

Service for the Lord's Day

Idlewild Presbyterian Church First Sunday of Advent Service of Wholeness November 29, 2020 | 11:00 A.M.

HANDBELL PEAL

DAVID SCHNELL

WELCOME

THE REVEREND ANNE H.K. APPLE

PRELUDE CHORALE PRELUDE ON "PICARDY"

John Joubert (1927 – 2019)

*CALL TO ADVENT WORSHIP & CANDLE LIGHTING

THE REVEREND SARA-DORRIEN CHRISTIANS

Advent is a season of waiting.

But we do not wait alone.

God, Emmanuel, is with us.

We are children of Christ's light.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord.

We are waiting in hope.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord.

We are waiting in hope.

Strengthen our hearts in holiness, Lord.

We are waiting in hope.

We light this candle in hope.

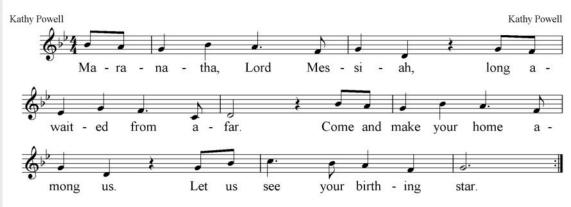
God of promise, God of peace,

into our darkness come.

Blessed be the name of the Lord forever;

May the glory of God fill the earth. Let us worship God together!

SUNG RESPONSE



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Despite COVID-19, in this season of hybrid virtual and in-person worship, Idlewild's hope is that you feel welcome and a sense of God's love through Jesus Christ.

Bold text is read or sung by the congregation.

*Asterisk indicates when to stand, if able.

***Opening Hymn No. 796** "We Come to You for Healing, Lord"





*CALL TO CONFESSION

Hymn 796: Unlike many hymns on the theme of healing, this text appropriately includes the ministry of medical personnel as instruments of God's healing activity. It also acknowledges that illness is not limited to physical symptoms, but involves mental, emotional, and spiritual dimensions.

In the presence of a holy God, we become aware of the ways we fall short of God's best hopes for us, and the ways we have hurt others. We turn to God in prayer, asking for forgiveness.

Please stand as we sing in thanksgiving for the gifts of forgiveness and new life.

Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient responses in worship. Having received Christ's peace, we pass it on.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being,

whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts:

Cleanse us from all our offenses,

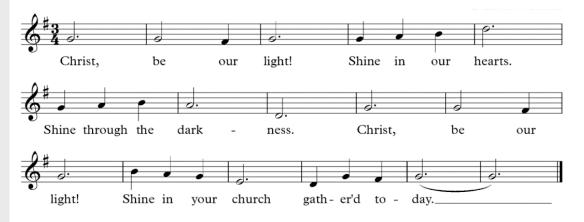
and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires,

that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you,

confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.

*Assurance of Pardon

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MARY WEST

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH ISAIAH 64: 4,8 MARJORIE REYNOLDS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

JOB 7: 11-21

JOHN PICKENS

TESTIMONY

MUSICAL REFLECTION

"For You, My God, I Wait"

PSALM 121

For you, my God, I wait with hope born of the Word. Like sleepless ones who long to dream I wait and call my Lord.

SCRIPTURE

TESTIMONY

MUSICAL REFLECTION

If you should list my faults, the sins of heart and hand, like sleepless ones who groan at dawn I know I could not stand!

SCRIPTURE

TESTIMONY

MUSICAL REFLECTION

And once my soul is still, in you I find my rest, at peace as though a child upon a gentle mother's breast. Lord, hear my pleading voice, and let me know you hear! As sleepless ones feel rest approach, I know my God is near.

BARBARA DENLEY

For even from the deep I know you hear my cries. Like sleepless ones who dream at last, I ease my weary eyes.

Luke 17:11–19

ALYCE HAYNES

O God, you are my hope; I know that you forgive. Your love redeems me from the depths so I may rise and live.

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

INTERCESSION FOR HEALING & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

REV. DORRIEN-CHRISTIANS

God, our creator, your will for us and for all your people is wholeness and salvation:

have mercy on us.

Jesus Christ, Son of God, you came that we might have life and have it in abundance:

have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, dwelling within us, you make us temples of your presence:

have mercy on us.

To the triune God, the source of all love and all life, let us offer our prayers.

A time of silence is kept after each petition.

For all who are in need of healing . . . Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Springtime

For all who are disabled by injury or illness . . . Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For all who are troubled by confusion or burdened by pain . . . Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For all whose increasing years bring weariness . . . Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For all about to undergo surgery . . . Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For all who suffer from COVID-19 . . . Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For all who live with HIV/AIDS . . . Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For all who cannot sleep . . . Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For all who practice the healing arts . . . Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen.

ANTHEM

"CREATOR OF THE STARS OF NIGHT" ARR. MALCOLM ARCHER (B. 1952)

Creator of the stars of night, The people's everlasting light, Jesu, Redeemer, save us all, And hear thy servants when they call.

At thy great name, exalted now, All knees must bend, all hearts must bow, And things in heav'n and earth shall own That thou art Lord and King alone. Thou camest, bridegroom of the bride, As drew the world to eveningtide, Proceeding from a virgin shrine, The Son of Man, yet all divine.

To God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One, Laud, honour, might and glory be From age to age eternally. Amen.

- Office Hymn

CALL FOR GIFTS, TITHES, AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God whom we adore.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



During this time of virtual worship, we invite you to continue your support of the church and her mission. Online giving is available through Realm and mailing a payment is also an option.

Today we take up a special offering for the Compassion Collection, which allows the church to honor requests for assistance with rent, utilities, prescription medication, emergency housing, etc. In the midst of a pandemic and as we head into colder months, the need is especially high. Please give generously as you are able.

Doxology literally means

"words of glory." Doxologies have long been used by Jews and Christians to praise God. We honor and thank God "from whom all blessings flow."

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Hymn 800: This is one of the few hymns rooted in what can happen during worship, and that experience gaining a spiritual insight while singing—is no less possible now than when this text was written in the 18th century. It is set here to a folk song variously labeled Irish or English. ."

SENDING HYMN NO. 800 "Sometimes a Light Surprises" SALLEY GARDENS child of God who sings; 1 Some - times a light sur - pris - es the con-tem - pla-tion we sweet-ly then pur - sue 2 In ho - ly can bring with it noth-ing but 3 It he will bear us through; fig tree nei-ther their longed-for fruit should bear, 4 Though vine nor С G С F Dm7 С С his wings; it is the Lord who ris - es with heal - ing in theme of God's sal - va - tion and find it ev - er new; the who gives the lil - ies cloth - ing will clothe his peo - ple, too; though all the fields should with - er, nor flocks nor herds be there, Em Am F Am 0. when com - forts are de - clin - ing, he grants the gain soul а free from pres - ent sor - row, we cheer - ful - ly set can say, be - neath the spread-ing heav - ens no crea - ture but fed; is vet God the same a - bid - ing, his praise shall tune my voice; С C7 Dm7 of sea - son clear shin - ing to cheer it af - ter rain. а "Let the un-known to - mor - row bring with it what it may." and he who feeds the ra - vens will give his chil - dren bread. for while in him con - fid - ing, I can - not but re - joice.

*BLESSING & CHARGE

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord be kind and gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace

Alleluia! Amen

POSTLUDE

CHORALE PRELUDE ON "VENI EMMANUEL"

"O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"

MARILYN BIERY (B. 1959)



The cover art and coloring page are provided by A Sanctified Art, LLC.

WORSHIP NOTICES

The 11:00 service is live at livestream.com/idlewild and broadcast on 96.1 FM. (Livestream apps are available for Roku and mobile devices.)

Music is printed under Onelicense.net A-702280.

VISITOR NOTICES

Welcome to our visitors! We are glad to have you join our Livestream worship.

New members are received by the Session. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to join the Idlewild family. Please call 726-4681 during the week.

For confidential prayer requests, call the prayer chain, 487-6062.

If you have a personal emergency, hospitalization, or pastoral care need, please call the church office at 726-4681. If it is after office hours or on the weekend, you may leave a confidential message (please press one to reach the voicemail box). Messages are checked regularly so that pastoral needs can be directed to the clergy.

Zoom Town Hall Next Sunday, November 29 at 12:30 p.m. Meet the candidate for Pastor and Head of Staff



ARTIST'S STATEMENTS

RESTORE US

by Lisle Gwynn Garrity Inspired by Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 | Digital Drawing

Psalms of lament, such as Psalm 80, give us permission to add our voice to the choruses of faithful outcries throughout the ages. They give us permission to be fully honest—with ourselves and with God. They give us permission to proclaim that God is powerful enough to take it—and to respond to our pleas.

Lamenting, therefore, is an act of robust faith. When we cry out to God, we name the disruption, disorientation, and disorder of our lives. We dismantle the myth that we have everything under

control. We awaken to our own pain and the suffering of others. We ask God to wake up God's power.

In this image, I drew a visual prayer of lament, grieving some of the many hardships we've collectively faced in 2020. A healthcare worker masks her son as he prepares to go into a precarious learning environment. A church building announces its closure. A crashing stock market creates a chasm through the composition. An eviction notice and a Zoom meeting loom in the background. An obituary hangs near hands testing a COVID-19 vaccine. Tears fall like rain.

While drawing this, I kept adding more and more laments. The page filled, and yet I couldn't fit it all in. As you add color to this scene, I invite you to consider your own grief. Contemplate what images you would include to compose your own visual prayer of lament.

God, wake up your power. Restore us. Let your face shine, so that we might be saved.

Cover Art

TEAR OPEN THE HEAVENS

by Lauren Wright Pittman Inspired by Isaiah 64:1-9 | Digital painting

Nothing feels more appropriate to me this year than lament. I began to study this text as I saw police and military presence forcibly end peaceful demonstrations in D.C. With tear gas and rubber bullets raining down, the crowd scattered to make way for a photo op co-opting the Word and house of God.³

"O that you would tear open the heavens and come down."

Seeing this public display of power felt like I was drifting off into a nightmare. Instead of succumbing to numbness, abdicating responsibility, and pointing a finger at God, we must keep awake. Particularly, we white people have a tremendous amount of work to do. We could curl up in our cushioned privilege and ignore this national reckoning, or we could blaze a new way. We need to stop stammering in self-justification and defense. We need to stop performative acts of allyship and resist centering ourselves.

"We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities take us away."

We hope that God will not remember our iniquity forever. We plead with God, and hope God's anger may subside. God is raging against our systems alongside those prophetic protesters entreating us to "down off the scaffolding of whiteness and join the community of Creation."⁴ In this image, the tears of humanity rise to meet God, as God's tears rain down. God weeps for Creation to be restored, for humanity to be the vessels we were designed to be—vessels of baptismal waters, of peace, of justice, of love. I pray that we allow God's tears to soften and prepare us to be molded into God's dream for Creation.

³ The artist refers to an incident that occurred in June of 2020, when President Trump posed with a bible in front of St. John's Church in D.C., using military force to clear protestors from the street.

⁴ Sharon Harper, Lisa. "White Women's Toxic Tears with Lisa Sharon Harper." For the Love podcast with Jen Hatmaker. Special Edition Series | Episode 05." jenhatmaker.com/podcast/special-edition-series/white-womens-toxic-tears-with-lisa-sharon-harper/

Poinsettia Order Form

Orders must be received by December 13 for names to be in the December 20 bulletin. You can also order online.

NAME	IN MEMORY/HONOR OF
PHONE	
E-MAIL	
Enclosed is my check for \$ (\$10 each). Designate flowers in memory or honor of, as circled below.	FROM
Circle either Memory or Honor for each name. Please attach additional sheet if needed. Please print names carefully.	
IN MEMORY/HONOR OF	IN MEMORY/HONOR OF
FROM	FROM
IN MEMORY/HONOR OF	IN MEMORY/HONOR OF
FROM	FROM

The Mission of Idlewild

The mission of Idlewild Presbyterian Church is to pursue, personify, and practice as Presbyterians the good news of reconciliation and salvation in Christ through worship, formation, nurture, and outreach.

A Vision of Idlewild
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Idlewild Presbyterian Church is a community in which
refewria (resolution of a constantly is which
1
esus Christ is the center
the mighty voice of God inspires us to love; the Spirit joyfully sustains and nurtures seekers of every age,
stage, and circumstance.
stage, and circumstance.
1 A / orship forms the core of community life;
V V prayer binds our brokenness and connects us in Christ's love to God and to one another
music, poetry, and art flourish in gratitude to our Creator,
the beauty of creation is treasured and preserved; all the members of the church are ministers.
all the memoers of the characteristics.
The focus is scripture and its meaning for today;
faith is formed and spints nourished through reflection,
practice and shared learning
the wisdom of other faith traditions is respected;
and a diverse membership enriches and unites us.
1 ustice speaks loudly and peace is our aspiration;
all voices are heard;
recreation and play are a wellspring for fellowship,
celebration, and growth;
the love of God guides our minds and spirits,
leading us to right action in our hearts, our homes,
our community, our nation, and our world,
Comments of the second s
A nd all who enter find a home.
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IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

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www.idlewildchurch.org | 901-726-4681

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MINISTERIAL AND PROGRAM STAFF

Ministers: All the members of Idlewild Presbyterian Church

For staff phone numbers and emails visit www.idlewildchurch.org or call the church.

Anne H.K. Apple

Executive Associate Pastor and Acting Head of Staff Sara Dorrien-Christians Associate Pastor Corinne Nienhuis Parish Assistant Stephen R. Haynes Theologian in Residence

Barry Oliver

Director of Music Ministry Marjorie Reynolds Director of Children's Ministry Jeanne Marie Cummings Interim Director of Youth Ministry Elizabeth H. Doolin Director of Young Adult Ministry

Jacob Pierce

Director of Re-Creation and Creative Play Ministry Shari Gross Coordinator of Nurture Unit Jenni Brooks Transitional Director of Operations & Communications