



**INDEPENDENT**  
Presbyterian Church

A NEW PEOPLE. A NEW MEMPHIS.

## THE FIRST WORD ON WORSHIP

Our text this morning gives us this amazing scene at Bethel, a vision that will be bookended in Genesis 32 by a similar encounter at Peniel. In our passage today, we see this vision with Jacob, a stairway between heaven and earth. And yet, we not only see and hear with Jacob, we look forward with eyes of faith to Jesus, the true stairway, the ladder, the way to the heavenly places.

Jesus is the Way into the Father's presence, and this morning he invites us to come to worship the one who dwells in his holy temple, the one who is immortal, invisible, God only wise. As we are called into God's holy presence, we not only confess our sins and mourn before him, but we also are assured that Jesus provides us a way to stand before our God. We belong to him — he has hushed the law's loud thunder — and he invites us to come and feast with him at his Table. Thanks be to God for his glorious gift!

## 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 one of our greeters. Please see an usher if you need a hearing amplification device.

The Sanctuary, Balcony, and Fellowship Hall are open to anyone, while we continue social distancing. *Additionally, masks are required at all times.* The Fellowship Hall is also available for overflow from the Sanctuary. The Chapel is reserved for people who may be at higher risk due to medications or underlying health conditions (and their families). Both morning Worship Services are shown via livestream in the Fellowship Hall and the Chapel.

We also livestream our 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. services at [ipcmemphis.org](http://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.

Visitors interested in joining IPC are invited to attend our next *Pathway Class for Prospective Members*. For more information, please contact Tameria Rackley, (901) 685-8206, or [trackley@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:trackley@ipcmemphis.org).

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

# THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

THE SEVENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-ONE  
*Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'clock in the Morning*

## THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE MEDITATION

"Holy Manna"

arr. Held

*Jennifer Velázquez, Organist*

Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God;  
will you pray with all your power, while we try to preach the Word?

All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down;  
brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Let us love our God supremely, let us love each other too;  
let us love and pray for sinners till our God makes all things new.  
Then he'll call us home to heaven, at his table we'll sit down;  
Christ will gird himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.

## THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Habakkuk 2:20; 1 Timothy 1:17

*The Minister:* The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

*The Congregation:* Now to the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor  
and glory forever and ever, Amen!

*The Minister:* Amen! Let us worship God!

*The Reverend Parker Tenent, Assistant Pastor (8:30 a.m.)*

*The Reverend Jeremy Jones, Assistant Pastor (11:00 a.m.)*

# THE HYMN OF PRAISE

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

No. 38

Walter Chambers Smith, 1867

Joanna (or St. Denio)

1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing and si - lent as light,  
3. Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
all praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

Al - mighty, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.  
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

## THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

### THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

E. Margaret Clarkson, 1957, 1985

Darwall

1. We come, O Christ, to you, true Son of God and man,  
2. You are the Way to God, your blood our ran-som paid;

by whom all things con-sist, in whom all life be-gan: in you a -  
in you we face our Judge and Mak-er un-a-fraid. Be-fore the

lone we live and move, and have our be-ing in your love.  
throne ab-solved we stand, your love has met your law's de-mand.

### THE CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

O God, it is your chief plan for my life that you would be more glorious and dear to me than anything or anyone else. Yet I know that I love you but little and live for you poorly. Help me to worship you in all that I do; help me to seek you every day. Most merciful Father, renew my heart that I might turn from my love for this fading world and find myself more firmly rooted in love for you. May your Gospel mercies be my first delight and the beauty of your Son my daily song! Hear my prayer, gracious Lord, *Amen*.

### THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." — *John 14:6*

## THE DOXOLOGY

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below: alleluia, alleluia!

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:

alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! *Amen.*

## THE STATEMENT OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism, Q and A 1

*The Minister:* What is your only comfort in life and in death?

*The Congregation:* That I am not my own, but belong — body and soul, in life and in death — to my faithful savior Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head with out the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

## 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

“A Psalm Folksong”

arr. Penhorwood

*Emily Edwards, Flute*

*James A. Brown, Jr., Director*

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want:  
He makes me down to lie in pastures green;  
He leadeth me The quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again; And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill,  
For thou art with me, and thy rod And staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished In presence of my foes;  
My head thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life Shall surely follow me:  
And in God's house for evermore My dwelling place shall be.

## THE SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 28:10-22

<sup>10</sup>Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. <sup>11</sup>And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. <sup>12</sup>And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! <sup>13</sup>And behold, the Lord stood above it and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. <sup>14</sup>Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. <sup>15</sup>Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." <sup>16</sup>Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it." <sup>17</sup>And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

<sup>18</sup>So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. <sup>19</sup>He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first. <sup>20</sup>Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, <sup>21</sup>so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God, <sup>22</sup>and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you."

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

*The Congregation:* Thanks be to God!

## THE SERMON

"Stairway to Heaven"  
*Dr. Sean Michael Lucas*  
*Senior Pastor*

## SERMON NOTES

### 1. What he sees

A. The Lord's place

B. The Lord's promise

C. The Lord's presence

### 2. What he says

A. Recognize God's presence

B. Rest in God's promises

C. Respond to God's provision

### 3. Whom we seek

# THE HYMN OF PREPARATION

“Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder”

*Tim Keith, Guitar Emily McKelroy, Bass*

Words: John Newton

Music: Laura Taylor



1. Let us love and sing and won - der,  
2. Let us love the Lord who bought us,  
3. Let us sing, though fierce temp - ta - tion  
4. Let us won - der, grace and jus - tice



let us praise the Sa - vior's name!  
pit - ied us when en - e - mies,  
threat - ens hard to bear us down!  
join and point to mer - cy's store.



He has hushed the law's loud thun - der,  
called us by his grace, and taught us,  
For the Lord, our strong Sal - va - tion,  
When through grace in Christ our trust is



he has quenched Mount Si - nai's flame. He has  
gave us ears and gave us eyes. He has  
holds in view the con - queror's crown. He who  
jus - tice smiles and asks no more. He who



washed us with his blood, he has washed us with his blood,  
washed us with his blood, he has washed us with his blood,  
washed us with his blood, he who washed us with his blood,  
washed us with his blood, he who washed us with his blood,



he has washed us with his blood,  
he has washed us with his blood,  
he who washed us with his blood,  
he who washed us with his blood



he has brought us nigh to God.  
he pres - ents our souls to God.  
soon will bring us home to God.  
has se - cured our way to God.

# THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

### THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." — 1 Corinthians 11:26

## THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Man of Sorrows! What a Name"

No. 246

Philip P. Bliss, 1875

Hallelujah! What A Savior!

1. Man of Sor - rows! what a name for the Son of  
2. Bear - ing shame and scoff - ing rude, in my place con -  
3. *Guilt - y, vile, and help - less, we; spot - less Lamb of*  
4. Lift - ed up was he to die, "It is fin - ished!"  
5. When he comes, our glo - rious King, all his ran - somed

God, who came ru - ined sin - ners to re - claim:  
demned he stood, sealed my par - don with his blood:  
*God was he; full a - tone - ment! can it be?*  
was his cry: now in heav'n ex - alt - ed high:  
home to bring, then a - new this song we'll sing:

Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!  
Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!  
*Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!*  
Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!  
Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!

## THE BENEDICTION

### THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Latin hymn

Adore Thee



Christ, we do all a - dore thee, and we do praise thee for -  
ev - er; Christ, we do all a - dore thee,  
and we do praise thee for - ev - er.  
for on the ho - ly cross hast thou the world from sin re -  
deem - ed. Christ, we do all a - dore thee,  
and we do praise thee for - ev - er. *instrumental*  
Christ, we do all a - dore thee.

### THE POSTLUDE

“Land of Rest”

arr. Martin

Land of rest, for thee I sigh; when will the moment come,  
when I shall lay my armour by, and dwell with Christ at home?

To Jesus Christ I sought for rest; he bade me cease to roam,  
and fly for succor to his breast, and he'd conduct me home.



## IN THE SANCTUARY TODAY

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God*  
in honor of James Brown on the occasion of his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.

“I will praise the Lord as long as I live, I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.”  
— *Psalm 146:2*

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## DEATH

*We extend our sympathy to*  
Kay and Steve Mistilis on the death of his brother,  
Angelo Mistilis, on January 31.

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## OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the office of Ruling Elder are now being accepted through noon on February 14. Nomination forms with instructions and a voting box are located in the Rotunda.  
*You may also visit [ipcmemphis.org](http://ipcmemphis.org) to complete the form, then email it to [nominations@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:nominations@ipcmemphis.org).*

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## SIGN UP: NURSERY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

Nursery is offered during the 8:30 a.m. service and Sunday school, but only children who are in the nursery for the 8:30 service may remain for Sunday school. Parents may pick children up after the 8:30 service, but no new children may arrive for Sunday school. Advance registration is required for ages 0 through 5th grade. Registration opens Tuesday and closes at noon on Saturday. Parents may register children using the IPC app or website. Please call our Children's Department at 901-685-8258 with any questions, or email Beth Clark, [bclark@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:bclark@ipcmemphis.org).

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## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday school classes do not require advance registration. However, we will be following previous COVID protocols, including social distancing and wearing masks.

## WELCOME BACK WEDNESDAY NIGHT!

Wednesday nights at IPC are back! **Dinner is safely served starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.** Weekly dinner reservations are required and can be made now through next Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. You will have the opportunity to pay online in advance to cut down on money exchanges and traffic. When you arrive on Wednesday night, please go to the check-in table in the Fellowship Hall to confirm prepaid reservations or to purchase a meal.

*February 10 menu: spaghetti and meatballs, Italian spinach, garlic bread, salad; Kids: pizza*

Join us after dinner, at 6:15 p.m., in Room 237, for a **new Wednesday night series taught by Sean: *Life and Thought of Jonathan Edwards***. We will discover how Edwards — long considered “America’s Theologian” and one of the premier theologians of the Reformed tradition — can help us think about the Christian life in fresh ways, ones that lead us to savor the glory of God and the grace of Jesus. The 8-week series is open to all ages. No reservations required.

**Other offerings** include a study of Scott Sauls’ new book, *A Gentle Answer: Our ‘Secret Weapon’ in an Age of Us Against Them*, lead by Ed Norton in the Chapel; and the Browning Community’s *Leadership Training and Philosophy of Ministry for Young Adults*, in Room 220.

**“That Thing!”** is back for kids in grades K-5. Children play games, study catechism, create music using instruments, and enjoy service projects (all with safety protocols). The nursery is open on Wednesdays for children ages 0 through JK. Children must register for “That Thing!” and nursery; registration closes each Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. Spaces are limited and taken on a first come basis. For more information, contact Emilee Garrett, [egarrett@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:egarrett@ipcmemphis.org).

Our **Jr. and Sr. High Choirs** will meet this Wednesday, with pizza at 5:00 p.m., and music, vocal, and instrumental activities from 5:30-6:10 p.m.

The **Student Ministry** will meet this Wednesday night, as well. IDK (Middle School) meets from 6:15-7:15 p.m., and Senior High meets from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

## SIMPLY TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Paul David Tripp's *Faith: What Are You Hoping For?*

Visit [ipcmemphis.org](http://ipcmemphis.org) for more details, a list of group leaders, and to register for the morning or evening study. *Need nursery care on Tuesday morning? Please register your child once for the entire spring semester. For assistance, contact Beth Clark, [bclark@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:bclark@ipcmemphis.org).*

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## IN THE WORD BIBLE STUDY FOR MEN

Knowing the Bible study *Hebrews* by Matthew Z. Capps

Taught by Dr. Sean Lucas

Thursdays | 6:30 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

*Can't make it every Thursday? Weekly lessons are recorded and available to view on YouTube, so it's easy to catch up.*

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## WOMEN OF IMPACT: A PATHWAY TO THE WELL

IPC's own Sara Lucas is keynote speaker for a women's virtual event sponsored by Streets Ministries and offered free to women across the city to enjoy from the comfort of their homes. On Thursday, February 11, at 6:30 p.m., "Women of Impact: A Pathway to the Well" will be livestreamed from IPC on Facebook. *To register and to learn more about this exciting inaugural event, go to [streetsministries.org](http://streetsministries.org), and click on "Women of Impact."*

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## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

The Session has approved Independent Presbyterian Church's participation in the annual 40 Days for Life Lent campaign to end abortion. IPC volunteers are needed to fill two-hour shifts during our three scheduled Sunday afternoons — March 7, 14, and 21; however, you can also sign up for other days and times. Please join a brief info meeting in room 237 immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, February 14, to learn more about taking part in the event's peaceful vigils and prayers.

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## GENEROUS JUSTICE BOOK CLUB

Beginning February 14, the Generous Justice Book Club — a fellowship between IPC, Innovation Church, and St. Paul Baptist Church — will begin new discussion groups reading *With Justice for All: A Strategy for Community Development* by Dr. John Perkins. Anyone may participate. The club was born out of a desire to develop friendships among our churches and learn more about what Jesus says about loving the poor. Groups meet over Zoom and are led by Pastors Sean Lucas, Marron Thomas, and Christopher Davis.

*For more information and to register, visit [generousjusticebookclub.com](http://generousjusticebookclub.com).*

## PASTORAL STAFF

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

## MINISTRY STAFF

Alison Barger	<i>Director, Communications</i>
James A. Brown, Jr.	<i>Director, Worship &amp; Music Ministries</i>
Pam Brown	<i>Assistant Director, Worship &amp; Music Ministries</i>
Gwen Carpenter	<i>Food Services Manager</i>
Ben Ervin	<i>Audio Visual Coordinator</i>
Mary Virginia Felker	<i>Assistant Director, Senior High Ministry</i>
Stephen Felker	<i>Student Ministry Associate</i>
Leigh Fox	<i>Hospitality Consultant</i>
Emilee Garrett	<i>Children's Choirs Coordinator</i>
Lucy Green	<i>Director, Children's Ministry</i>
Paul Halford, Sr.	<i>Director, Operations</i>
Rachel Himebook	<i>Director, IPC Ballet</i>
Zach Hood	<i>Director, College Ministry</i>
Rob Howard	<i>Director, Recreation Ministries</i>
Harrison Howle	<i>Choral Assistant</i>
Andrew Ginn	<i>Covenanters' Corner Bookstore</i>
Maryanna Story	<i>Assistant Director, Student Ministry</i>
Lisa Turner	<i>Director, Women's Ministry</i>
Jennifer Velázquez	<i>Associate Director, Worship &amp; Music Ministries   Organist</i>
Scott Walker	<i>Worship Assistant</i>
Suellen Warren	<i>Business Administrator</i>

## 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.

(Open Wednesday until 6:30 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.



@IPCmemphis



/IndependentPres



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## SUNDAY EVENING PRAISE

Sunday Evening Praise returns next Sunday, February 14, in the Sanctuary, at 6:00 p.m., with a new spring homily series, *Jesus Is Our Joy: Studies in Philippians*, taught by Dr. Sean Lucas and the other IPC pastors. Children can attend the service with their families. There will be no nursery available, and Four Corners will not meet. Immediately following Sunday Evening Praise, drop by the Fellowship Hall for a sweet treat with friends! We're having a Valentine's Dessert Bar with your choice of assorted goodies, all safely served.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday Evening Praise Resumes | February 14

Valentine's Dessert Bar (after SEP) | February 14

Daddy Daughter Dance | March (date TBD)

Palm Sunday Music Program | March 28

Maundy Thursday Service | April 1

Good Friday Service | April 2

Easter Eve Concert with Andrew Peterson | April 3

Easter Sunday | April 4

Mitch Maher "Clarifying the Bible" | April 13

Camp Palmer | May 28-June 2

VBS | June 14-18



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