



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
COMMITMENT SUNDAY
OCTOBER 26, 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. 35: This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1–6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

TOCCATA ALL'OFFERTORIO

DOMENICO ZIPOLI

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

THE REVEREND DAVID J. POWERS
THE REVEREND MARY NEWBERG GALE

We come before God, not as masters of our own making,
but as stewards of mysteries too deep for words.

In gratitude, we offer ourselves to the One who gives all things.

**God's Spirit is at work within us, growing gratitude,
nurturing faith, and shaping us for service.**

Come, let us worship the Lord, whose light reveals what is true
and whose mercy makes us whole.

**With thankful hearts, we worship the God
who entrusts us with every good gift.**

***HYMN OF CELEBRATION NO. 35**

PRAISE YE THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

LOBE DEN HERREN

35 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly
 3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so
 dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with

health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his
 gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

tem - ple draw near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1-6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.



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

REV. GALE
THE REVEREND ERIN FARRY

God of grace, you have called us
to be servants of Christ and stewards of your mysteries.

**Yet too often we forget that all we have is yours.
We treat your gifts as our own possessions.**

You ask us to be found trustworthy in small things and great.

Yet we are quick to measure worth by success, comfort, or recognition.

You call us to commit our lives—
our time, our talent, and our treasure—to your work.

Yet we hold back, fearing scarcity instead of trusting your abundance.

Forgive us, Lord. Uproot our pride and anxiety.

**Nurture in us generous hearts that reflect your grace.
Restore to us the peace of trusting
and the freedom of serving you with gladness.**

(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
REV. FARRY



*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 (8:30)

(11:00)

REV. GALE

CAROLINE GETMAN

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!



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.

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.



Baptism is one of the two sacraments of the Presbyterian Church (USA). In response to the grace of God, who calls us to be the people of God, we welcome children and adults into the fellowship of faith.

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



Found on page 168 of the New Testament in your pew Bible.



Today's Affirmation of Faith is from The Iona Community Creed.

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH (11:00)

WHITNEY GETMAN

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00)

REV. POWERS

ELEANOR LUCILLE KNIGHT

SHARING THE LIFE AND MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

REV. POWERS

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

REV. POWERS

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 4:1-5

SERMON

GROWING IN GRATITUDE - THE STEWARDS

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (8:30)

REV. GALE

(11:00)

REV. FARRY

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.**



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 & COMMITMENTS (8:30) (11:00)

REV. GALE
REV. POWERS

OFFERTORY (8:30) WHAT SHALL I GIVE THEE, MASTER (11:00) GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN

ARR. OVID YOUNG

JOHN IRELAND

THE CHANCEL CHOIR; JACQUELENE COOPER, SOPRANO SOLOIST

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it.

Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this,
that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who his own self bare our sins
in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sin should live unto righteousness.

Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation;
that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness
into His marvelous light! I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God,
that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God,
which is your reasonable service.

*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!



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.

*LITANY OF COMMITMENT

REV. POWERS AND REV. GALE

Gracious God, you have entrusted to us
the mysteries of your grace and the work of your kingdom.

**We give thanks for every gift, every blessing,
every breath that comes from you.**

Today we bring our commitments for the year to come—
signs of our faith, hope, and gratitude.

**Accept these commitments
as the fruit of your Spirit growing within us.**

As we dedicate our time, our talents, and our treasure,

Grow in us a deeper trust that you will provide all we need.

Make us faithful stewards of your abundance,
joyful partners in your mission,
and humble servants of Christ.

Let our giving bear witness to your goodness and grace.

For all that has been, we give thanks.

For all that will be, we trust in you.

In gratitude and faith, we commit ourselves anew to your service, O God.

**May our lives be a harvest of thanksgiving,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (8:30)

REV. POWERS AND REV. GALE

SEND IN GOD’S SPIRIT

*HYMN OF SENDING NO. 697

HENDON

TAKE MY LIFE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

REV. POWERS

POSTLUDE

TOCCATA

GORDON YOUNG

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 ♦

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.

Adult Ministry

Introducing Idlewild - New Member Class (November 2-23, Room 305): Explore the essentials of the Reformed Tradition, the roots of Presbyterianism, and the history of Idlewild. Together, we will learn the meaning of membership and how we are called to engage in the life of the church.

Sacred, Secular, Syncopated: Theology & the Music of Kendrick Lamar (November 6, 6:30 - 9 pm, Atrium on Overton Square): Curious about faith in popular culture? Join the 2025 Barth House Theological Society Fall Lecture featuring Femi Olutade—theologian and lead writer for the Dissect podcast's exploration of Kendrick Lamar's discography. Femi will guide attendees through a theological journey exploring holiness, justice, and prophetic critique in Kendrick Lamar's music. Whether you're a hip-hop fan or simply interested in fresh perspectives on spirituality, this lecture promises to challenge and inspire.

The Art of Reading Tuesdays - 2 pm Room 303: On October 28th we will begin our discussion of *Prisoners of Hope: A Tale of Colonial Virginia* by Mary Johnston We'd love for you to join us!

PW Circles meet Tuesday, November 4:

IdleWILD Women will meet at CAFE House, 28 S Evergreen, at 7:00 pm.

Rebekah will meet at Joyce Webber's home, 6812 Stout Road, 38119, at 10:00 am.

Lydia Ruth will meet at the church in the Mary Magdalene will meet in the church parlor at 10:30 am.

Mary Magdalene will meet at noon in the church parlor.

Abigail will meet at noon in the Harlan room at the church. Members will brown bag their lunch.

Fellowship and Recreation

Halloween Carnival (October 29, 5:15-7:15 pm): Our annual Halloween Carnival is just around the corner, and we need your help to make it a sweet success! We're asking for candy donations and treats for the cake walk. Please drop off your candy donations in the collection bins located in the church lobby by October 28th.

All Saints' Day Potluck and Pottery and Craft Sale (Sunday, November 2, after worship): Join us for our All Saints Day Potluck! You will also have an opportunity to purchase pottery and other crafts to benefit the Idlewild Pottery Studio. We will have fried chicken, green beans, and mac & cheese. Bring a favorite dish to share as we enjoy fellowship together and honor the saints who have gone before us. Additionally, 1750 Arts invites you to bring photos or memorabilia of loved ones—the "saints" who have gone before us. We'll take time to honor their memory and celebrate the lasting impact they've had on our lives.

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

Save the Date: Our Annual Pottery Sale is Sunday, November 2 during the All Saints' Potluck (after worship)!

Outreach Ministry

Samaritan Counseling Center Lunch and Learn: What Do the Lonely Do at Christmas? (Wednesday, November 5, 12-1 pm, Montgomery Hall): The holiday season is often painted as a time of joy and togetherness, yet for many, it magnifies feelings of loneliness, abandonment, and isolation. How do we process these emotions while maintaining our peace and sanity, especially when the need for community and connection is so deeply ingrained in us? This talk explores the reality of loneliness through a spiritual lens, leaning into the truth that even Jesus experienced feelings of abandonment. Speaker: Rev. Dr. Christopher Davis, Sr., President, LeMoyne-Owen College.



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

John Sanborn is the cantor in this morning's Chapel service.

The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God in celebration of the marriage of Albert McLemore Alexander and Elisabeth Patterson Stockley.

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. Each week

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

