

INDEPENDENT
Presbyterian Church

September 26, 2021

A NEW PEOPLE. A NEW MEMPHIS.

THE FIRST WORD ON WORSHIP

Over the past few weeks, we have seen how John described Jesus as the Word, the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. Today, we hear the testimony of John the Baptist—that this Jesus, who was before him, is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. All the Old Testament sacrifices pointed forward to this reality: that one like us would come to take upon himself our iniquities and make atonement for them.

Our service this morning is shaped by this theme, Jesus the Lamb of God. From the call to worship, drawn from the Messianic Psalm 118, to our assurance of pardon, from the hymns and songs that we sing even to the profession of faith that we will hear—this good news will be represented to us repeatedly: Jesus Christ died for sinners like us to take away our sin. And praise the Lord: the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin!

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 Tameria Rackley, (901) 685-8206, or trackley@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.

While indoors, masks are strongly recommended, regardless of vaccination status.

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

September 26, 2021

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MEDITATION

“Prelude on ‘Rendez a Dieu’ & ‘Ode to Joy’”

Powell

*David Spencer and Brittany Hendricks, Trumpets Abby Powell, Horn
Nathan Duvall, Trombone
Jennifer Velázquez, Organist*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 118:26-29

The Minister: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Congregation: The Lord is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us.

The Minister: Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

The Congregation: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.

The Reverend Brad Robson, Assistant Pastor (8:30 a.m.)

Mr. Zach Hood, Presbytery Intern (11:00 a.m.)

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

“Give Thanks unto the Lord, Jehovah”

No. 613

THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

Thine the Glory

We praise thee, O God! for the Son of thy love,
for Jesus who died and is now gone above.
Hallelujah! thine the glory, hallelujah! we sing;
hallelujah! thine the glory, our praise now we bring.

We praise thee, O God! for thy Spirit of light,
who has shown us our Savior and scattered our night.
Hallelujah! thine the glory, hallelujah! we sing;
hallelujah! thine the glory, our praise now we bring.

All glory and praise to the Lamb that was slain,
who has borne all our sins and has cleansed ev'ry stain!
Hallelujah! thine the glory, hallelujah! we sing;
hallelujah! thine the glory, our praise now we bring.

Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad at this time.

THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

Helen Spires (8:30 a.m.)

THE CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

God of everlasting love, we confess that we have been unfaithful to our covenant with you and with one another. We have worshiped other gods: money, power, greed, and convenience. We have served our own self-interest instead of serving only you and your people. We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded, nor have we rightly loved ourselves. Forgive us, gracious God, and bring us back into the fullness of our covenant with you and one another. Through Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.— *Isaiah 53:4-6*

THE HYMN OF ASSURANCE

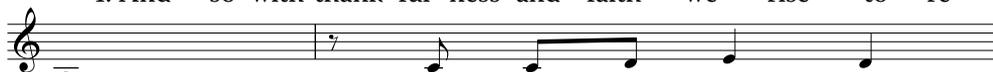
“Behold the Lamb”

Janey Fletcher, Guitar • Emily McKelroy, Bass

Words and Music by Getty and Townend



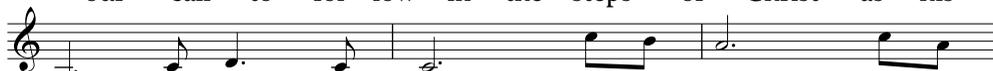
1. Be - hold the Lamb who bears our sins a - way, slain for
2. The bod - y of our Sav - iour Je - sus Christ, torn for
3. The blood that cleans - es ev - ery stain of sin, shed for
4. And so with thank - ful - ness and faith we rise to re -



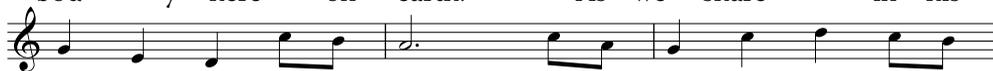
us and we re - mem - ber
you eat and re - mem - ber
you drink and re - mem - ber
spond, and to re - mem - ber



the prom - ise made that all who come in faith find for -
the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the
he drained death's cup that all may en - ter in to re -
our call to fol - low in the steps of Christ as his



give - ness at the cross. So we share in this
price to make us one. So we share in this
ceive the life of God. So we share in this
bod - y here on earth. As we share in his



bread of life, and we drink of his sac - ri - fice as a
bread of life, and we drink of his sac - ri - fice as a
bread of life, and we drink of his sac - ri - fice as a
suf - fer - ing we pro - claim Christ will come a - gain! And we'll



sign of our bonds of peace, a - round the ta - ble of the King.
sign of our bonds of love, a - round the ta - ble of the King.
sign of our bonds of grace, a - round the ta - ble of the King.
join in the feast of heav'n, a - round the ta - ble of the King.

Children's Church (SK) may be dismissed to their worship leader during the last verse. (8:30 only)

The Minister: What do justification and sanctification mean?

The Congregation: Justification means our declared righteousness before God, made possible by Christ's death and resurrection for us. Sanctification means our gradual, growing righteousness, made possible by the Spirit's work in us.

The Minister: Should those who have faith in Christ seek their salvation through their own works, or anywhere else?

The Congregation: No, they should not, as everything necessary to salvation is found in Christ. To seek salvation through good works is a denial that Christ is the only Redeemer and Savior.

The Minister: Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through Christ alone, must we still do good works and obey God's Word?

The Congregation: Yes, because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, also renews us by his Spirit; so that our lives may show love and gratitude to God; so that we may be assured of our faith by the fruits; and so that by our godly behavior others may be won to Christ.

The Minister: Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through faith alone, where does this faith come from?

The Congregation: All the gifts we receive from Christ we receive through the Holy Spirit, including faith itself.

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

“To the Lamb on the Throne”

Forrest

James A. Brown, Jr., Director

Worthy the Lamb. Worthy the Lamb.

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim, and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name all-victorious of Jesus extol; his kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

“Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!” let all cry aloud, and honor the Son;
the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim, fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

God rules in the height, almighty to save; though hid from our sight, his presence we have,
The great congregation his triumph shall sing, ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

Congregation

4. Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all
glo - ry and pow'r, all wis - dom and might, all
hon - or and bless - ing with an - gels a - bove, and
thanks nev - er ceas - ing and in - fin - ite love.

THE SERMON

John 1:19-34 (pew Bible page 886)
The Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.
The Congregation: Thanks be to God!

“Behold the Lamb of God!”
Dr. Sean Michael Lucas
Senior Pastor

SERMON NOTES

1. Who is John?
A. Who he is not

B. Who he is

2. Who is Jesus?
A. Lamb of God

B. Anointed One

3. Who is Jesus Christ, for you, today?

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

“There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood”

No. 253

THE BENEDICTION

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”

Grise

THE POSTLUDE

“Improvisation on ‘Hymn to Joy’”

Elliot



EVENING PRAISE

September 26, 2021

6:00 *p.m.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Matthew 11:28-30

Minister: Jesus said, “Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Congregation: “Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

All: “For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” Amen! Let us worship God!

INVOCATION

SONG OF PRAISE

“A Debtor to Mercy Alone”

Words: Augustus Toplady

Music: Kevin Twit



1. A debt - or to mer - cy a - lone, of
2. The work which his good-ness be - gan the
3. My name from the palms of his hands e -



cove - nant mer - cy I sing; nor fear, with thy
arm of his strength will com - plete; his prom - ise is
ter - ni - ty will not e - raise; im - pressed on his



right - eous - ness on, my per - son and of - f'ring to bring. The
yea and a - men, and nev - er was for - feit - ed yet. Things
heart it re - mains in marks of in - del - i - ble grace. Yes



ter - rors of law and of God with me can havenoth - ing to do
fu - ture, nor things that are now, nor all things be - low nor a - bove,
I to the end shall en - dure, as sure as the ear - nest is given;



my Sav - ior's o - bed - ience and blood hide
can make him his pur - pose fore - go, or
more hap - py but not more se - cure, the



all my trans - gres - sions from view.
sev - er my soul from his love.
glor - i - fied spir - its in heaven.

SONG OF PRAISE

“Love Constraining to Obedience”

Words: William Cowper

Music: Kevin Twit

Chorus:

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score includes a chorus and a final line of text.

To see the Law by Christ ful-filled, to hear his par-
d'ning voice, chang-es a slave, in-to a child
and du-ty in - to choice.

1. No strength of na - ture can suf - fice,
2. How long be - neath the Law I lay,
3. Then to ab - stain from out - ward sin,
4. Then all my ser - vile works were done,

to serve the Lord a - right and what she has
in bond-age and dis - tress I toiled the pre-
was more than I could do now if I feel
a right-eous - ness to raise now free - ly cho-

she mis - ap - plies, for want of clear-er light.
cept to o - bey, but toiled with-out suc - cess.
its power with - in, I feel I hate it too.
sen in the Son, I free - ly choose his ways.

2
But to see the Law

PASSING THE PEACE

Minister: Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you." And so, the peace of Christ always be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Minister: Let us offer one another a word of peace.

Please greet one another, saying "Peace be with you."

SONG OF PRAISE

"Wonderful, Merciful Savior"

Rodgers and Wyse

1. Won - der - ful, mer - ci - ful Sav - ior, Pre - cious Re -
2. Coun - se - lor, Com - fort - er, Keep - er Spir - it we
3. Al - might - y, in - fin - ite Fa - ther faith - ful - ly

deem - er and Friend; who would have thought that a
long to em - brace; you of - fer hope when our
lov - ing your own; here in our weak - ness you

Lamb could res - cue the souls of men.
hearts have hope - less - ly lost the way.
find us fall - ing be - fore your throne.

Oh, you res - cue the souls of men.
Oh, we hope - less - ly lost the way.
Oh, we're fall - ing be - fore your throne.

You are the one that we praise, you are the one we a - dore.

You give the heal - ing and grace our hearts al - ways hun - ger
for, Oh, our hearts al - ways hun - ger for.

SONG OF PRAISE

“His Mercy is More”

Words and Music:
Matt Papa and Matt Boswell



1. What love could re - mem - ber, no wrongs we have done? Om -
2. What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam? What
3. What rich - es of kind - ness he lav - ished on us. His



nis - cient, all - know - ing, he counts not their sum. Thrown
fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home? He
blood was the pay - ment, his life was the cost. We



in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore, our
wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor. Our
stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford. Our



sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is
sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is
sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is



more. Praise the Lord, his mer - cy is more
more.
more.



Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn. Our



sins, they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.

SONG OF PREPARATION

“Thy Mercy, My God”

Words: John Stoker

Music: Sandra McCracken



1. Thy mer - cy, my God, is the theme of my song, the
2. With - out thy sweet mer - cy I could not live here;
3. Thy mer - cy is more than a match for my heart, which
4. Great Fa - ther of mer - cies thy good - ness I own and the



joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue. Thy
sin would re - duce me to ut - ter des - pair; but
won - ders to feel its own hard - ness de - part; dis -
cov - e - nant love of thy cru - ci - fied Son; all



free grace a - lone from the first to the last hath
through thy free good - ness my spir - its re - vive and
solved by thy good - ness, I fall to the ground, and
praise to the Spir - it whose whis - per di - vine seals



won my af - fec - tions and bound my soul fast.
he that first made me still keeps me a - live.
weep to the praise of the mer - cy I've found.
mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness mine.



All praise to the Spir - it whose whis - per di - vine seals



mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness mine!

Children (K-5th) may be dismissed to Four Corners during the last verse

SCRIPTURE READING

Numbers 13:25-14:12 (*pew Bible pages 121-122*)

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

HOMILY

“Refusing the Promised Land”

Dr. Sean Michael Lucas

Senior Pastor

SONG OF PRAISE

“Christ Our Hope in Life and Death”

Words and Music by Getty,
Boswell, Kauflin, Merker, Papa



1. What is our hope in life and death? Christ a -
calm the trou - bled soul? God is
grave, what shall we sing? “Christ, He



lone, Christ a - lone. What is our on - ly con - fi -
good, God is good. Where is his grace and good - ness
lives; Christ, He lives!” And what re - ward will heav - en



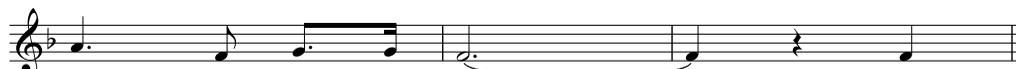
dence? That our souls to him be - long. Who holds our
known? In our great Re - deem - er's blood. Who holds our
bring? Ev - er - last - ing life with him. There we will



days with - in his hand? What comes, a - part from his com -
faith when fears a - rise? Who stands a - bove the storm - y
rise to meet the Lord, Then sin and death will be de -



mand? And what will keep us to the end? The love of
trial? Who sends the waves that bring us nigh Un - to the
stroyed, And we will feast in end - less joy, When Christ is



Christ, in which we stand. O
shore, the rock of Christ?
ours for - ev - er - more.

sing hal - le - lu - jah! Our hope springs e - ter - nal; O

sing hal - le - lu - jah! Now and ev - er we con-

fess Christ our hope in life and death. ^{1.2.}

2. What truth can death. Now and
3. Un - to the

ev - er we con-fess Christ our hope in life and death.

BENEDICTION



IN THE SANCTUARY TODAY

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving
for and celebration of the 23 years of service by our beloved
Organist and Music Associate Jennifer Velázquez.*

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face
to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up
his countenance upon you and give you peace.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

College | Zach Hood | 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 and Rick Powell | Room 233

60s+ | Mike Malone | Room 237

THE POSTLUDE RECEPTION

— HONORING —

Jennifer Velázquez

Today After the 11:00 a.m. Service

Jennifer and José are moving to Boston to be near their daughter and son-in-law,
Elena and Nathaniel Efthimiou, and grandson, George. As IPC's Organist and
Associate Director of Worship and Music, Jennifer has left an indelible mark on our
church, for which we'll always be grateful. Please stop by the Rotunda to say thank
you and wish her well. We will miss the Velázquez family enormously!

BLAST!

Building Lives Around Sound Truth

Grades PreK-5 | Wednesday Nights | 6:15-7:30 p.m.

Singing, catechism, games, fun — BLAST! aims to teach children the truth of God's Word with sound doctrine and great hymns of the faith, so they grow to love the Lord with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength. We're going to have a BLAST! as we worship Him together.

Register your children at ipcmemphis.org.

ADULT CHOIR REHEARSALS

The Adult Choir meets Wednesday evenings for rehearsals at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Please join us as we prepare Sunday morning anthems and begin working on music for Lessons and Carols. Nursery and older childcare is available upon request.

Senior High Choir (grades 9-12) rehearses on Sundays, 5:00-5:50 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall.

Junior High Choir (grades 6-8) meets on Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m. supper, 5:30-6:15 p.m. rehearsal in the Sanctuary.

ARISE2READ

Tutors and Co-Head Coaches Needed

IPC's ARISE2Read team is recruiting volunteers to help tutor
White Station Elementary School 2nd graders!

Giving one hour a week as a reading coach, you can change the trajectory of two children's lives.

Student reading level assessments are underway, and tutoring should start in mid-October.

IPC will provide plexiglass face shields for volunteers; we also have free-standing tabletop shields available for those desiring extra protection. Interested volunteers can choose from two upcoming training sessions:

Thursday, Sept. 30, 10:00 a.m., at Christ Church, or

Monday, Oct. 4, 6:30 p.m., at Bellevue Baptist Church.

For more details, please contact Catherine Wilfong at (901) 833-2769 or cdub@me.com.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE MEMPHIS CAMPAIGN

IPC is participating in the 40 Days for Life campaign to end abortion, standing vigil as a community on Sunday afternoon, October 3, from 1:00-4:00 p.m., at Choices — Memphis Center for Reproductive Health, located at 1203 Poplar Avenue. Our volunteers can choose an hour or more anytime during IPC's three-hour shift. Signs will be available at the church's reception desk and at the vigil site. We encourage our members to sign up for additional days and times during the campaign, which began September 22 and continues through October 31.

For more details on the campaign and to sign up for a vigil shift,
go to www.40daysforlife/memphis

SENIOR FITNESS CLASSES

Mondays and Thursdays | 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Our popular fitness/exercise classes for mature adults meet in the IPC gym. Anyone wanting to improve their physical wellness and stability is encouraged to join us for either or both days.

The classes are led by IPC member Kristy Bell, who is an occupational therapist.

There is no fee to attend. Wear comfortable shoes and attire.

WHILE INDOORS,
MASKS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED
REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS.

With the growing threat posed by the Delta variant of COVID-19, the Session has updated IPC's mask protocol. Masks are strongly recommended for all people inside the IPC building, regardless of vaccination status.

Local hospitals are stretched to the limits, making it difficult to receive care, even for those emergencies which are not COVID-related. Please help us aid our community in lowering the rate of transmission.

THANK YOU.



INDEPENDENT
Presbyterian Church