



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 30, 2026 | 10:00 A.M.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

PASTICCIO (ORGAN BOOK, No. 10)

JEAN LANGLAIS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

THE REVEREND DAVID POWERS

Gather before the God whose grace flows like water.

We come from different places and different stories, gathered by one Love.

God meets us in our differences and draws us into community.

Where there is distance, God makes a way toward one another.

Where there is division, God invites us toward healing and hope.

With open hearts and grateful spirits,
let us worship the God who gathers us together.

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION No. 401

HERE IN THIS PLACE

GATHER US IN



Hymn No. 401: The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

Here in This Place

Gather Us In

1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,
 van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;
 brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.
 Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and
 blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,
 we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.



*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

THE REVEREND MARY NEWBERG GALE

God of mercy, you have created us in beautiful difference
and called us into one human family.

**Yet we too often fear what we do not know
and keep our distance from those we do not understand.**

We cling to old assumptions, rehearse old injuries,
and allow differences to become division.

We listen for what confirms us rather than for what might change us.

Forgive us when we build barriers where you are making a way.

**Give us courage to listen, humility to learn,
and grace to cross the distance between us.**

By your Spirit, make us a community of healing and hope.

And teach us to love one another as you have loved us.

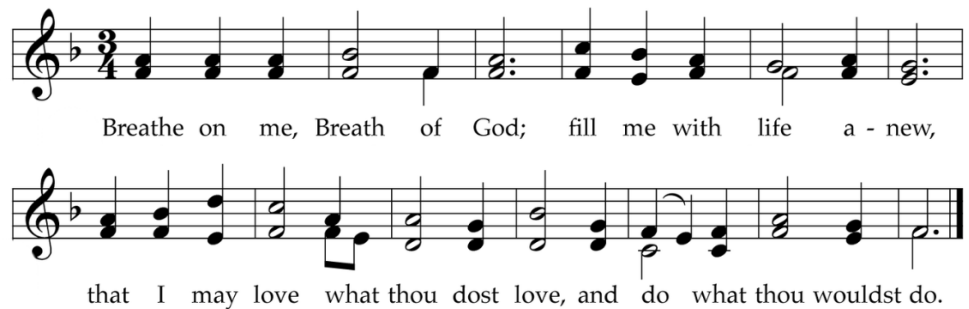
(Silent Confession)



*RESPONSE NO. 286

BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD

TRENTHAM



*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

REV. GALE



*RESPONSE NO. 581

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

GLORIA PATRI



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.



Hymn No. 409: We will sing verses 1 and 3.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

RIVERS WITTE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

HYMN OF GATHERING No. 409

GOD IS HERE!

ABBOT'S LEIGH



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an



of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in
life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,
Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and
age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful



full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.
font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.
wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.



Here, as in the world a - round us, all our
Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in
Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in
Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we



var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing
si - lence, as in speech, here, in new - ness
wor - ship to ex - plore what it means in
have to give, re - ceive: we, who can - not



of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!



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

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



Found on page 225 of the New Testament in your pew Bible.



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

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

REV. POWERS

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. POWERS

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

REV. POWERS

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

HEBREWS 11:1-6

CATHERINE MEEKS

SERMON

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

SAGE SCOTT-JAMISON

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.

This morning's offertory anthem is a remarkable expression of faith born of grief. The author, an active Presbyterian layman who had just lost four daughters in a tragic shipwreck, wrote it while sailing to Paris to meet his wife, who had survived. The tune was named for the ship that sank.



PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

REV. GALE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

SAGE SCOTT-JAMISON

OFFERTORY

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL
THE SUMMER CHOIR

VILLE DE HAVRE; ARR. JOHN NESS BECK

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.
My sin, O the joy of this glorious thought,
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more:
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul.
It is well, with my soul.
And Lord haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll:
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend,
"Even so" it is well with my soul.
It is well, with my soul.

*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

SAGE SCOTT-JAMISON



Hymn No. 314: By blending biblical images and current vignettes in the present tense, this hymn connects Christ's promise that he is the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) and his charge to his followers to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). This is part of the church's servant calling.

SEND IN GOD'S SPIRIT

*HYMN OF SENDING No. 314

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

LONGING FOR LIGHT, WE WAIT IN DARKNESS

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

REV. POWERS

POSTLUDE

THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD (PSALM 19)

BENEDETTO MARCELLO

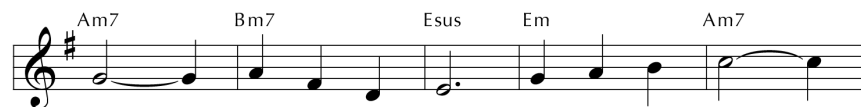
THE CHURCH

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness 314

Christ, Be Our Light



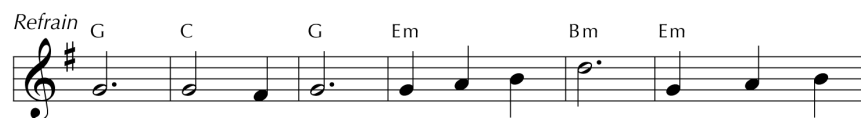
1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
4 Long-ing for shel - ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



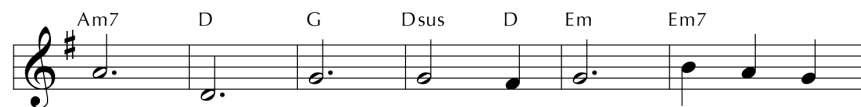
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



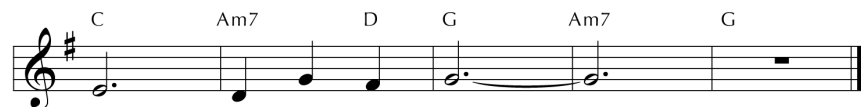
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has power to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

By blending biblical images and current vignettes in the present tense, this hymn connects Christ's promise that he is the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) and his charge to his followers to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). This is part of the church's servant calling.

♦ *this week in print* ♦

Church-Wide

The Nominations Committee will soon begin discerning who God is calling to help lead Idlewild over the next three years. If you or someone you know has gifts in leadership, service, or care, please email the Nominations Committee at nominations@idlewildchurch.org with their name. The committee appreciates all nominations and will work together to create a slate for elders, deacons, and committee members. If you are nominating yourself and feel called to a particular place of service, please include that in the email.

Our Diaconate Connections Team helps to coordinate meals for our church family in times of joy and of sorrow. If you'd like to be added to the list of potential volunteers, or if you know of an individual or family in need, you can reach out to Carol Fields (carol.s.fields@gmail.com).

Adult Ministry

The Art of Reading (Tuesdays, 2pm, Parlor): This month Pat Kelly will lead a discussion on the book *East of Eden* by Nobel Prize winner, John Steinbeck. Published in 1952, it's a powerful and vastly ambitious novel that is at once a family saga and a modern retelling of the Book of Genesis. Contact stephanierodda@gmail.com for more information.

Men's Prayer Breakfast: The Idlewild Men's Bible Study meets each Tuesday morning at 9 am in Montgomery Hall for fellowship and breakfast. The church provides coffee and a full southern breakfast for a small fee. Please contact Charles Key for more information (voice or text 901-481-3321 or email ckey2012@icloud.com).

Children's Ministry

Sunday School Volunteers Needed: The Children's Ministry committee is looking for volunteers to teach and help with Sunday School this fall. Contact Whitney Getman (whitney@idlewildchurch.org) for more details.

Youth Ministry

Youth Group: Middle schoolers will meet from 5:30–7:00pm, and high schoolers will meet from 6:00–7:30 pm, with everyone sharing dinner from 6:10–6:50pm. During August, we have planned supervision for late middle school pick-ups and early high school arrivals, so all ages are invited to stay the entire time!

Volunteers Needed: We're looking for caring adults to join our Sunday School teaching team this year. You don't need to be a Bible expert, just someone willing to listen, learn alongside our youth, and help create a warm, welcoming place where they can grow.

Fellowship & Recreation

Community & Connection: Redbirds Game: Come to AutoZone Park (200 Union Avenue) at 7 p.m. for a Memphis Redbirds baseball game and dinner! Mary Gale will be throwing out the first pitch! Price per person is \$20. (Price includes both admission and dinner.) More details will be sent out the week of the game after purchasing tickets.

Stitchery Circle (Wednesdays, 10am-12pm, Parlor): Starting Wednesday, September 16, join your fellow stitchers for fellowship, support, and tips on various needlecrafts (such as knitting, embroidery, crochet, and even mending). Bring your own project/supplies. Drop in, no registration necessary.

Outreach

Mental Health Lunch & Learn: Wednesday, September 2 from 12-1pm at Second Baptist Church there will be a free Mental Health Lunch & Learn provided by Samaritan Counseling Center.

CAFE at Idlewild

Celebrates 10 years of service with a celebration and fundraiser on Saturday, September 19 at 6pm at Ballet Memphis.



Sign-ups and other relevant links can be found at 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

The sanctuary flowers are given today to the glory of God.

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. Make a donation 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**.



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