



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 31, 2025 | 10:00 A.M.

**Bold text is read
by the congregation.**

***Asterisk indicates when to
rise in body or in spirit.**

**Please sign the friendship
pad** so we may take note of
your presence and you may
greet your neighbors by
name.



Hymn No. 23: This text was
written for the 1979 National
Meeting of United
Presbyterian Women, whose
theme, "In the Image of God,"
is variously considered here
as reflection, focus,
distortion, and polishing for
clarity. The words are well
set to an anonymous 19th-
century American tune.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

GOD, YOU SPIN THE WHIRLING PLANETS

ARR. MICHAEL WARE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

WHITNEY GETMAN

Gathered to worship God,

we are all right where we belong.

Gathered to hear God's voice,

we are all invited into this space.

Gathered to live out God's hope,

we are all called to respond.

Gathered to glorify God,

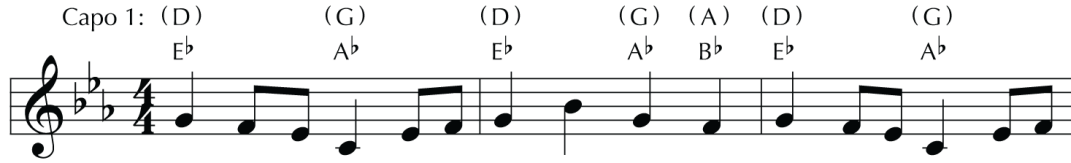
we lift our voices together in praise!

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION NO. 23

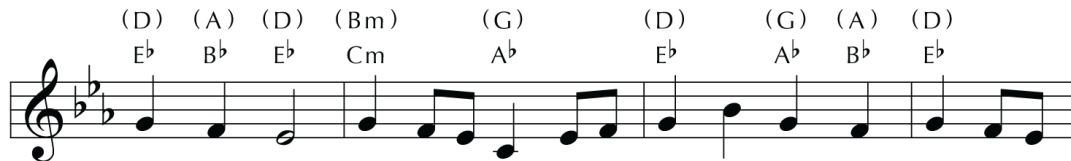
PLEADING SAVIOR

GOD, YOU SPIN THE WHIRLING PLANETS

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets 23



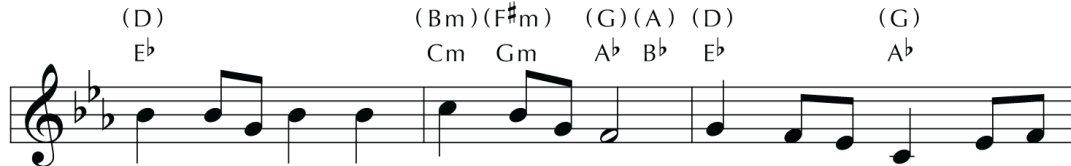
1 God, you spin the whirl-ing plan - ets, fill the seas and
 2 You have called us to be faith - ful in our life and
 3 God, your word is still cre - at - ing, call - ing us to



spread the plain, mold the moun - tains, fash - ion blos - soms, call forth
 min - is - try. We re - spond in grate - ful wor - ship joined in
 life made new. Now re - veal to us fresh vis - tas where there's



sun - shine, wind, and rain. We, cre - at - ed in your im - age,
 one com - mu - ni - ty. When we blur your gra - cious im - age,
 work to dare and do. Keep us clear of all dis - tor - tion.



would a true re - flec - tion be of your jus - tice,
 fo - cus us and make us whole. Healed and strength - ened
 Pol - ish us with lov - ing care. Thus, new crea - tures



grace, and mer - cy and the truth that makes us free.
 as your peo - ple, we move on - ward toward your goal.
 in your im - age, we'll pro - claim Christ ev - ery - where.

This text was written for the 1979 National Meeting of United Presbyterian Women, whose theme, "In the Image of God," is variously considered here as reflection, focus, distortion, and polishing for clarity. The words are well set to an anonymous 19th-century American tune.



*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

THE REVEREND JOSHUA H. NARCISSE

Holy God,

we compare ourselves with others,
working to convince ourselves that we are better.
We try to justify ourselves as more worthy,
more chosen, more deserving.
We judge one another harshly
and seek to establish our superiority
by accumulating power and positions.

Inviting God, forgive us, correct us, and shape us to follow you.

Free us to see ourselves and our neighbors truthfully.
Empower us to walk together with humble and gracious spirits.

(Silent Confession)



*RESPONSE NO. 550

GIVE PRAISE TO THE LORD

LAUDATE DOMINUM

Give praise to the Lord, and sing a new song;
a - mid all the saints God's prais - es pro - long;
a song to your Mak - er and Rul - er now raise,
all chil - dren of Zi - on: re - joice and give praise.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

REV. NARCISSE



*RESPONSE NO. 581

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

GLORIA PATRI

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the
 Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -
 gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,
 world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient responses in worship. We invite you to share a sign of peace with your neighbor.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

REV. NARCISSE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

HYMN OF GATHERING NO. 377

HOUSTON

I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT



As children come forward during the gathering hymn, you are invited to pass your quarters to the center aisle for the children to collect for their offering. Quarters are sent to the Dougbe Presbyterian River School in Liberia.

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to fol - low
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to look at
 3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ. I want to be with
 Je - sus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The
 Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness, shine on my path, and
 Je - sus. When we have run with pa-tience the race, we
Refrain
 star of my life is Je - sus.
 show me the way to the Fa - ther. In him there is no dark-ness at
 shall know the joy of Je - sus.
 all. The night and the day are both a - like. The Lamb is the
 light of the cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.



At this time, three-year-olds to kindergarteners are welcome to proceed to Worship and Wonder with an adult.



Found on page 77 of the New Testament in your pew Bible.



Today's Affirmation of Faith is from the Theological Declaration of Barmen.



TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

WHITNEY GETMAN

THE 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.

SHARING THE LIFE AND MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

REV. NARCISSE

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

REV. NARCISSE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

LUKE 14:1, 7-11

SERMON

LIVING FOR THE LIMELIGHT

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE REVEREND MARY NEWBERG GALE

As Jesus Christ is God's assurance
of the forgiveness of all our sins,
so in the same way and with the same seriousness
is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life.
Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance
from the godless fetters of this world
for a free, grateful service to his creatures.
We reject the false doctrine,
as though there were areas of our life
in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ,
but to other lords—areas in which we would not need
justification and sanctification through him. Amen.

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

FORREST SABLE

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

REV. GALE



During this time, we invite you to continue your support of the church and her mission. Online giving is available through Realm or through the mail. Those in the sanctuary may place their offering in the plate as it is passed.



Hymn No. 769: 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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

REV. GALE

OFFERTORY

NOW LET US ALL PRAISE GOD AND SING
SUMMER CHOIR

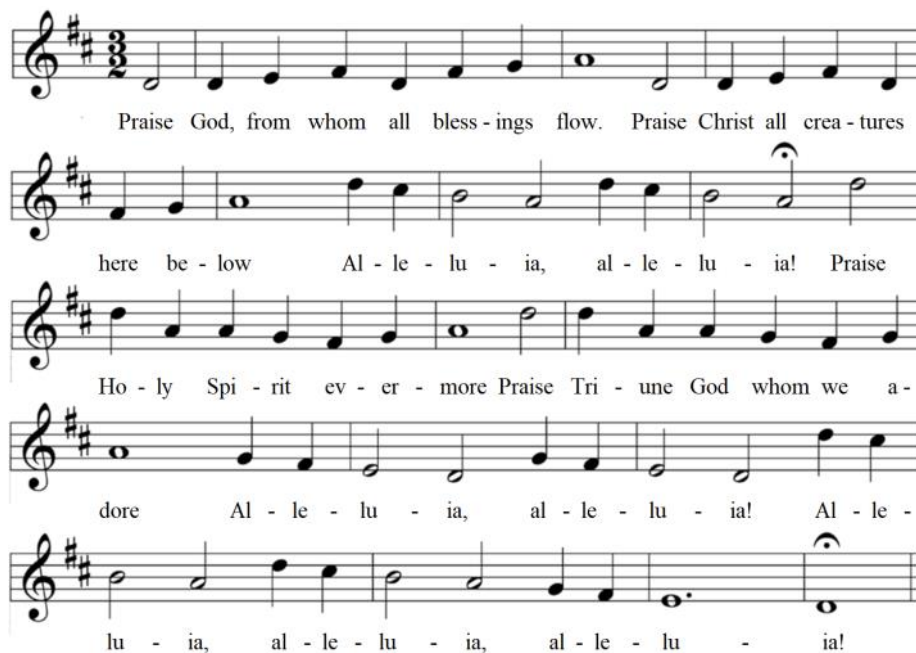
GORDON YOUNG

Now let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise,
that we may all with one accord our joyful voices raise.
Sing Alleluia! All ye servants of the Lord, praise Him forever,
sing Jehovah's mighty power, praise Him forever.
Sing of His righteousness, praise Him forever.
So let us all praise God and sing!

*RESPONSE

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

REV. GALE

SEND IN GOD'S SPIRIT

*HYMN OF SENDING NO. 769

FOR EVERYONE BORN

FOR EVERYONE BORN

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

REV. NARCISSE

POSTLUDE

THE REJOICING

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

769

For Everyone Born



1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,
 for just and un - just, a new way to live,
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

Refrain

and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and



joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,



God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,



jus - tice and joy!

WELCOME NOTICES

Welcome to Idlewild! We are glad to have you join us for worship. If you are new to Idlewild, it is our prayer that you will experience the presence of God while you are here. At Idlewild, it is our hope that all who enter find a home.

Children are always welcome in worship. In addition, childcare for children newborns—3 years is available in the Jones Building in Room 306. Children of all ages are invited to pick up a worship packet in the main hallway that can be utilized to enhance their worship experience. During the sanctuary service there is a special Time with the Younger Church.



After, children ages 3 years— kindergarten may go to Worship and Wonder on the third floor of the Jones building. **If you would like your child to attend Worship and Wonder, registration is required** once each semester by scanning the QR code. Parents pick-up children from Worship and Wonder following the conclusion of worship.

New members are received by the Session. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to join the Idlewild family. Connect with a Pastor after worship.

Prayer requests are prayed daily by the Community Prayer Ministry Team and the Confidential Prayer Partners. If your prayers are confidential, you may call (901-487-6062) or submit them by email to confidentialprayers@idlewildchurch.org. Otherwise, you can fill out a Community Prayer Request card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate or submit them by email to communityprayer@idlewildchurch.org.

If you have a hospitalization, or pastoral care need, please call or text (901) 654-6872. The Pastor on Call will respond as soon as possible. You can also email pastor@idlewildchurch.org.

WORSHIP NOTICES

The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in gratitude for Jessica Demster's faithful service among us the past 3.5 years.

Sanctuary flowers are given in honor, celebration, or in appreciation of those we love. We appreciate your generosity in providing flowers to adorn our sanctuary for Sunday services. If you are interested in donating, find the registration page at idlewildchurch.org/flower-dedication.

The 10:00 service is live at youtube.com/@idlewild.church/streams. As always, worship is available by way of the radio on AM560, 96.1FM, or 98.5FM. **Music is printed** under Onelicense.net **A-702280**.

NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

8:30 AM - CHAPEL SERVICE
11:00 AM - SANCTUARY SERVICE

♦ *this week in print* ♦

Church-Wide

Kickoff Sunday: On Sunday, September 7, we return to two services and celebrate the start of a new programmatic year at Idlewild! Here is the schedule for the morning:

8:30 am - Worship in the Chapel

9:40 am - Everyone gathers in the sanctuary for our Kickoff Celebration!

10:00 am - Sunday School for adults, children, and youth

11:00 am - Worship in the Sanctuary & Online

12:00 pm - Lunch & Ministry Fair in the Gym - Learn how you can get involved at Idlewild this fall.

Adult Ministry

Men's Breakfast (Tuesdays - 9 am - Montgomery Hall): This group is small enough to allow for significant dialogue among participants but also large enough to allow for only contemplative participation. We are currently studying the epistle of 1 John.

The Art of Reading (Tuesdays at 2 pm, Room 303): Lucie Bridgforth and Mary Lovell have designed a study which will alternate between a significant volume of American history and fiction pieces that align with it. Come back, come again, bring a friend!

Building Beloved Community: Frank Conversations about Race and Faith: The Presbytery will be offering a book study, a Sacred Ground Class, and a Signposts group over the course of the fall. Please reach out to Pastor Mary if you are interested in more information.

Caregivers Support Group (Tuesday, September 2, Parlor, 5 pm): Are you a primary caregiver or know someone who is providing care to loved ones and family? The Caregivers support group, gathers monthly to learn more about resources available and provide support and community. To learn more, contact Jenny Nevels at (901) 268-4690.

Wisdom Then and Now: From Embers to Fire (September 24-26): You're invited to an Ecumenical Memphis Pilgrimage exploring racial justice and beloved community, featuring morning sessions with Dr. Catherine Meeks, worship, and visits to historic racial justice sites. You can see a tentative schedule and register at the link below.

Outreach

MICAH Public Meeting (Sunday, September 14, 4-6pm, Christ Missionary Baptist Church): This once-a-year meeting is an opportunity to hold public officials accountable for issues important to Memphis. Our community's voice is critical to show civic leaders that we care about our city.

Fellowship and Recreation

Open Mahjong Play: Sign up at idlewildchurch.org/fellowship-and-recreation.

Youth Ministry

Youth Group Kickoff Party (Sunday, September 7, 5:30 -7:30 pm): Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for inflatables and games in the gym. Bring a friend!

Music Ministry

The Memphis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will present concert organist Gail Archer in "Concert for Peace - Music for Organ by Ukrainian and Russian Composers" in the Idlewild sanctuary on Monday evening, September 8 at 7:30. The concert is free and open to the public.



Registrations, sign-ups, and other relevant links:
www.idlewildchurch.org/calendar.

A Vision of Idlewild

Idlewild Presbyterian Church is a community in which ...

Jesus 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.

Worship forms the core of community life;
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.

The focus is scripture and its meaning for today;
faith is formed and spirits nourished through reflection,
practice and shared learning;
the wisdom of other faith traditions is respected;
and a diverse membership enriches and unites us.

Justice 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,

And all who enter find a home.



IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
www.idlewildchurch.org | 901-726-4681



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.

David J. Powers
Pastor and Head of Staff
Mary Newberg Gale
*Associate Pastor for
Adult Formation & Care*
Joshua H. Narcisse
Parish Associate

Gary Beard
Interim Director of Music Ministry
Whitney Getman
Director of Children's Ministry
Stephen R. Haynes
Theologian in Residence
Corinne Nienhuis
Parish Associate Emeritus

Jacob Pierce
Director of Fellowship & Recreation
Shari Gross
Coordinator of Fellowship & Recreation
Anna McCraey
Director of Communications
Amanda Kohr
Accounting & Generosity Coordinator