor.



30th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SERVICE
of **Lessons & Carols**
Tonight | 6:00 p.m.

THE FLOWERS

*The decorations in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God
 by the IPC Women's Ministry.*

OUR CHURCH TODAY | DECEMBER 2

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)
5:00 p.m.	Adult Choir <i>Lessons and Carols</i> Rehearsal
5:15 p.m.	Boys Choirs, Girls Choirs, Jr. High, and Sr. High Choirs Rehearsal
6:00 p.m.	30 th Annual Christmas <i>Service of Lessons and Carols</i> Sanctuary



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 — *Room 204*
 Junior High — *Room 155*
 Senior High — *Room 254*

College | Mr. Zach Hood | *Room 125*
 20s Community | Dr. Sean Lucas 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 | DECEMBER 5

5:15 p.m.	Jr. High and Sr. High Choirs Rehearsal
5:30 p.m.	Girls Choirs meet in Room 141
5:30 p.m.	Dinner Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m.	1st Grade Choir and Boys Choirs meet
6:00 p.m.	DivorceCare Room 233
6:30 p.m.	Graded Choirs Christmas Program Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Handbell Rehearsal

MENU FOR THIS WEDNESDAY EVENING

Roast beef tenderloin with horseradish sauce and mushroom sauce,
Twice-baked stuffed potato, Grilled asparagus, Roll,
Toasted coconut pie, Red velvet cake, Cookies

Kid's box: Sliders, Carrots, and Rudolph's chocolate pudding

CHRISTMAS MUSIC PROGRAM | DECEMBER 5 | 6:30 P.M. | SANCTUARY

Peace on Earth

presented by the IPC 1st-12th Grade Choirs



OUTREACH & MINISTRIES

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP SEMINAR | CHAPEL

*Friday, December 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m., and Saturday, December 8, 8:30 a.m.-noon**

In this seminar taught by Dr. Sean Lucas, we'll study the biblical elements of Christian leadership to equip male and female members of IPC to serve in a variety of leadership roles: as parents, professionals, citizens, and church members.

*Please RSVP to Gayle Hardee, ghardee@ipcmemphis.org,
and also indicate if you will need nursery, and the age(s) of your child(ren).*

Note: This seminar also serves as our Fall 2018 Officer Pre-Requisite Class for those male members of IPC interested in serving as a new elder or deacon at IPC in the future. Please contact Sean Lucas for details regarding course requirements, slucas@ipcmemphis.org.

*A continental breakfast will be provided on Saturday morning.

IPC FOOD BASKET ASSEMBLY AND DELIVERY

Setup | Friday, December 14, 2:00 p.m.

Assembly and Delivery | Saturday, December 15, 9:00 a.m.

We are now accepting donations for food baskets.

Baskets are \$50.00 each and may be purchased in memory or honor of someone.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Graded Choirs Christmas Program | December 5 | 6:30 p.m.

99 Balloons rEcess | December 7*

Christian Leadership Seminar | December 7-8 | Chapel

Jr. High Christmas Party | December 9 | 4:15-5:45 p.m.

Family Christmas Carol Sing | December 9 | 6:00 p.m.

Food Basket Setup and Assembly | December 14-15

***Messiah Sing-Along* | December 16 | 6:00 p.m.**

Sr. High Christmas Party Camp Out | December 19 | Mallard's Croft

Christmas Eve Family Service | December 24 | 4:00 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Christmas Eve Communion Service | December 24 | 5:30 p.m. | Sanctuary

Church Offices and Bookstore Closed | December 24-26

Church Offices and Bookstore Closed | December 31-January 1

IPC Officers' Retreat | January 4-5

Men's Prayer Breakfast Begins | January 8

Wednesday Evening Teaching and Activities Begin | January 9

Women of the Church Bible Study Begins | January 15

In the Word Men's Bible Study Begins | January 17

Sunday Evening Praise Begins | January 20

Wednesday Evening Grace Groups Begin | January 23

IPC Scouts Pinewood Derby | January 26

Souper Supper | January 27 | Following Sunday Evening Praise

**Parents-Night-Out for Families with children ages 12 and under who have special needs*

Music of Christmas



Family Christmas Carol Sing
Sunday, December 9 | 6:00 p.m.

Messiah Sing-Along
Sunday, December 16 | 6:00 p.m.



LESSONS AND CAROLS BROADCAST

Did you miss it? Would you like to hear it again?
Tune to WKNO - FM 91.1, Friday, December 21, at noon,
for the broadcast of the
2018 IPC Service of Lessons and Carols.



Christmas Eve

Family Service

4:00 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Communion Service

5:30 p.m. | Sanctuary

No nursery provided for either service.



INDEPENDENT
Presbyterian Church