



# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

January 7, 2024 at 10 AM

Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church  
500 McKennans Church Road, Wilmington DE  
(302) 998-0434; [www.rccpc.org](http://www.rccpc.org)

*Rooted in Love, Lighting the Way*

*Welcome to worship, welcome to Red Clay, welcome home!*

*Please visit the welcome cart in the Narthex to learn more about our community.*

## GATHER

CHIMING OF THE HOUR & LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: This is the day that the Lord has made!  
Many: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Rachele Gilmore

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O God, you broke down the barriers when you crept in beside us. In Jesus, your hands touched all, and touched us.  
Many: **You opened our eyes to see how the hands of the rich were empty, and the hearts of the poor were full.**  
One: You took what was small - the child's loaves, the widow's mite, a cloud in the sky, and a seed in the ground - and used them to show us the Kingdom.  
Many: **Here in the company of the neighbor whom we know, and the stranger in our midst, and the self from whom we turn, we ask to love as Jesus loved.**  
One: Make this the place and time, good Lord, when heaven and earth become one, and we in word and flesh know ourselves beloved.  
Many: **And now we join our hearts in worship.**

\*Indicates all who are able may stand

\*HYMN 152

## What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Many:** God of our lives, you know us completely.  
You see what moves and motivates us.  
You know what is written on our hearts.  
Forgive us when we work for the wrong things in life.  
Forgive us for spending so much time, money, and effort  
on things that we think will make us bigger.  
Write your humbling word of love and compassion,  
of grace and goodness,  
upon our hearts that we may live as letters of your love.  
Help us to remember that not all of us can do great things,  
but we can do small things with great love.  
For the sake of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

\*DECLARATION OF PARDON

**One:** Friends, believe the good news.  
**Many:** In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

\*SUNG RESPONSE Just as I Am, without One Plea

*Just as I am, without one plea,  
But that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!*

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Please greet those around you, wishing them "peace" or "the peace of Christ."*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT & THE LORD'S PRAYER

*At the conclusion, Pre-K through 8th grade children who wish to attend Sunday school may proceed to their classes.*

# LISTEN

CHORAL PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION      Just as I Am, without One Plea

*Just as I am, Thy love unknown  
Has broken every barrier down;  
Now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!*

SCRIPTURE      Matthew 2:1-12

MUSICAL OFFERING

SCRIPTURE      Matthew 14:13-21

SERMON      Small Things with Great Love: Ave Maria      Dr. Phillips

HYMN 726      **Will You Come and Follow Me**

# RESPOND

CALL TO PRAYER

One:      God be with you.

**Many:      And also with you.**

One:      May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts.

**Many:      Christ is our peace, our light, and our hope.**

One:      Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CALL TO THE OFFERING

*We invite you to make an online donation or by placing a check or cash in the collection plate. Envelopes are available in the pews for specified giving. The gray envelopes are for our new Roots & Rays Fund, which goes to creative outreach projects in the community.*



\*SUNG RESPONSE Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.*

*Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN 720

**Jesus Calls Us**

\*BENEDICTION



Thanks to today's worship participants:  
Barbara Vanderkraats, *Music Ministry*

Lois Galinat and Bob Emmons, *Usher Captains*

Jim & Linda Neel, *Greeters*

Join us for refreshments & fellowship  
in Founders Hall following the postlude.

The flowers today are given in loving memory of  
Steven Yamazaki, from Mom.

Through a series of in-person messages, devotionals, and worship opportunities,  
we hope to keep you connected to—and nurtured by—the Red Clay Creek  
Presbyterian Church community. Make sure you're signed up for our Thursday  
eNews, Facebook, and Instagram accounts. Visit [www.rccpc.org](http://www.rccpc.org).



Red Clay Creek Presbyterian invites you  
to its *Signature Services* during the coming year.

### **JANUARY SERVICE CHALLENGE 2024**

A month-long service effort that directs our intention to the needs of our community at the beginning of every year.

### **HOLY WEEK 2024**

- ◆ **Palm Sunday — March 24<sup>th</sup> | 10AM**
- ◆ **Maundy Thursday — March 28<sup>th</sup> | 7PM**
- ◆ **Good Friday — March 29<sup>th</sup> | 12PM**
- ◆ **Easter Sunday — March 31<sup>st</sup> | 10AM**

### **KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN — April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 | 10AM**

Kirk is the Scottish word for church, so a church celebration and blessing of the tartans in our Presbyterian church honors both local and church heritage since it was the Scots who brought the Presbyterian Church to America.

### **OUTDOOR SERVICE & PICNIC — June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 | 10AM**

Join us in the back meadow for worship and our annual picnic.

### **HOMECOMING SUNDAY — September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | 10AM**

We mark our return to regular church programming with the start of our fall sermon series and Sunday School kick off.

### **FALL CELEBRATION SUNDAY — October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | 10AM**

A joyous worship service where we give Bibles to our 3rd graders and dedicate our pledges, followed by outdoor trunk-or-treating and a flag football game.

### **ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY — November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | 10AM**

We give thanks for God's many blessings and our rich history of over 300 years.

### **CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE — December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

- ◆ **Family Service with Impromptu Pageant | 4PM**
- ◆ **Holy Night Service with Candlelight | 8PM**
- ◆ **Candlelight & Communion | 11PM**

# WELCOME TO RED CLAY

For LARGE print bulletins or children's bulletins, please ask an Usher.  
Restrooms are available. Just ask!

Welcome to worship, welcome to Red Clay, welcome home! Rooted in God's abiding love for all, our church is lighting the way for friendship, compassion, and service. Please join us for coffee hour in Founder's Hall after service, and stop by the welcome cart by the front entrance to learn more about our community. We hope you will worship with us again soon! If you are interested in deepening your participation, or if you just love Red Clay, it's time to think about membership! Contact Elder Nancy James at [njames19966@gmail.com](mailto:njames19966@gmail.com).

Children: Nursery care is available from 9:45 am through the conclusion of worship in Room 305 (just down the hallway from the sanctuary). After the Children's Moment, Pre-K - 2nd grade will adjourn to Room 303 and Grades 3-8 will adjourn to Room 202/204.

## LEARN MORE

Check out the church website at [www.rccpc.org](http://www.rccpc.org) for a calendar of events and for more on the history and other information about our church!



### UPCOMING EVENT SPOTLIGHT

Next Sunday, January 14, Red Clay is hosting a blood drive for Blood Bank of Delmarva from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm. It's not too late to schedule your appointment to participate.



*"Give the gift of life: Donate Blood."*

**Blood Bank  
of Delmarva**

## RED CLAY CREEK PRESBYTERIAN — MINISTERS, STAFF & CHAIRS

Rev. Dr. Nathaniel D. Phillips, *Senior Pastor/Head of Staff*  
Rev. Emily Schwenker, *Parish Associate*

Jeffrey Miller, *Director of Music*  
Barbara Vanderkaats, *Assistant Director of Choral Music*  
Deena Andrews, *Assistant Director of Instrumental Music and Children's Choir Director*  
Lisa Nichols, *Bell Choir Director*

Rachele Gilmore, *Director of Community Life*  
Ben Andrews, *Director of Christian Formation*  
Jamie Russell, *Director of Children's Ministries*  
Judy Lozier, *Nursery Director* ❖ Shelby Beattie, *Sunday School Teacher* ❖ Sofia Martin, *Nursery Support*

Julie Reeder, *Office Coordinator* ❖ Dinyar Vania, *Facilities Manager*  
Kelley Norton, *Administrative Assistant* ❖ Anthony M. Condoluci-Smith, *Financial Associate*

Charlie Hannagan, *Technology Support*  
A. Leonhard, S. Armstrong, K. Barton, A. Bloom, D. Howarth, J. Schubel, P. Worrell, *Livestream Production*

Sandy Sarjeant, *Clerk of Session* ❖ Sue Gleason, *Deacon Moderator*  
Geoff and Pam Meyer, *Belong Chairs* ❖ Marcia Kelly, *Nurture Chair*  
Linda Reisor, *Reach Chair* ❖ Lois Galinat, *Rejoice Chair*  
Brandon Wallace, *Finance Chair* ❖ John Gast, *Personnel Chair*  
Mark Cozine, *Home Chair* ❖ Scott McHenry, *Administration Chair*  
Anne Ceres, *Community Partners*

### A NOTE ON THE LOGO

Our church has "**roots**" in the community that date back to 1722. We have been a good neighbor when we were surrounded by farmland up until now when we are surrounded by the suburbs. Our history helps us remember a time when people helped one another out because that was the right thing to do. We hope to be a sign that this kind of community can still exist. We also believe that, in order for that community to exist, we need to stay "rooted" in the Good News that God has chosen to love us - not because of who we are, but because of who God is. We call that grace.

That is where the "**rays**" come in. We hope to extend our love, and the love we know from the graciousness of God, in many ways today. This means engaging in friendships with those that Jesus would have made friends with - those that feel isolated for any number of reasons. We know we will never be perfect at that, but we will try! We are especially aware that churches have long held back from friendship with others based on age, economics, sexuality, race, disability, and the list goes on. We seek to be something different than that. There are so many stories about how Jesus entered into life-affirming friendships with those that others wouldn't. We seek to be like Jesus.

Right there, in the center of it all, is the **cross**. For us, the cross is a "Tree of Life." It represents how God broke into this world to establish a new way of being alive. It symbolizes how God calls us to love with freedom, with recklessness even, if it means connecting the world to the wonder of God's transformative presence.





# What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright 152

Capo 2: (C) (Am) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G) (C) (F)  
 D Bm A D G D A D G

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more  
 2 'Tis now full-filled what God de-creed, "From  
 3 While out-ward signs the star dis-plays, an  
 4 O Je-sus, while the star of grace im-

(C) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G)  
 D A D G D A

love-ly than the noon-day light? 'Tis  
 Ja-cob shall a star pro-ceed"; and  
 in-ward light the Lord con-veys and  
 pels us on to seek your face, let

(Am) (D7) (G) (C) (F) (C) (Dm)  
 Bm E7 A D G D Em

sent to an-nounce a new-born king, glad  
 lo! the east-ern sa-ges stand to  
 urg-es them, with ten-der might, to  
 not our sloth-ful hearts re-fuse the

(G) (C) (G) (C) (F) (G) (C)  
 A D A D G A D

ti-dings of our God to bring.  
 read in heaven the Lord's com-mand.  
 seek the giv-er of the light.  
 guid-ance of your light to use.

This 18th-century Latin text calls attention to three kinds of light: the light of the star leading the Magi to the Christ-child, the inward light inspiring their journey, and Christ who is the Light of the world. The simple unison melody unites everything in a gentle arc.

# 726 Will You Come and Follow Me

## The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)  
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind-ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)  
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B<sup>b</sup> F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?  
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus)(A)  
 Gm7 B<sup>b</sup> Am7 B<sup>b</sup> Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at-tract or scare?  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)  
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B<sup>b</sup> F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"  
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"  
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"  
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"  
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

# Jesus Calls Us

720

1 Je - sus calls us: o'er the tu - mult of our  
2 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the  
3 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of  
4 Je - sus calls us: by thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his sweet voice  
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would  
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and  
may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thy o -

sound - eth say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."  
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."  
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."  
be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

Like many hymns that adults have come to cherish, this text based on Jesus' calling of the disciple Andrew was written for a 19th-century collection of hymns for children. The popular tune used here was composed for these words more than a quarter of a century later.