



INDEPENDENT
Presbyterian Church

December 12, 2021

A NEW PEOPLE. A NEW MEMPHIS.

THE FIRST WORD ON WORSHIP

We continue to look at texts from the Minor Prophets that point us forward to Christmas hope. This morning, we consider Zechariah 3:1-10, one of the great Gospel texts in the book. As Zechariah encourages God's people — returned from exile, building the temple — he points forward to the Branch who will come to take away the sins of the people in a single day. In doing so, he points dirty people like you and me to genuine hope — we might be made clean through Jesus Christ.

With that hope this morning, we come to praise and worship our Savior. We shout with a later Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David!" Because of Christmas hope, we have a better sense of why Zechariah's song is so powerful, so meaningful: the Branch, Jesus the Messiah, has come to bring salvation for his people. He comes in this darksome night to lead his people to the light: hallelujah! And so, we ask Jesus, Immanuel, God with us, to come and dwell with us, to ransom captive Israel. Because Jesus has come and is coming again, we rejoice with great joy!

WELCOME TO INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

If you are a visitor, thank you for joining us. Please be sure to stop by our Visitor Welcome Center in the Rotunda, where we will have a gift for you. Any questions about our church? We encourage you to ask an usher or member on your aisle. Our Welcome Center greeters are also eager to assist you or answer your questions. Please see an usher if you need a hearing amplification device.

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 for Prospective Members*. For more information or to register, please contact Willa Badolato, (901) 685-8206, or wbadolato@ipcmemphis.org.

Our Sunday morning Worship Services are shown via livestream 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 livestream our 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. 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 the following week on our website. More opportunities for teaching can be found on our YouTube channel. Go to YouTube, and search for Independent Presbyterian Church Memphis.

As you enter the Sanctuary, please silence your mobile devices.

PLEASE ENJOY YOUR COFFEE OUTSIDE OF THE SANCTUARY.

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

December 12, 2021

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MEDITATION

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming” Praetorius/arr. Brown
Arron Powell, John Chase, James Brown, and Tom Horner

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Luke 1:68-75

The Minister: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old.

The Congregation: To show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant that we might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

The Minister: Amen! Let us worship God!

Mr. Stephen Felker, Presbytery Intern (8:30 a.m.)
The Reverend Mike Malone, Assistant Pastor (11:00 a.m.)

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

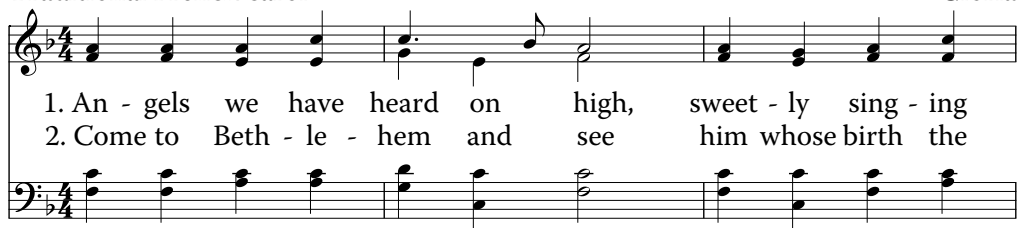
No. 203

THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

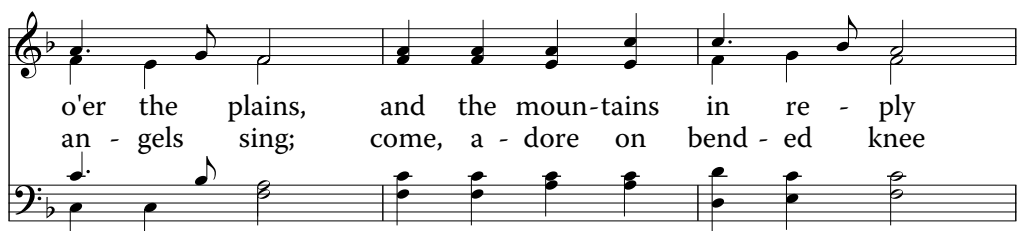
THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

Traditional French carol

Gloria



1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing
2. Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the



o'er the plains, and the moun-tains in re - ply
an - gels sing; come, a - dore on bend - ed knee



ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo - - - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De - o.



glo - - - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De - o.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Michael Roland Rohdy III (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

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. — *2 Corinthians 1:19-20*

THE HYMN OF ASSURANCE

No. 211

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

(stanzas 1-3)

Mitchell Cloutier, Violin Arron Powell, Violin Ric Browning, Trumpet James Brown, Guitar

English carol, 18th cent.

God Rest You Merry

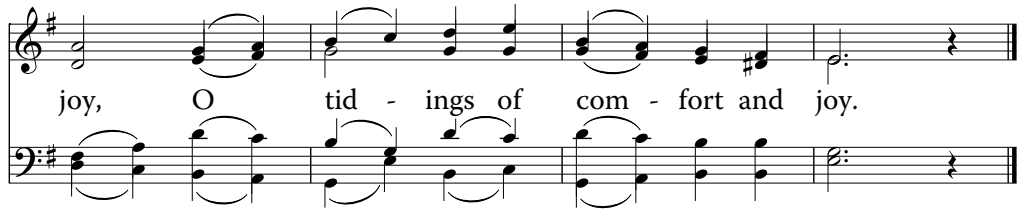
1. God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis -
 2. From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther, a bless - ed an - gel
 3. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "let noth - ing you af -

may, re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas
 came; and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the
 fright; this day is born a Sav - ior of a pure vir - gin

day, to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray;
 same: how that in Beth - le - hem was born the son of God by name.
 bright, to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."

REFRAIN

O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and



Children's Church (SK) may be dismissed to their worship leader. (8:30 a.m. only)

THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

New City Catechism Q and A 46-48

The Minister: What is the Lord's Supper?

The Congregation: Christ commanded all Christians to eat bread and to drink from the cup in thankful remembrance of him and his death. The Lord's Supper is a celebration of the presence of God in our midst; bringing us into communion with God and with one another; feeding and nourishing our souls. It also anticipates the day when we will eat and drink with Christ in his Father's kingdom.

The Minister: Does the Lord's Supper add anything to Christ's atoning work?

The Congregation: No, Christ died once for all. The Lord's Supper is a covenant meal celebrating Christ's atoning work; as it is also a means of strengthening our faith as we look to him, and a foretaste of the future feast. But those who take part with unrepentant hearts eat and drink judgment on themselves.

The Minister: What is the church?

The Congregation: God chooses and preserves for himself a community elected for eternal life and united by faith, who love, follow, learn from, and worship God together. God sends out this community to proclaim the gospel and prefigure Christ's kingdom by the quality of their life together and their love for one another.

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 OFFERTORY

“All Praise to Thee”

Hagenberg

James A. Brown., Jr., Director

All praise to Thee, eternal God, Who, clothed in garb of flesh and blood,
Dost take a manger for Thy throne, While worlds on worlds are Thine alone. Alleluia.
Thou comest in the darksome night To make us children of the light,
To make us in the realms divine, Like Thine own angels, round Thee shine. Alleluia.
A little Child, Thou art our Guest That weary ones in Thee may rest,
Forlorn and lowly is Thy birth, That we may rise, to heav'n from earth. Alleluia.

THE SERMON

Zechariah 3:1-10 (*pew Bible page 794*)

The Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

The Congregation: Thanks be to God!

“Hope for the Dirty”

Dr. Sean Michael Lucas

Senior Pastor

SERMON NOTES

1. The dirty made clean
 - A. Our problem

- B. God's solution

2. The clean given gifts
 - A. Authority

- B. Access

- 3.. The Christ who comes
 - A. Sin's removal

- B. Creation's restored

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

No. 207

THE BENEDICTION

THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria

THE POSTLUDE

“Es ist ein Ros’ entsprungen”

Emilee Garrett, Organ

Brahms



IN THE SANCTUARY TODAY

*The decorations in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God
by the Women's Ministry of Independent Presbyterian Church.*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*We would like to welcome the following new members to our church:
Emily and Nathan Newman*

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

College | Mark McDonnell | Room 131
Young Adults | Robert Browning | Room 222/220
Mid 30s-40s | Parker Tenent | Fellowship Hall South
Mid 40s-50s | Jeremy Jones | Fellowship Hall North
Mid 50s-60s | Ed Norton | Chapel
Line by Line Class | Rankin Fowlkes | Room 132
Westminster Class | Ray Wilson | Room 233
60s+ | Mike Malone | Room 237

CHRISTMAS IN THE MINOR PROPHETS

Advent Sermon Series

Continuing through December 26

During Advent, we are taking a detour from Sean's Sunday morning sermon series on the Book of John to look at "Christmas in the Minor Prophets." Wherever you look in Scripture will lead to Jesus — and our Lord himself taught this. In a special Christmas series, we are considering texts from Malachi, Zechariah, Zephaniah, Micah, and Amos to see how they specifically point us to our Savior.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

On Sunday, December 26, we will have one morning worship service at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School classes will not meet.

COVENANTERS' CORNER BOOKSTORE

For All of Your Holiday Shopping

Let Covenanters' Corner help with your Christmas shopping. We offer savings on wonderful books and gifts for all ages, including an extensive selection of devotionals for the new year. Mention this ad and receive 20% off your gift purchases.*

(Books are always 20% off.) We also have in-store coupons, complimentary gift wrap, and curbside pickup. What we don't have: crowds and stress! Open Sunday between services;

Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.; closed Friday and Saturday.

Need assistance? Call (901) 763-3932 or email covenant@ipcmemphis.org.

**Offer expires December 23, 2021. Excludes consignment and special orders; may not be combined with other coupons.*

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GINGERBREAD MAKING CONTEST

IPC Children's Ministry will be hosting their Gingerbread Making Contest for 4th and 5th graders again this year at the Mallard's Croft barn, 2867 Hwy 309 North, Byhalia, MS.

We want your kids to join in the fun Sunday, December 19, 5:00-8:00 p.m., with dinner, a hayride, s'mores, and more. Registration is now open. Visit ipcmemphis.org to register.

Questions? Email Cindy Hammons, chammons@ipcmemphis.org.

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COOL GREEN BAG MINISTRY

If you haven't already, grab a Green Bag from the rack in the Rotunda to be filling for our next food collection January 9. Your donations support

Mid-South Food Bank efforts supplying pantries and meals for families and seniors in need.

For more details on the ministry and a list of suggested food items, visit ipcmemphis.org.

AMAZING GRAZING 2022

When Wednesday night activities resume January 5, we will have a new lineup of 6-week Amazing Grazing options that will be offered in two spring sessions: January 5–February 9 and February 23–April 6 (no meeting March 16).

The Apostles to Augustine, led by Sean Lucas

Romans 8-15, led by Robert Browning

The Intentional Father: A Practical Guide to Raising Sons of Courage and Character
book study, led by Dan Butler and Colton Cockrum

The Christian and the Government, led by Nate Kellum and Peter Winterburn

A Theology of the Body, led by Parker Tenent and Leslie Janikowsky

GRIEFSHARE

Wednesdays, beginning January 5 | 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Room 233

The 13-week seminar and support group is designed to help you rebuild your life after the death of a loved one. Our GriefShare is for women, but we can help men find a GriefShare group at another church. Read more about IPC GriefShare at www.ipcmemphis.org. For more information, contact Lisa Turner, ltturner@ipcmemphis.org, or (901) 685-8206.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Bookstore closed December 24 - January 1

Wednesday Evening Dinner and Activities resume January 5

Sunday Evening Praise resumes January 9

Men's Prayer Breakfast resumes January 11

Women's Bible Study resumes January 11

Women's Luncheon January 11

RULING ELDERS

Mr. Cannon F. Allen
Mr. Matthew G. Buyer
Mr. David Caldwell
Mr. Richard M. Carter
Mr. William J. Chase Jr.
Mr. Ralph S. DelBove
Mr. Rankin Fowlkes
Dr. Hugh Francis III
Mr. Samuel N. Graham II
Mr. J. Lee Greene Jr.
Mr. Stephen Guenther
Dr. Charles R. Halford
Dr. Hollis Halford
Mr. Bryan A. Hawkins
Mr. Ralph Janikowsky
Mr. Matthew Kennedy
Mr. George G. Leavell
Mr. William Martin
Mr. Dan McEwan
Dr. James R. Mitchum
Mr. William R. Mitchum Jr.
Mr. David R. Neubert
Mr. Matthew J. Olson
Dr. Melvin P. Payne III
Mr. Richard Luther Powell Sr.
Mr. John W. Stokes III
Mr. Scott Suddoth
Mr. Peter Winterburn

DEACONS

Mr. Dan Butler
Mr. David Butler
Mr. Craig A. Christenbury
Mr. John R. Coates
Dr. Colton Cockrum
Mr. John Dorrill
Mr. John Edwards
Mr. Hugh Francis IV
Mr. Michael J. Gabrielleschi
Dr. Kevin Garrett
Mr. Jay Jacks
Mr. Corky Jones
Dr. John G. Kakales
Mr. James McDonald
Mr. William G. Mueller IV
Mr. Jeff Payne
Mr. Calvin Purcell
Mr. Timothy Rainey
Mr. Alex Ransone
Mr. Chris W. Rogers
Mr. Dudley Schaefer Jr.
Mr. Rick Smith
Mr. Frederick T. Stukenborg
Mr. Chris Thornton
Mr. Jay Vaughn
Mr. Jim Wilder

PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. Sean Michael Lucas *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Robert Browning *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Edward Norton *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Jeremy Jones *Assistant Pastor*
Rev. Brad Robson *Pastor, Student Ministries*
Rev. Parker Tenent *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Mike Malone *Pastoral Associate*
Rev. Ford S. Williams, Jr. *Pastoral Associate*
Rev. John P. Sartelle, Sr. *Senior Pastor Emeritus*
Rev. Bill Hogan *Assistant Pastor Emeritus*

MINISTRY STAFF

Alison Barger *Director, Communications*
James A. Brown, Jr. *Director, Worship & Music Ministries*
Pam Brown *Assistant Director, Worship & Music Ministries*
Gwen Carpenter *Food Services Manager*
Ben Ervin *Audio Visual Coordinator*
Mary Virginia Felker *Assistant Director, Senior High Ministry*
Stephen Felker *Student Ministry Associate*
Leigh Fox *Hospitality Consultant*
Emilee Garrett *Children's Choirs Coordinator*
Andrew Ginn *Director, Covenanters' Corner Bookstore*
Lucy Green *Director, Children's Ministry*
Paul Halford, Sr. *Director, Operations*
Cindy Hammons *Assistant Director, Children's Ministry*
Gayle Hardee *Human Resources & Church Data Administrator*
Bob Hicks *Business Administrator*
Rachel Himebook *Director, IPC Ballet*
Rob Howard *Director, Recreation Ministries*
Rebekah Johnson *Assistant Director, Children's Ministry*
Maryanna Story *Assistant Director, Student Ministry*
Lisa Turner *Director, Women's Ministry*
Scott Walker *Worship Assistant*

IPC FOUNDATION

Suellen Warren *Executive Director*

IPC OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

Church's Main Office	901-685-8206
Music Office	901-685-9707
Recreation Office	901-763-3857

COVENANTERS' CORNER BOOKSTORE HOURS

Sunday — Open between services

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday — Closed

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.



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Music of Christmas



TONIGHT | Family Christmas Carol Sing

Sunday, December 12 | 6:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

Here's an opportunity to request your favorite Christmas hymns, even those not often sung, and we'll all sing them together.

Messiah Sing-Along

Sunday, December 19 | 6:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

Come sing some of the most glorious choral music ever written— we provide the musical scores and orchestra, and you provide the choir.

Nursery provided for both programs

Christmas Eve

Family Service | 4:00 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Communion Service | 5:30 p.m. | Sanctuary

No nursery provided



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