



**INDEPENDENT**  
Presbyterian Church

A NEW PEOPLE. A NEW MEMPHIS.

## THE FIRST WORD ON WORSHIP

Our sermon text today, Lamentations 2, is perhaps the darkest of the five lament-songs in this book. In this song, the Singer gives voice to that most despairing sense we have at times — that God has set himself against us as our enemy, that he is pouring his anger out upon us, and that, as one thing after another comes against us, he will never relent. Hope flees in the dark night of the soul.

And yet, the Singer offers this song to the Lord and encourages us to bring our griefs and sorrows to our God. Other Scriptures do the same — like Psalm 31, a lament that fears the work of enemies and drives us to our rock of refuge, God himself. As we hear this call to worship, as we confess that our times are in God's hands, as we hear that we have been saved from God's wrath through Jesus Christ, we find a broad place in which to stand, a place of hope for our hurting hearts. Our God is faithful, his mercies are real — we can trust him even in the darkness.

# THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

THE TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF APRIL, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY

*Eleven O'clock*

## THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE MEDITATION

"I Call to You, Lord Jesus Christ"

J. S. Bach

*Emilee Garrett, Organ*

I call to you, Lord Jesus Christ; I pray, hear my lamentation.

Bestow your grace on me at this time; do not let me despair.

I think that I have the right faith, Lord, which you wanted to give me, to live for you,  
to be useful to my neighbor, to keep your word properly.

## THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 31

*The Minister:* In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me!

*The Congregation:* Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily! Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me!

*The Minister:* Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach, especially to my neighbors, and an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me.

*The Congregation:* I have been forgotten like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel.

*The Minister:* But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God." My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies.

*All:* Make your face shine on your servant; save me in your steadfast love! Amen! Let us worship God!

*The Reverend Robert O. Browning, Associate Pastor*

# THE HYMN OF PRAISE

“My Times Are in Thy Hand”

No. 684

Based on Psalm 31

St. Thomas



1. My times are in thy hand; my  
2. My times are in thy hand, what -  
3. My times are in thy hand; why  
4. My times are in thy hand, Je -



God, I wish them there; my life, my friends, my  
ev - er they may be; pleas - ing or pain - ful,  
should I doubt or fear? My Fa - ther's hand will  
sus - ceive the Cru - ci - fied; those hands my cru - el



soul, I leave en - tire - ly to thy care.  
dark or bright, as best may seem to thee.  
nev - er cause his child a need - less tear.  
sins had pierced are now my guard and guide.

# THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

## THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

St. Thomas

Jesus, thou Friend divine, our Savior and our King,  
thy hand from ev'ry snare and foe shall great deliv'rance bring.

## THE CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

from *The Valley of Vision*

Holy Lord, I have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief. I have failed to find your mind in your Word and neglected to seek you in my daily life. My transgressions and shortcomings present me with a list of accusations, but I bless you that they will not stand against me for all have been laid on Christ. Go on with your patient work. Purge me from every false desire, every base aspiration, everything contrary to your rule. And grant me continued grace to take up the cross, to die daily, and to rise to follow you. In Jesus' name, *Amen*.

## THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

"For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him."

— 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10

## THE HYMN OF ASSURANCE

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

*Luke Folsie, Clarinet    Drew Lucas, Guitar*

Words: John Newton, 1779

Music: Alexander Reinagle



1. How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds in  
2. Dear Name! the rock on which I build my  
3. Je - sus, my Shep-herd, Broth - er, Friend, my



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes his sor - row, heals  
shield and hid - ing place, my nev - er fail - ing trea -  
Pho - et, Priest, and King, my Lord, my Life, my Way,



his wounds, and drives a - way his fear.  
- s'ry filled with bound - less stores of grace.  
my End, ac - cept the praise I bring.

## THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 17

*The Minister:* How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

*The Congregation:* First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he obtained for us by his death. Second, by his power we too are already raised to a new life. Third, Christ's resurrection is a sure pledge to us of our blessed resurrection.

## THE PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

## THE ANTHEM

"God Is Our Refuge and Strength"

Pote

*Lindsey Hughes, Christley Vaughn, Luke Folsie, and Sam Payne, Quartet*

*Ric Browning, Trumpet Pam Brown, Piano*

*Harrison Howle, Director*

God is our refuge and strength; a present help in time of trouble.

Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,  
though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear.

Come and behold the work of the Lord, the awesome acts of God.

He is in the midst of his people, in all the earth.

He is the Word, we are his hands, he will lead us.

He is our King, we are his song,  
we will celebrate his presence all the day long.

He is the Lord, mighty to save, he will cleanse us.

He is our King, we are his song,  
we will celebrate his presence all the day long.

# THE SERMON

Lamentations 2:1-22

*The Minister:* This is the Word of the Lord.

*The Congregation:* Thanks be to God!

“God Is My Enemy”

*Dr. Sean Michael Lucas*

*Senior Pastor*

## SERMON NOTES

### 1. God's anger (1-10)

A. Expressed

B. Extent

### 2. Our anguish (11-22)

A. The poet cries

B. The peoples' cries

# THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

## “In Christ Alone”

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, he is my  
2. In Christ a - lone! who took on flesh, full - ness of  
3. There in the ground his bod - y lay, Light of the  
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

light, my strength, my song; this Cor - ner -  
God in help - less Babe! This Gift of  
world by dark - ness slain; then burst - ing  
pow'r of Christ in me; from life's first

stone, this sol - id ground, firm through the  
love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the  
forth in glo - rious day, up from the  
cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com -

fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of  
ones he came to save. 'Til on that  
grave he rose a - gain! And as he  
mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of

love, what depths of peace when fears are  
cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of  
stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has  
hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er

stilled, when striv - ings cease. My com - fort - er, my all in  
God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry sin on him was  
lost its grip on me; for I am his and he is  
pluck me from his hand; 'til he re - turns or calls me

all, here in the love of Christ I stand.  
laid; here in the death of Christ I live.  
mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

## THE BENEDICTION

## THE RESPONSE

Foundation

“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake.”

## THE POSTLUDE

“Immortal, Invisible”

arr. Burkhardt



## IN THE SANCTUARY TODAY

*The arrangement in the Sanctuary is presented to the glory of God.*

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### DEATHS

*We extend our sympathy to*

Mona and David Dunlap on the death of her stepfather, Don Deberry, on April 10.

*We extend our sympathy to*

Abby and Steven Ellis on the death of her father, Stanley Earl Day, on April 18.

*We extend our sympathy to*

Jan and Fred Sawyers on the death of his sister, Jane Sawyers, on April 18.

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### CHURCH GIVING

During this challenging time, please remember that much of IPC's support comes from giving during Sunday morning offerings. With the suspension of in-person attendance at worship services and the closing of the campus, members are encouraged to continue their financial gifts by mail or other options. If you normally give by check or cash during the offering, please consider mailing your gift to the church.

Mail to:

Independent Presbyterian Church  
Attention: Kerrie O'Brien  
4738 Walnut Grove Road  
Memphis, TN 38117

Other ways to give include:

- Using our online giving link
  - Using the IPC app
- Using your bank's bill pay service to send money electronically to IPC.

*Questions? Please email Kerrie O'Brien, [kobrien@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:kobrien@ipcmemphis.org).*

## IPC DAILY GUIDE DEVOTIONALS

Sean and Jennifer have put together a daily worship guide for individuals and families to use each week to stay grounded in the Word and grow in our faith as we face the challenging and uncertain days ahead.

*To download the Daily Guide's devotionals, hymns, and prayers, go to [ipcmemphis.org](http://ipcmemphis.org).*

## IPC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY RESOURCES

IPC has some great discipling materials for parents and grandparents to use with their children during this unique season being isolated at home together. From Bible stories and lessons to fun activities and music, you'll find lots of tools that will bless your time as a family hoping in the Gospel of Jesus. You can even download our Children's Bulletin to use while watching the livestream of our 11:00 a.m. Worship Service on Sunday.

*To access our Children's Ministry Resources page, go to [ipcmemphis.org](http://ipcmemphis.org).*

## IPC COVID-19 FACE MASK MINISTRY

*Help Us **Make** Our Goal of 5,000 Masks!*

The IPC Missions Committee is partnering with Neighborhood Christian Centers and Agape Child and Family Services to produce and deliver 5,000 cotton masks that will be distributed to underserved communities where people do not have masks, may not know how to make them, and are not aware of the infection risks of not having one. The masks can be made using materials you already have at home.

*Visit [ipcmemphis.org](http://ipcmemphis.org) for more details.*

## HELPING THE HUNGRY

In addition to making face masks, IPC is also providing financing, volunteers, and other logistical support for local ministry partners distributing food to those in need. If you want to assist in delivering food to shut-ins, please email Ed Norton, [enorton@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:enorton@ipcmemphis.org) or Robert Browning, [rbrowning@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:rbrowning@ipcmemphis.org).

*To read the **IPC Missions Committee Covid-19 Report** detailing these efforts and how to help, visit [ipcmemphis.org](http://ipcmemphis.org).*

IPC DAY OF  
**PRAYER**

*Sunday, May 3*



IPC is designating Sunday, May 3, as a day of prayer for the congregation. As part of spending the day in prayer, we will not only have our regular morning Livestream service, but also will have an evening Livestream service with Scripture readings, hymns, and prayers. Watch your email for coming details and prayer guide.



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