

Historic
Independent Presbyterian Church
of Savannah



December 14, AD 2025

207 Bull Street • Savannah, Georgia 31401 • 912-236-3346 • www.ipcsav.org

THE LORD'S DAY MORNING WORSHIP

SANCTUARY ~ TEN O'CLOCK

"Let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service, with reverence and awe." Hebrews 12:28

The Prelude - Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ / Praise to thee, Jesus Christ

Georg Böhm

Text:

Praise to thee, Jesus Christ,
That you have been born as a man
From a virgin—this is true—
At which the angel host rejoices.

— Martin Luther (1524)

The Sounding of the Hour

+ The Welcome and Announcements

The Silent Prayer of Preparation

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at Your first coming sent Your messenger to prepare Your way before You; grant that the ministers and stewards of Your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready Your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at Your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in Your sight, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The Call to Worship - Awake, Awake the Sacred Song

Noel

Text:

There shone almighty power and love in all their glorious forms,
When Jesus left His throne above to dwell with sinful worms.
To dwell with misery below, our Savior left the skies;
And sank to wretchedness and woe, that worthless man might rise.

— Anne Steele (1760)

+* The Hymnal - #214 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Gloria

* The Invocation and 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 Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell*; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;**
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

* this refers to the realm of the dead, not the place of punishment.

** "catholic" means "universal" church, the true church in all times and places.

* The Gloria Patri

(Hymnal, #162)

Divinum Mysterium

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory.
Evermore and evermore!

The Pastoral Prayer

The Scripture Reading - Isaiah 34 (40th reading—pew Bible pp. 594-595)
Psalm 25 (pew Bible, p. 459)

The Reception of New Members

The Recognition of Memorization

The Psalter - Psalm 98:1-4 (*Psalter*, page 83) Desert

* **The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Collection

The Anthem - “The Blessed Son of God” Ralph Vaughan Williams

Text:

The blessed Son of God only in a crib full poor did lie;
With our poor flesh and our poor blood was clothed that everlasting good:
Lord, have mercy.

The Lord Christ Jesu, God’s Son dear, was a guest and a stranger here;
Us for to bring from misery, that we might live eternally:
Lord, have mercy.

All this did He for us freely, for to declare His great mercy;
All Christendom be merry therefore, and give Him thanks forevermore:
Lord, have mercy.

— Myles Coverdale (c. 1535), after Martin Luther (1524)

* **The Doxology and Dismissal** Puer Nobis

Children ages 4 & 5 may leave for a separate service as we sing

All praise, Eternal Son, to Thee,
Whose advent sets Thy people free;
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Ghost forevermore.
Amen.

The Sermon Mr. Johnson

“THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD – 9”

Faithful and True

XVI. Psalms for All of Life

* **The Hymnal - “The First Noel”** (*see hymn insert*) The First Noel

* **The Benediction and Response** (sung by all) St. Louis

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

— *Trinity Hymnal*, #201 (last stanza)

The Postlude - Prelude on “Hyfrydol” Healey Willan

Text:

See *Trinity Hymnal*, #196

* Congregation Standing
+ Latecomers may be seated

** Children’s Church: Allison Kelly and Caroline Johnson
Assisting: Alex Sutherland
Organist and Choirmaster: Jacob H. Fuhrman

GREETERS–ELDERS:

FRONT DOOR Elder & Mrs. T. Barrett
NORTH SIDE J. Breckenridge
SOUTH SIDE R. Mullinix

SUNDAY SCHOOL GREETER:

Elder: W. Milling

GREETERS–USHERS/DEACONS:

FRONT DOOR: J. Dugal
BAPTISMAL FONT: A. Parrish

THE LORD'S DAY EVENING WORSHIP

SANCTUARY ~ FIVE THIRTY O'CLOCK

"God is spirit, and those who worship Him must
worship in spirit and truth." John 4:24

Preparation (5:15-5:30 p.m.)

Hymn Sing - #715 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

(*Hymn of the Month*)

St. George's, Windsor

* *Announcements*

Praise

Call to Worship and Prayer of Praise

+* *Hymnal - #211 "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen"* God Rest You Merry

Confession of Sin, Pardon, and Thanksgiving

* *Reading of the Law of God* (see back panel of hymnal)

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Affirmation of Faith - The Westminster Creed, Part III
(based on the *Shorter Catechism*)

I believe Christ, as our Redeemer, executes the offices of a prophet,
of a priest, and of a king.

I believe Christ as our Redeemer underwent the miseries of this life,
the wrath of God, and the cursed death of the cross, offering up
Himself as a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us
to God; He was buried, yet He rose again from the dead on the
third day, ascended up into heaven, sits at the right hand of God
the Father, and is coming to judge the world at the last day.

Reception of New Member

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Collection

Provision for Life and Growth

Scripture Reading - Revelation 11 (13th reading—pew Bible pp. 1034)

Prayer of Intercession

* *Psalter -* Psalm 125 (*Psalter*, page 111)

Winchester Old

* *Prayer of Illumination*

Sermon - Genesis 1:2-3 (pew Bible p. 1)

Mr. Shaw

"THE END IN THE BEGINNING "

IV. Genesis

Thanksgiving and Blessing

* *Hymnal - #229 "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"* Tempus Adest Floridum

* *Benediction*

OUR CHURCH TODAY

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School Classes for all ages (Nurseries available for children through the age of 3 on the 2nd Floor, Axson Bldg.)
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service, sanctuary
3:45 p.m. Chatham Transitional Ministry Bible Study, Rev. Alex Sutherland
4:15 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal (6th-12th Grade), Choir Room
5:30 p.m. Evening Worship Service, sanctuary
6:30 p.m. **Care Group #5 (R. Thompson) (Deacons: J. Tomlinson and T. Rodenberg)** Set up/Clean up for supper
6:45 p.m. Fellowship Supper tonight, Fellowship Hall
\$8.00 Adult, \$5.00 Children (Middle School and younger), \$30.00 maximum per family
6:45 p.m. Telfair Hall is available for additional eating space
7:00 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal (1st-5th grades), Choir Room
7:00 p.m. Middle School Emmaus Road, 18 W. Hull Street, The Parlor
7:00 p.m. High School Small Groups, various locations

WEDNESDAY LUNCH AND BIBLE STUDY

TELFAIR HALL ~ LUNCH AT 11:45 A.M.

BIBLE STUDY 12:15 P.M.

MESSAGE BY MR. ANDREW BECHAM

WELCOME TO INDEPENDENT

Our Church extends a cordial welcome to all who worship with us today. Visitors are asked to complete a Friendship Card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Both visitors and members are encouraged to use the back of the card to request information, make comments, or write prayer needs. We are delighted to have you with us this Lord's Day.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

During the morning and evening worship services, we will be receiving new members. We are delighted to have them join our congregation. Please extend to them your hand of greeting and fellowship.

MEMORIZATION ACHIEVEMENT

During this morning's worship service we will recognize **Robert Brooks "Bobby" Tanner** for reciting word perfect The Ten Commandments, The Lord's Prayer, and the Apostles' Creed—Level 1 of our memorization program. He will receive an award of achievement. Please take a moment to congratulate him.

LESSONS & CAROLS AND CHRISTMAS BUFFET

Our Lessons & Carols Service will be held next Sunday evening, at 5:30 p.m. It will be followed by our Annual Christmas Buffet. Members of the congregation are asked to help with this event by bringing **ready-to-eat finger foods on platters, which require no reheating or assembly**. This year we are providing food by Care Groups as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. A. Brodmann – SWEET | 7. C. Martin/S. Jackson – SWEET |
| 2. K. Crowe – SAVORY | 8. W. Milling – SAVORY |
| 3. D. Gobel – SWEET | 9. R. Mullinix – SAVORY |
| 4. J. Breckenridge – SAVORY | 10. D. Gross/W. Brodmann – SWEET |
| 5. R. Thompson – SWEET | 11. D. Boatright/M. Hazeltine – SAVORY |
| 6. M. Biemiller – SAVORY | 12. T. Barrett – SAVORY |

CHRISTMAS 2025

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, our plans for this year include placing poinsettias and greenery in the sanctuary. If you would like to recognize a special person, you may do so by ordering a poinsettia, or you may make a donation toward the greenery. The cost is \$15.00. For those who choose to order poinsettias, please be good stewards and remove them after the evening service on Christmas Eve. **All orders for poinsettia/greenery need to be submitted by December 14.** You may place your order by scanning the QR code or filling out the form below.



-----Tear here-----

☐ I would like a poinsettia ☐ I would like to donate toward greenery

To the glory of God and in honor/memory (please circle one) of:

Honor/Memory of _____

Honor/Memory of _____

Honor/Memory of _____

The Pastoral & Educational Staff

Terry L. Johnson	Senior Minister
Timothy D. Shaw	Associate Minister
Evan J. Gear	Associate Minister
Alexander B. Sutherland	Assistant Minister
Andrew P. Becham	Pastoral Intern
Joshua M. Espinosa	Director of Administration
Lucy B. Biemiller	Children's S.S. and Program Coordinator
	Women of the Church Coordinator
Jane H. Boatright	Nursery Coordinator
Matthew L. Burt	Director of Pastoral Care
Kenneth C. Crowe	Director of Camps
Jacob H. Fuhrman	Director of Music

Church Office

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.	912-236-3346
E-Mail:	info@ipsav.org
Website:	www.ipsav.org
Financial Secretary	912-421-8104
Senior Minister's Secretary	912-421-8100
IPC Sexton:	912-421-8112
ESL School	esl@ipsav.org

Worship at IPC

- Thank you for turning off cell phones during the worship service or placing them on "airplane mode."
- Please leave any food or drink outside of the Sanctuary.
- Those arriving late are asked to take their place either during the first hymn or the Psalm.
- Our Sunday services are available as a Live Webcast for those who are unable to attend. The service may be joined at ipsav.org/webcast.
- All sermons can be accessed from the church website at www.ipsav.org.
- If able, please make room in your pews for others. This helps the ushers as they seat people.
- Sound amplification devices are available by asking a deacon at the front doors.
- Experience sermons in your native language with our real-time translation feature! Powered by Microsoft Translator, it brings worship services to life in any language. Simply scan the QR code in the pew rack, grab the app from your app store, launch it, and choose your language. A deacon or usher can assist.
- IPC uses the *Trinity Hymnal*, *Trinity Psalter* and *Trinity Psalter Hymnal*.
- **Nurseries for children through the age of three are provided on the second floor of the Axson Memorial Building, during the morning and evening services. In the morning service, children ages 4 through Kindergarten may be dismissed for a separate program following the Collection and the Anthem.**

For Prayer & Participation This Week

Tues, Dec. 16	6:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
	8:00 a.m.	Women Gather to Pray at Miss Sophie's Marketplace, 175 Bourne Ave., (inside Mighty 8 th Air Force Museum)
	8:30 a.m.	Church Staff Meeting, Admin. Building, upstairs
	9:30 a.m.	No Women's Bible Study
	11:00 a.m.	Pastoral Staff Meeting, Administration Building
	7:00 p.m.	No iPRIMES Bible Study tonight
	7:00 p.m.	No College Bible Study
Wed, Dec. 17	7:00 p.m.	ESL Classes, Whitaker Street Bldg., 1 st Floor
	11:45 a.m.	Noon Luncheon/Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
	6:30 p.m.	No Women's Evening Bible Study
Thur, Dec. 18	6:30 p.m.	No High School Dinner
	7:15 p.m.	No High School Fellowship
	12:00 p.m.	Dead Theologians' Society, Admin Building
Fri, Dec. 19	6:00 p.m.	Youth Christmas Party
	6:00 p.m.	College Christmas Party, Carriage House
Sat, Dec. 20	7:00 p.m.	Careers, Telfair Hall

Coming Events

Dec. 21	Service of Lessons and Carols, 5:30 p.m.; Annual Christmas Buffet
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Service, 5:30 p.m.; Church Office closed
Dec. 25	Christmas Day, Church Office closed
Dec. 28	No Sunday Evening meal

The Record of Our Faithfulness

Wednesday Noon Service 12/10/25 – 50

December 7, 2025

S. S. – 342 AM – 555 PM – 349