



INDEPENDENT
Presbyterian Church

A NEW PEOPLE. A NEW MEMPHIS.

THE FIRST WORD ON WORSHIP

As we continue to listen for the echoes of Christmas this morning, we come to another familiar passage in Exodus — the call of Moses to be a mediator between God and his people. And yet, this call and commissioning is not particularly smooth: Moses argues with God, tries to get out of the commission, wishes that God would send someone else. And though Moses does go, the truth is that God does send someone else: Jesus, the true mediator, who willingly and eagerly takes up this call to be the one mediator between God and men.

Thus, we come to the very heart of Christmas. Jesus was born for a specific mission — to stand between God and his people and to make atonement for them. Our call to worship from Isaiah 53 points us to the mission of the mediator, the Servant of the Lord, in whom the world finds no beauty and nothing to desire. Yet, this mediator is the one for whom we long. He came to save his people from the depths of hell and to give them victory over the grave. That's why our heart rejoices — that's why there is joy for our world!

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 Weekend for Prospective Members*, February 15-16, 2019. For more information or to register, please contact Tamera 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.

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

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

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MEDITATION “Good Christian Men, Rejoice” arr. Mallory
The IPC Handbell Choir
Emilee Garrett, Director

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 52:13-53:2

The Minister: Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.

The Congregation: As many were astonished at you — his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind — so shall he sprinkle many nations.

The Minister: Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

The Congregation: For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.

The Minister: And yet, he is the one for whom we long! Come, long-expected Jesus! We come to worship you!

The Reverend J. Edward Norton, Associate Pastor (8:30 a.m.)

The Reverend Robert Browning, Assistant Pastor (11:00 a.m.)

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” No. 196

THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

Antioch

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad at this time.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Coen Watson Coleman (11:00 a.m.)

THE CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, you have remembered your covenant mercy to us through Jesus. You came to redeem us from all our sins and to set us free to serve you all our days. But instead we have chosen our own way, followed our own paths, walked according to our own counsel. Forgive us, O God. Do not cast us away, but rather remember the mercy that you promised to our fathers and to us. Grant us grace to rest in your promises and to live out of obedient gratitude before you. In Jesus' name, *Amen.*

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The good news is that God doesn't receive us because of our merits or our obedience — we have none that is untainted by sin. Rather, he receives us in and through our Mediator, Jesus Christ. God's Word says, "For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time." Thanks be to God that we have such a mediator who purchased our pardon for all our sin and sinning! — *1 Timothy 2:5-6*

THE ADVENT HYMN

"What Child Is This"

No. 213

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

THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

Scots Confession, Chapter 6

We believe that when the fullness of time came, God sent his Son, his eternal wisdom, the substance of his own glory, into this world; who took the nature of humanity from the substance of a woman, a virgin, by means of the Holy Spirit. And so was born the “just seed of David,” the “Angel of the great counsel of God,” the very Messiah promised, whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel, true God and true man, two perfect natures united and joined in one person.

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

“What Sweeter Music”

Rutter

James A. Brown, Jr., Director

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heav’nly King?

Awake the voice! Awake the string! Dark and dull night, fly hence away,

And give the honour to this day that sees December turn’d to May.

Why does the chilling winter’s morn smile, like a field beset with corn?

Or smell like a meadow newly shorn thus on the sudden?

Come and see the cause, why things thus fragrant be: ’Tis he is born,

Whose quick’ning birth gives life and lustre, public mirth, to heaven and the underearth.

We see him come, and know him ours, Who, with his sunshine and his show’rs,

Turns all the patient ground to flow’rs. The darling of the world is come, and fit it is,

We find a room to welcome him. The nobler part of all the house here, is the heart,

Which we will give him; and bequeath this holly, and this ivy wreath,

To do him honour; who’s our King, and Lord of all this revelling.

THE SERMON

Exodus 3:1-4:17 (*pew Bible pages 46-47*)

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 True Mediator”

Dr. Sean Michael Lucas

Senior Pastor

SERMON NOTES

1. How God saves
 - A. Covenant

- B. Mediator

2. How Moses responds
 - A. Unworthy

- B. Unwilling

3. How Jesus fulfills
 - A. Willing

- B. Worthy

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

“All My Heart This Night Rejoices”

No. 217

THE BENEDICTION

THE RESPONSE

Veni Emmanuel

Choir and Congregation

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

THE POSTLUDE

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

Jeep



Family Christmas Carol Sing

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.*

NEW MEMBER

*We are happy to welcome the following new member:
Chris Dorian*

OUR CHURCH TODAY | DECEMBER 9

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)
 6:00 p.m. Family Christmas Carol Sing | Sanctuary
 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Christmas Party | Home of Amy and David Turner



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



OUTREACH & MINISTRIES

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.

Visit

COVENANTERS' CORNER BOOKSTORE

for all of your Christmas shopping needs and more!

Beautiful gift ideas — candles, jewelry, pottery, and of course,
a wonderful selection of Bibles and books.

For help with your selections, please drop by today,
or call 901-763-3932.

YEAR-END GIVING

The financial gifts of God's people are an essential part of our effectiveness in fulfilling our mission. As 2018 comes to an end, the Finance Committee would like to ask you to continue your financial support of IPC. Gifts can be made through the IPC website, Sunday morning offering, dropped off at the church during business hours, by mail, or publicly traded gifts of stock. The IPC Business Office maintains brokerage accounts with several financial institutions and is able to assist you with a stock transfer should this be of interest. ***All year-end contributions must be dropped off to the Business Office by 4:00 p.m. on December 28, in the offering on December 30, or postmarked by December 31, 2018, to receive the tax benefit in the current year. If you have any questions, please contact the Business Office, or Robert Browning, Executive Pastor.*** Thank you for your financial support and commitment to IPC.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jr. High Christmas Party** | Today | 4:15-5:45 p.m.
Family Christmas Carol Sing | Today | 6:00 p.m. | Sanctuary
Adult Choir Christmas Party | Today | 7:00 p.m. | Home of Amy and David Turner
Food Basket Setup and Assembly | December 14-15
Messiah Sing-Along | December 16 | 6:00 p.m.
Sr. High Christmas Party Campout | 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 Resume | January 9
Short-Term Mission Trips Interest Meeting | January 13 | 9:30 a.m. | Bride's Room
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
GriefShare Begins | January 23
IPC Scouts Pinewood Derby | January 26
Souper Supper | January 27 | Following Sunday Evening Praise
Troop and Pack 81 Scout Sunday | February 3
Pathway Class Weekend for Prospective Members | February 15-16
Sr. High Spring Retreat | February 15-17 | YMCA Nashville, TN
Missions Conference | February 20-24
Women of the Church Dinner | March 21
Women of the Church Spring Retreat | March 22-23 | The Country Place

Music of Christmas

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



CHECKING ON THE ARTS

James Brown and Jennifer Velázquez will be interviewed by Darel Snodgrass on WKNO 91.1 radio's "Checking on the Arts" on Tuesday, December 18, at 9:00 a.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.

TEACHING ELDERS

Dr. Sean Michael Lucas
Senior Pastor
Rev. Robert Browning
Associate Pastor
Rev. Edward Norton
Associate 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. John P. Sartelle, Sr.
Senior Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Bill Hogan
Assistant Pastor Emeritus

RULING ELDERS

Mr. Cannon F. Allen
Mr. Matthew G. Buyer
Mr. Richard M. Carter
Mr. William J. Chase Jr.
Mr. Ralph S. DelBove
Dr. Hugh Francis III
Dr. Neumon Taylor Goshorn
Mr. Samuel N. Graham II
Mr. J. Lee Greene Jr.
Mr. Stephen Guenther
Dr. Charles R. Halford
Mr. Bryan A. Hawkins
Mr. John Jurey Howard III
Mr. Nathan W. Kellum
Mr. George G. Leavell
Dr. James R. Mitchum
Mr. William R. Mitchum Jr.
Mr. David R. Neubert
Mr. Matthew J. Olson
Dr. Melvin P. Payne III
Mr. John Philip
Mr. Richard Luther Powell Sr.
Mr. John W. Stokes III
Mr. Terry Michael Washburn
Mr. Adrian Yelverton

DEACONS

Mr. Dan Butler
Mr. David Butler
Mr. John W. Chambers Jr.
Mr. Craig A. Christenbury
Mr. John R. Coates
Dr. Colton Cockrum
Mr. Glenn W. Cofield
Mr. Brantley Davidson
Mr. Josh Davis
Mr. John Dorrill
Mr. John Edwards
Mr. Michael J. Gabrielleschi
Dr. Kevin Garrett
Mr. Robert E. Hicks
Mr. Govan S. Hornor
Mr. Jay Jacks
Dr. John G. Kakales
Mr. William Kay
Mr. James McDonald
Mr. William G. Mueller IV
Mr. Thomas A. Pacello
Mr. Calvin Purcell
Mr. Timothy Rainey
Mr. Alex Ransone
Mr. Chris W. Rogers
Mr. Dudley Schaefer Jr.
Mr. Frederick T. Stukenborg
Mr. Chris Thornton
Mr. Jay Vaughn
Mr. Richard B. Vining
Mr. Jim Wilder
Mr. Joseph Womack

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

 /IndependentPres

 @IPCmemphis



INDEPENDENT
Presbyterian Church