



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 28, 2025 | 8:30 AND 11:00 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. 305: This text was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Bicentennial Committee for the 1988–1989 observance, which had the theme “Celebrate the Journey.” The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) is appropriately celebratory.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

SPIRITUAL; ARR. JOEL RANEY

NOAH LIVINGSTON, FLUTE SOLOIST

*CALL TO WORSHIP (8:30) (11:00)

THE REVEREND MARY NEWBERG GALE
WHITNEY GETMAN

Come into God's presence with gladness!

**The Spirit brings light into our darkness,
hope to our sadness, joy to our mourning.**

Come into God's presence with singing!

**Christ's love brings faith to our doubt,
promise to our uncertainty.**

Come into God's presence with joy!

We come, seeking God's new way of life.

Let us worship God,

our creator, redeemer, and sustainer.

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION NO. 305

COME SING, O CHURCH, IN JOY!

DARWALL'S 148TH

305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
 2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns su - preme,
 3 Let cour - age be our friend; let wis - dom be our guide,
 4 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the a - ges long!
 em - power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream!
 as we in mis - sion mag - ni - fy the Cru - ci - fied!
 For Christ the Lord has tri - umphed o'er the a - ges long!

In bold ac - cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney now and praise the Lord!

This text was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Bicentennial Committee for the 1988–1989 observance, which had the theme “Celebrate the Journey.” The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) is appropriately celebratory.



***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (8:30)
(11:00)

McCOVEY HENSON
WHITNEY GETMAN

Holy God, you call us to change our hearts and lives, to return to you.

So often we like the way things are,
and we aren't sure what changing our way
and following you would mean.

In Christ, you promise new life for all,

but sometimes we decide who is good and who is bad,
closing off your love for ourselves and others.

Your Spirit calls us to seek your heart,
to allow ourselves to be born anew.

So often we live in the literal meaning of your words,
rather than letting the spirit of your word live in us.

Come and dwell within us, Holy One
and transform us from the inside out.

(Silent Confession)



***RESPONSE NO. 591** HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH!

HALLE, HALLE

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le - lu - jah!

Fine

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (8:30)
(11:00)

REV. GALE
WHITNEY GETMAN



*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

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!



HYMN OF GATHERING NO. 652 (11:00)

ROCKINGHAM

A GRATEFUL HEART

1 A grate - ful heart is what I bring, a song of
2 Your name is known in all the lands. You feed the
3 With sav - ing love you set us free, and still you
praise, my of - fer - ing. A - mong the saints I
poor with gen - tle hands. Your word is true, your
dwell in mys - ter - y with wis - dom none can
lift my voice: in you, O God, I will re - joice.
works are just; in you, O God, the faith - ful trust.
com - pre - hend. Your praise, O God, will nev - er end.

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.



TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH (11:00)

WHITNEY GETMAN

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING THE LIFE AND MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

REV. GALE

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



*Found on page 44 of the
New Testament in your pew
Bible.*



*The Affirmation of Faith this
morning is from the Iona
Community Creed.*



PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

REV. GALE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

MARK 9:14-27

SERMON

FAITH AND CERTAINTY

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (8:30)

REV. GALE

(11:00)

JOHN JONES

We believe that God is present
in the darkness before dawn;

**in the waiting and uncertainty
where fear and courage join hands,**

conflict and caring link arms,
and the sun rises over barbed wire.

**We believe in a with-us God
who sits down in our midst
to share our humanity.**

We affirm a faith
that takes us beyond a safe place:
into action, into vulnerability,
and onto the streets.

**We commit ourselves to work for change
and put ourselves on the line;
to bear responsibility, take risks,
live powerfully,
and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge;
to choose life and be used by the Spirit
for God's new community of hope.**

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

KRISTIN FOX-TRAUTMAN

SAMARITAN COUNSELING CENTER



ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS (11:00)

REV. GALE AND
JOHN JONES

DEACONS

ELDER

FARLEY EZEKIEL
STEVE TURNER

CHALMERS VALENTINE

There are different gifts,

But the same spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God

But the same Lord who is served.

God works through different people in different ways,

But it is the same God who achieves God's purpose through them all.

Each one is given a gift by the Spirit,

To use it for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ,

And individually members of him.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES (8:30)
(11:00)

MCCOVEY HENSON
JOHN JONES

OFFERTORY (8:30)

ARIOSO

J. S. BACH

(11:00)

WRITE YOUR BLESSED NAME
THE CHANCEL CHOIR

K. LEE SCOTT

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.



Write your blessed name, o Lord, upon my heart, there to remain indelibly engraved
that no prosperity, that no adversity shall ever move me from your love.
Be to me a strong tower of defense, a comforter in tribulation, a deliverer in distress, and a
faithful guide to the courts of heaven through the many temptations and dangers of this life.
O Jesu, my only Savior! Amen.



*RESPONSE

PRaise GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise Christ all crea - tures
here be - low Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise
Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more Praise Tri - une God whom we a -
dore Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (8:30)

McCOVEY HENSON

(11:00)

JOHN JONES

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (8:30)

REV. GALE



SEND IN GOD'S SPIRIT

*HYMN OF SENDING No. 691

LAND OF REST

LORD, WHEN I CAME INTO THIS LIFE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

REV. GALE

POSTLUDE

AIRE

GEORG PHILIPP TELEMANN

Hymn No. 691: Written for the confirmation of the author's son, this text of self-dedication also voices our recurring individual need to recommit ourselves in less formal ways. The familiar shape note tune enhances a sense of finding our place among God's people from all times and places.

Lord, When I Came into This Life 691

1 Lord, when I came in - to this life you
 2 With - in the cir - cle of the faith, as
 3 In all the ten - sions of my life, be -
 4 So help me in my un - be - lief and

called me by my name; to - day I come, com -
 mem - ber of your cast, I take my place with
 tween my faith and doubt, let your great Spir - it
 let my life be true: feet firm - ly plant - ed

mit my - self, re - spond - ing to your claim.
 all the saints of fu - ture, pres - ent, past.
 give me hope, sus - tain me, lead me out.
 on the earth, my sights set high on you.

Written for the confirmation of the author's son, this text of self-dedication also voices our recurring individual need to recommit ourselves in less formal ways. The familiar shape note tune enhances a sense of finding our place among God's people from all times and places.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1976

MUSIC: American folk melody; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

Text © 1979 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

Music Harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

LAND OF REST

CM

(alternate harmonization, 545)

♦ *this week in print* ♦

Church-Wide



Growing in Gratitude: During generosity season, we look to the year ahead and dream together about what God will author. We need everyone who calls Idlewild home, who values her mission and presence in the community, to dedicate themselves to generously supporting the ministries of the church. Make your 2026 commitment by filling out a Growing in Gratitude card, found in your pew, or visit idlewildchurch.org/commit.

Blessing of the Animals (October 5 | 5 pm | Sanctuary): Bring your beloved animal friends to Idlewild's sanctuary for a special worship service and blessing. We are also hosting a food and supply drive for local animal shelters. Bring donations of dog or cat food/supplies to the service with you or drop them off at the front desk by October 12.

Adult Ministry

Hope Women's Pop-Up Group (October 7, 14, 21, 28 at 4:30 pm in the Parlor): Our book for October is *Discovering Christianity: A Guide for the Curious* by Rowan Williams. The book explores vital questions at the heart of Christianity and encourages "doing theology" through scripture, tradition, and reasoning. Sometimes we think of theology as something lofty, but, really, it's about expanding — or maybe rediscovering — our faith. Please join the Hope Group in October as we grow in faith and community!

Presbyterian Women's Circles: Four Circles will be studying the Horizon series, "Finding, Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ," beginning in October:

Rebekah—October 7 at 10:00 am at Mary Lou McCaa's home, 5394 Collingwood Cove

Lydia Ruth—October 7 at 10:30 am in the Idlewild Resource Room

Abigail—October 7 at 12:00 pm at Karen Matthew's home, 238 S. Reese Street

Mary Magdalene—October 14 at 12:00 pm in the church Parlor

IdleWILD Women will continue its book, "The Sin of Certainty" by Peter Inns, October 7 at 7:00 pm at the Child and Family Enrichment Center (CAFE) House at 28 S Evergreen.

Caregivers Support Group (Tuesday, October 7 - Resource Room - 5 pm): Are you a primary caregiver or know someone who is providing care to loved ones and family? We'd love for you to join us at our monthly Caregivers Support Group. Each month we gather to learn more about resources available and to provide support and community for caregivers. To learn more, please reach out to Jenny Nevels ((901) 268-4690).

Join the Standing Committee on Anti-Racism during the October 1st Woven Together Wednesday as we explore, in a group discussion format, the two of the sermons that were highlighted through the Racial History Timeline that was shared this spring. Moderated by committee members Forrest Sable and Paul Shifflet, we will read and contemplate two sermons by Rev. Dr. Paul Tudor Jones on Wednesday, October 1st at 6pm in Room 304. These are the sermons we plan to discuss. We look forward to continuing this work together.

Fellowship and Recreation

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

Community and Connection at the Metal Museum Whet Thursday (September 25, 5-8pm): Join us this Thursday at 901 on the Bluff - Free entry into the museum, Food and drink available for purchase, and live music.

Outreach Ministry

The Care Closet provides essential items such as toiletries and clothing to neighbors in need. Support by donating gently used clothes to the front desk or through our Amazon List, which you can find at the link below.

Room in the Inn (Thursdays in November - March): Idlewild partners with Room in the Inn to host women in need of shelter, offering dinner, access to showers, a secure and comfortable place to sleep, and breakfast the following morning. Volunteer opportunities are available for individuals of all ages to serve and support this ministry. Sign up to volunteer at the link below.



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

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 153. 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

Noah Livingston is flute soloist today, and also cantor in the Chapel Service. Our guest musicians are funded by The Cannon Music Trust at Idlewild Presbyterian Church.

The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Griff and Bede Burr, by their family.

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 11:00 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**.



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

