



INDEPENDENT
Presbyterian Church

A NEW PEOPLE. A NEW MEMPHIS.

THE FIRST WORD ON WORSHIP

As we continue this theme of “Christmas in Exodus,” we come to the exodus itself. That word “exodus” means departure — and in the story of God’s people, it has stood for their departure from the land of slavery, from the rule of the enemy, and their journey to the Promised Land. What we are going to find as we look at Exodus 14 is that Jesus was actually born to accomplish this for us. Not only will he have an “exodus,” but we do as well — we are transferred from the kingdom of darkness, the rule of the enemy, and we are brought into the kingdom of God’s beloved Son, Jesus. This is the new exodus.

Jesus’ birth, life, death, and resurrection provide the means for us to make this departure: he is the Lord of glory who fights for us and provides the way for us. Thus, our call to worship this morning from Psalm 24 and our singing of that Scripture as our processional hymn set the stage for us: the King has come to make the nations prove the wonders of his love! This is the wondrous mystery — the coming of the King, his birth, his death, his resurrection: this is the way God will lead us toward becoming new people prepared for God’s new city. That’s why we sing, “Glory! Glory to the newborn King!”

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

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MEDITATION

"Carol of Joy"

Forrest

The Ensemble

José Velázquez, Director

Green leaves all fallen, withered and dry; Brief sunset fading, dim winter sky;
Lengthening shadows, dark closing in; Then through the stillness, carols begin.
O fallen world, to you is the song! Death holds you fast, and night tarries long.
Jesus is born, your curse to destroy; Sweet to your ears, a carol of joy!

Lengthening shadows, dark closing in; Then through the stillness, carols begin.
O fallen world, to you is the song! Death holds you fast, and night tarries long.
Jesus is born, your curse to destroy; Sweet to your ears, a carol of joy!

Pale moon ascending, Solemn and Cold, barren hillside shrouded in snow.
Deep empty valley, Veiled by the night: Hear angel music hopeful and bright.
O fearful world, to you is the song! Peace with your God, and pardon for wrong.
Tidings for sinners, burdened and bound, Carol of joy a Savior is found!

Earth wrapped in sorrow, lift up your eyes! Thrill to the chorus filling the skies.
Look up, sad-hearted! Witness God's love; Join in the carol swelling above!
O friendless world, to you is the song! All heaven's joy to you may belong!
You who are lonely, laden, forlorn: O fallen world, O fearful world, O friendless world,
Now unto you A Savior is born!

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 24:7-10

The Minister: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory?

The Congregation: The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!

The Minister: Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory?

The Congregation: The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!

The Minister: Amen! Let us worship God!

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

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!”

No. 198

THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

Antioch

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad at this time.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Violet Adkins Howle (8:30 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

We confess our sins in the sure confidence that God in Christ has already led us out of the darkness into his own kingdom. God's Word says, "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 for the new exodus he has worked in our lives through the death of Jesus Christ! —*Colossians 1:13-14*

THE ADVENT HYMN

“Come, Behold the Wondrous Myst’ry”

Arron Powell, Violin Tim Keith, Bass James Brown, Guitar

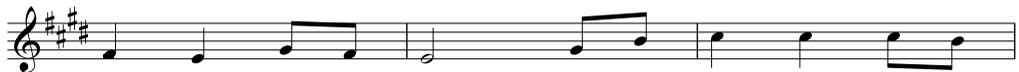
Words and Music:
Boswell, Papa, and Bleecker



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.

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

THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended to heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come, *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

“Glory to God” from *Messiah*

Handel

Dawn Scott, Soprano
James A. Brown, Jr., Director

There were shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them,
and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them: fear not, for behold,

I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will toward men.

THE SERMON

Exodus 14:1-31 (*pew Bible pages 56-57*)
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 New Exodus”

Dr. Sean Michael Lucas
Senior Pastor

SERMON NOTES

1. Israel

A. Plan

B. Power

2. Jesus

A. Plan

B. Power

3. Us

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

No. 203

THE BENEDICTION

THE RESPONSE

Veni Emmanuel

Choir and Congregation

O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

THE POSTLUDE

“Organ Flourish on ‘Joy to the World’”

Dell

Nathaniel Efthimiou, Organ



Christmas Eve

Family Service

4:00 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Communion Service

5:30 p.m. | Sanctuary

No nursery provided for either service.

THE FLOWERS

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

BIRTH

Congratulations to

Kathy and Lee Greene on the birth of
their granddaughter, Vera Eloise Clark,
on December 14.

DEATH

We extend our sympathy to

Cheryl Parker on the death of her mother,
Martha McGuire, on December 17.

OUR CHURCH TODAY | DECEMBER 23

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 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*

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.



OUTREACH & MINISTRIES

Visit

COVENANTERS' CORNER BOOKSTORE

There is still time to shop for Christmas deals!

15% off all gifts (books not included).

Get an additional 10% off by showing this bulletin.

With any purchase, enter the drawing to win a Willow Tree nativity.

For more information, call 901-763-3932.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Begins Tuesday, January 15

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

IN THE WORD

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Begins Thursday, January 17

6:30 a.m.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Men's Prayer Breakfast in Fellowship Hall | Tuesdays | 6:30 a.m. (*beginning January 8*)

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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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 Closed | December 24-26, December 31-January 1

Bookstore Closed | December 24-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 | 6:00 p.m. | Room 233

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



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