



# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SEPTEMBER 7, 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. 761:** This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

## GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE (8:30)  
(11:00)

CROMORNE SUR LA TAILLE  
ADAGIO CANTABILE

FRANCOIS COUPERIN  
GIUSEPPE TARTINI

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

THE REVEREND MARY NEWBERG GALE  
THE REVEREND JOSHUA H. NARCISSE

Beloved, today we gather at the threshold of a new season;  
a season of fresh beginnings, new commitments, and renewed discipleship.

**We come, trusting the Spirit who called the first disciples  
to worship, to study, and to serve.**

In Acts, the church discovered that God's mission  
was bigger than any one task or person.  
The Spirit raised up new leaders, new ministries,  
and new ways to share the gospel.

**We believe that same Spirit is at work in us,  
opening doors for worship, learning, and service.**

Come, then, people of God. Christ is calling us again  
to reengage our hearts and lives.

**We come with joy and expectation. By God's grace, let us begin again!**

\*HYMN OF CELEBRATION NO. 761

BEECHER

CALLED AS PARTNERS IN CHRIST'S SERVICE

# Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,  
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,  
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life

we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
 let us fol-low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.  
 help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.  
 that sur-round each per - son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,  
 Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo - ple, young and old,  
 Words of com - fort, words of vi - sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,  
 Make us part-ners in our liv - ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,

e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.  
 blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth - er gra-cious gifts from God un - fold.  
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.  
 mes - sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.



## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

REV. GALE

Gracious and renewing God,  
you call us to fresh starts and faithful service,  
but we confess that we often grow weary, distracted, or discouraged.

**We cling to old habits, resist new callings,  
and forget that your mercy makes all things new.  
Forgive us, Lord.**

Turn our hearts once more to Christ,  
who is our beginning and our end.

**By your Spirit, reawaken our worship,  
renew our desire to learn,  
and restore our passion to serve,  
for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ,  
who makes all things new.**

*(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. GALE



*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.



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.

## \*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

REV. GALE

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

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 123 of the New Testament in your pew Bible.*



*The Apostles' Creed may originally have been a baptismal creed. While it is stated in the singular, it is meant to be used corporately. In saying it together we are united with the faithful of the church from all ages.*

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH (11:00)

WHITNEY GETMAN

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

## SHARING THE LIFE AND MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

THE REVEREND DAVID J. POWERS

# PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

REV. POWERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON

ACTS 6:1-7

SERMON

CONTINUING, INCREASING OBEDIENCE

SILENT REFLECTION

# RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (8:30)

REV. GALE

(11:00)

REV. NARCISSE

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.



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.



## OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

REV. GALE

OFFERTORY (8:30)

LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

ARR. MOSES HOGAN

(11:00)

PSALM 150

CESAR FRANCK

CHANCEL CHOIR

Hallelujah! O praise ye the Lord in His sanctuary;  
praise ye the Lord in the firmament of His power.

Praise ye Him for His mighty acts, praise ye Him according to His majesty.  
Praise ye Him with the sound of the trumpet, praise ye Him with the psaltery and harp.

Praise ye Him with the timbrel, praise ye Him with the dance,  
praise ye Him with the organ and stringed instruments.

Praise ye Him upon the loud cymbals, praise ye Him upon the high sounding cymbals.

Let everything that hath breath praise ye the Lord, yea, praise ye the Lord. Hallelujah!

### \*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

REV. GALE



**Hymn No. 697:** This hymn of consecration radiates from the repeated word “take,” resulting in a remarkably full survey of a person’s attributes and possessions and giving weight to the “all” at the end. The composer of the tune was influential in the renewal of Reformed hymnody in French.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (8:30)

REV. POWERS AND REV. GALE

(11:00) REV. POWERS AND REV. NARCISSE

## WORDS OF INVITATION

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

...great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

...all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

VOLUNTARY (11:00)

VOCALISE

SERGEI RACHMANINOFF

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

# SEND IN GOD’S SPIRIT

\*HYMN OF SENDING NO. 697

HENDON

TAKE MY LIFE

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

REV. POWERS

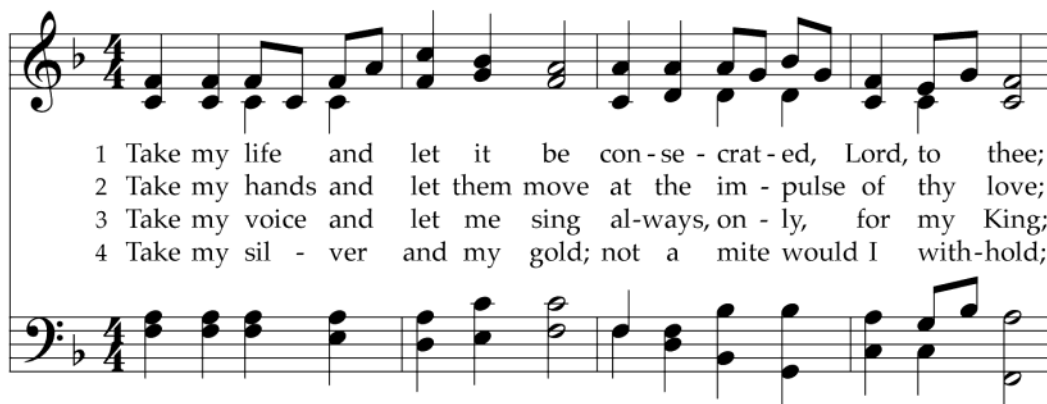
POSTLUDE

TOCCATA IN G

THEODORE DUBOIS

## Take My Life

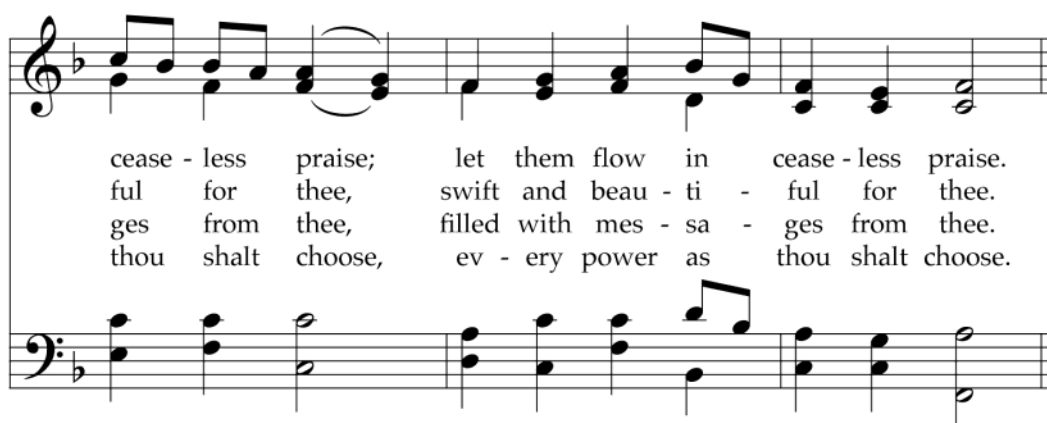
697



1 Take my life and let it be con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al-ways, on - ly, for my King;  
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would I with-hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in  
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti -  
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -  
 take my in - tel - lect and use ev - ery power as



cease - less praise; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 ful for thee, swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
 ges from thee, filled with mes - sa - ges from thee.  
 thou shalt choose, ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;  
 it shall be no longer mine.  
 Take my heart, it is thine own;  
 it shall be thy royal throne,  
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
 at thy feet its treasure store;  
 take myself and I will be  
 ever, only, all for thee,  
 ever, only, all for thee.

This hymn of consecration radiates from the repeated word "take," resulting in a remarkably full survey of a person's attributes and possessions and giving weight to the "all" at the end. The composer of the tune was influential in the renewal of Reformed hymnody in French.



# ♦ *this week in print* ♦

## 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!

**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.

**Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering** (September 27, 11 am—1 pm): Please join the Presbyterian Women of Idlewild for their Fall Gathering. We will enjoy fellowship, learning, sharing, and a delicious lunch. Register on Realm or by emailing Barbara Key, [bwkey@comcast.net](mailto:bwkey@comcast.net), by September 18. The cost is \$20.00

**Presbyterian Women Circles** are excited about this year's studies! **IdleWILD Women** began the book, "The Sin of Certainty" by Peter Inns. **Hope Pop-Up Circle** will be discussing "Discovering Christianity: a Guide for the Curious," by Rowan Williams and will meet in the church Parlor from 4:30-5:30 each Tuesday in October (7, 14, 21, and 28). 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 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 am at Karen Matthew's home, 238 S. Reese Street

**Mary Magdalene:** October 14 at 12 pm in the Idlewild Parlor

## 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. We will carpool in the church van (meet at Idlewild at 3 pm). If you're interested in riding the van please email [maryloumccaa@msn.com](mailto:maryloumccaa@msn.com).

## Fellowship and Recreation

**Open Mahjong Play:** Sign up at [idlewildchurch.org/fellowship-and-recreation](http://idlewildchurch.org/fellowship-and-recreation).

## Youth Ministry

**Youth Group Kickoff Party** (TODAY, 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:pastor@idlewildchurch.org).

## WORSHIP NOTICES

**Marisa Polesky**, associate concertmaster of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, is violinist in the Sanctuary service. Our guest artists are funded by The Cannon Trust in Music at Idlewild Church.

**Joe Lackie** is cantor in the Chapel service this morning.

**The sanctuary flowers** for today's Kickoff Sunday are given to the glory of God and with gratitude and love to our Idlewild family for the 26 years of shared spiritual formation, service and fellowship by Mary, Stephen, Matthew and Lizzy McIntosh.

**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](http://idlewildchurch.org/flower-dedication).

**The 11:00 service** is live at [youtube.com/@idlewild.church/streams](https://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**.

## MINISTERIAL AND PROGRAM STAFF

Ministers: All the members of Idlewild Presbyterian Church

For staff phone numbers and emails visit [www.idlewildchurch.org](http://www.idlewildchurch.org) or call the church.



IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)  
[www.idlewildchurch.org](http://www.idlewildchurch.org) | 901-726-4681



**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*