



INDEPENDENT
Presbyterian Church

A NEW PEOPLE. A NEW MEMPHIS.

As we come to the final chapter of the Bible, we find that we have come back to the Garden. While the Holy City represented the people of God, coming from heaven to the new earth, I tend to think that this Garden is a real place, one that mirrors Eden itself. But it is notable that God is the one who brings Eden about and that God is the one who is at the center of it all. We hear echoes of the previous chapter here—throne, Lamb, no night, divine light. Yet we have new lessons to see about this new world for which we are destined.

It is all fitting for us to consider as we meditate on the meaning of Christmas, on the incarnation of Jesus and his soon coming again. Our call to worship from Isaiah 65 shows us that the expectation of God's people in the Old Testament as well as the New was the restoration of all things, the new heaven and new earth. That restoration has begun in Jesus Christ: as the assurance of pardon reminds us, when we are found in Christ, we are a new creation. Already the old has passed and the new begun. And as we sing and rejoice and pray, we are confident that God hears us—in fact, he is more eager to hear us than we are to pray! What a glorious God we serve in and through Jesus Christ!

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 the Church office, (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. 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 TENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, TWO THOUSAND AND SEVENTEEN
Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'clock

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE "A Medieval Processional" Peery
The IPC Handbells
Emilee Garrett, Director

THE MEDITATION "O Come, Redeemer of the Earth" Getty
Jamie Weaver, Violin Carrington Truehart, Cello
The Men's Ensemble

O come, Redeemer of the earth, where sorrows weep and longings thirst.
Release us from the chains of sin that we may live in peace again.
Fulfill the ancient promises, your Words of life and righteousness,
Long loved by those who fear your name and look towards your endless reign.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 65:17-19, 24-25

The Minister: "Behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

The Congregation: But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness.

The Minister: I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress.

The Congregation: Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.

The Minister: The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw with the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food.

The Minister and Congregation: They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain, says the Lord."
Amen! Let us worship God!

The Reverend J. Edward Norton, Associate Pastor (8:30 a.m.)
The Reverend Jeremy Jones, Assistant Pastor (11:00 a.m.)

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

No. 203

THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

Veni Emmanuel

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

Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad at this time.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Haile Adams Washburn and Crawford Perry Washburn (11:00 a.m.)

THE CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you came to the world to shine your light in the darkness, to give new life to those who were spiritually dead. And yet, Lord, far too many of your created ones have rejected your life and light. We too would have rejected you if it had not been for your irresistible grace and kindness that enlightened our minds and renewed our wills. And yet, we confess that all too often we love darkness rather than light and pursue death instead of life. Forgive us, O Lord, and create in us clean hearts and a new spirit. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen*.

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Gospel declares to us that we participate already in the new creation that is coming. God’s Word says, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” Thanks be to God that forgiveness of sins and transformation of hearts comes through Jesus Christ our Lord! — *2 Corinthians 5:17*

THE ADVENT HYMN

“Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

No. 207

Children (Kindergarten) may be dismissed to their worship leader on the last verse.

THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism Q and A 128-129

Question and Answer 128

The Minister: What does the conclusion to the Lord's prayer mean?

The Congregation: "For the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever" means: We have made all these petitions of you because, as our all-powerful king, you are both willing and able to give us all that is good; and because your holy name, and not we ourselves, should receive all the praise, forever.

Question and Answer 129

The Minister: What does that little word "Amen" express?

The Congregation: "Amen" means: This shall truly and surely be! It is even more sure that God listens to my prayer, than that I really desire what I pray for.

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

"The Infant King"

arr. Rutter

James A. Brown, Jr., Director

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now reclining, Sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
Angels are watching, stars are shining Over the place where he is lying: Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-sleeping, Sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the Infant King,
Soon will come sorrow with the morning, Soon will come bitter grief and weeping: Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-dozing, Sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the Infant King,
Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing, Then in the grave at last reposing: Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby! is the babe a-waking? Sing lullaby! Hush, do not stir the Infant King.
Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning, Conquering Death, its bondage breaking: Sing lullaby.

THE SERMON

Revelation 22:1-5 (*pew Bible page 1041-1042*)

“The Garden of God”

Dr. Sean Michael Lucas

Senior Pastor

SERMON NOTES

1. Eden renewed (1-2)

A. River of life

B. Tree of life

2. Curse reversed (3a)

3. Fellowship restored (3b-5)

A. Priests

B. Kings

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

No. 226

THE BENEDICTION

THE RESPONSE

Antioch

Choir and Congregation

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,

Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

THE POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World”
Jennifer Velázquez, Organist

arr. Cherwien



THE FLOWERS

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

*The music of the strings this morning is given to the glory of God
in thanksgiving for the baptism of Haile Adams Washburn and Crawford Perry Washburn.*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*We are happy to welcome the following
new members:*

Mr. and Mrs. John and Katie Hise
Mrs. Elizabeth McCallister

OUR CHURCH TODAY | DECEMBER 10

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)



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 201

5th grade — Room 204
Junior High — Room 155
Senior High — Room 254

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

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH CAROLING

Tuesday, December 12 | 10:15 a.m. | Trezevant Manor

For more information, please contact Lisa Turner, lturner@ipcmemphis.org.

OUR CHURCH WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 13

7:00 p.m.Adult Choir Rehearsal

You are invited to our
MESSIAH SING-ALONG
with Soloists and Orchestra

Sunday, December 17, 5:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

Here is your chance to sing through some of the most
glorious choral music ever written! We provide the musical
scores and the orchestra, and you provide the choir.

Nursery provided.

60S+ COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY

Wednesday, December 20 | 6:00 p.m. | Chickasaw Country Club

Please contact Janice or Mike Washburn, 901-861-3232,

by December 17, for reservations

Cost is \$35 per person.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Services | 8:30 and 11:00

Sanctuary

No Sunday School

Communion Service | 5:30 p.m.

Sanctuary

NEW YEAR'S EVE DAY

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Services | 8:30 and 11:00

Sanctuary

No Sunday School



OUTREACH & MINISTRIES

IPC FOOD BASKET ASSEMBLY AND DELIVERY

Setup | Friday, December 15, 2:00 p.m.

Assembly and Delivery | Saturday, December 16, 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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Women of the Church Caroling | Tuesday, December 12 | 10:15 a.m. | Trezevant Manor

Food Baskets Setup | Friday, December 15 | 2:00 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Food Baskets Assembly and Delivery | Saturday, December 16 | 9:00 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

Messiah Sing-Along | Sunday, December 17 | 5:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

4th and 5th Graders Gingerbread Contest

Wednesday, December 20 | Displayed on 2nd floor hallway

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

Church Offices and Bookstore Closed | Monday-Tuesday, December 25-26

Sr. High Ski Trip | December 27-31 | Winter Park, CO

New Year's Eve Worship Services | Sunday, December 31 | 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. | Sanctuary

Church Offices and Bookstore Closed | Monday-Tuesday, January 1-2, 2018

Wednesday Evening Ministries Resume | January 10, 2018

Sunday Evening Praise Resumes | January 14, 2018 | Sanctuary

"Souper Supper" following Sunday Evening Praise | January 21, 2018

Scouts Pinewood Derby Workshop | January 24, 2018 | Room 102

Scouts Pinewood Derby Race Day | January 27, 2018 | Romper Room

Missions Conference | February 4-11, 2018

Women of the Church Brunch | February 13, 2018 | Fellowship Hall

Sr. High Spring Retreat | February 17-19, 2018 | Nashville, TN

Pathway Class Weekend for Prospective Members | February 23-24, 2018

Women of the Church Dinner | March 22, 2018

Women of the Church Spring Retreat | March 23-24, 2018 | The Country Place

TEACHING ELDERS

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. 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

Dr. Scott Bartusch
Mr. David Butler
Mr. John W. Chambers Jr.
Mr. Craig A. Christenbury
Mr. Charles Clowers
Mr. John R. Coates
Mr. Glenn W. Cofield
Mr. Duffy Cothran
Mr. John T. Crews Jr.
Mr. Brantley Davidson
Mr. Josh Davis
Mr. John Dorrill
Mr. John J. Dudas
Mr. Michael J. Gabrielleschi
Mr. Robert E. Hicks
Mr. Kevin Holt
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. Kimbrough Taylor
Mr. Chris Thornton
Mr. Richard B. Vining
Mr. James Dwight Wilder
Mr. Joseph Womack

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
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
Paul Halford
Director of Operations
Zach Hood
Student Ministries Intern
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

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.

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.

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