



INDEPENDENT
Presbyterian Church

A NEW PEOPLE. A NEW MEMPHIS.

As we conclude the book of Revelation this morning, we hear Jesus tell us three times, “Behold, I am coming soon!” Sometimes we lose hope that this is the case or we lose sight of this end. But this is the promise — and it is a promise that is rooted in the fact that Jesus came before. The entire advent season is a reminder that this Jesus who came two thousand years ago is coming again to set the world to rights again.

Our call to worship from Isaiah 40 calls us to look for this King who is coming to redeem his people and pardon their iniquities. Who is this King? The Jesus who is the “root and offspring of David” — both Son of God and Son of Man. Our confession of faith from the Scots Confession, written in 1560 by John Knox, teaches us the truth of the incarnation as held by our forefathers over 450 years prior. Above all, our songs and our Scripture not only tell us about Jesus’s coming, but bid us to come to him as well. Will you come to Jesus with love, joy, faith and hope this morning?

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 SEVENTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, TWO THOUSAND AND SEVENTEEN
Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'clock

THE PRELUDE "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" arr. McMichael
Emily Edwards, Christi Fleming, and Shannon Reid, Flute
Virginia Folsie and Catherine Meadows, Clarinet Peter Winterburn, Bassoon
Abby Powell and Brandon Rushing, Horn Daniel Scott, Tuba

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MEDITATION "O Come, Redeemer of the Earth" Getty/arr. Campbell
The Ensemble

O come, Redeemer of the earth, O treasure of eternal worth.
Come dwell within our kneeling hearts; Restore and flourish every part.
Your very life you come to give, That though we die we yet shall live,
And glorify your holy name As all the earth you will reclaim.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 40:1-5

The Minister: "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her that her warfare is ended.

The Congregation: Cry to her that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the
Lord's hand double for all her sins.

The Minister: A voice cries: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make
straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted
up and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall
become level, and the rough places a plain.

The Minister and
Congregation: And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it
together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." Amen! Let us worship
God!

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

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”
Emilee Garrett, Organ

No. 208, arr. Willcocks
(stanzas 1,3,4)

THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

Veni Emmanuel

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad at this time.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Adeline Mae Schaefer (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 of the Gospel is that God does not change his mind regarding us. Instead, his promises are sure because they are given in and through Jesus. God's Word says, "For the Son of God, Jesus, whom we proclaimed among you...was not Yes and No, but in him it is always Yes. For all the promises of God find their Yes in him." Thanks be to God that he has established our hearts in Christ by the Spirit and grants us gospel assurance! Amen! — *2 Corinthians 1:19-20*

THE ADVENT HYMN

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

No. 211

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

THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

Scots Confession, Chapter 6

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 Ghost. 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

“Angels and Men Rejoice”

arr. Powell

James A. Brown, Jr., Director

Choir and Congregation

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o’er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation’s story now proclaim Messiah’s birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!

Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o’er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing, yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!

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! Amen.

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Earth and heav’n before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven’s door, and man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

THE SERMON

Revelation 22:6-21 (*pew Bible page 1042*)

“I Am Coming Soon”

Dr. Sean Michael Lucas

Senior Pastor

SERMON NOTES

1. Coming

A. Keep the words (6-11)

B. Wash your robes (12-16)

C. Heed the warning (18-21)

2. Come (17)

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

No. 196

THE BENEDICTION

THE RESPONSE

Mueller

Choir and Congregation

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray;

Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

THE POSTLUDE

“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

arr. Cherwien

Jennifer Velázquez, Organist



THE FLOWERS

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

BIRTHS

*We welcome our newest covenant child:
Amelia McKinley Baddorf,
born on December 8, 2017.*

DEATHS

*Our sympathy to
Allison and Barden Greenfield on the
death of his mother, Shirley Greenfield,
on December 11, 2017.*

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

This evening at 5:00 | 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.

OUR CHURCH TODAY | DECEMBER 17

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. *Messiah* Sing-Along



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*

CREATING HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

8-week Sunday School series

Starting January 7, 2018 | 9:45 a.m. | Chapel

As Christians, we can focus on loving and giving and forget our own limitations. Reverend Ed Norton and Dr. Rich Luscomb (managing partner of Germantown Psychological Associates) will unpack 10 laws of sound boundaries that will bring new health to your relationships.

LESSONS AND CAROLS BROADCAST
Did you miss it? Would you like to hear it again?
Tune to WKNO - FM 91.1, Friday, December 22, at noon,
for the broadcast of the
2017 IPC Service of Lessons and Carols.

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

YEAR-END GIVING

The financial gifts of God's people are an essential part of our effectiveness in fulfilling our mission. As 2017 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 postmarked or received by December 31, 2017, to receive the tax benefit in the current year.*** Thank you for your financial support and commitment to IPC.



OUTREACH & MINISTRIES

ONE NEW HUMANITY

God's Mission for a New Memphis
Wednesdays, January 10-31, 2018
6:30 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

GOOD NEWS FOR A NEW MEMPHIS

IPC Missions Conference
February 4-11, 2018

COMMISSIONING SERVICE FOR 2018 SHORT-TERM MISSION TRIPS

Athens, Greece
Tanzania, Africa
New York, New York
Nassau, Bahamas
Glasgow, Scotland

During the Morning Worship Services
Sunday, January 7, 2018

IPC STUDENT MINISTRY SUMMER INTERNSHIP

May 21-August 5, 2018
Contact Brad Robson (901-833-2424)
ASAP for more information!



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Commissioning of 2018 Short-Term Mission Trips | Sunday, January 7, 2018 | Morning Worship

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, Sr.
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.

901-763-3932



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