

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

February 25, 2024 at 10 AM

Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church 500 McKennans Church Road, Wilmington DE (302) 998-0434; 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

PRELUDE We Have Met to Worship

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: This is the day that the Lord has made!

Many: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 46

One: God says, "Be still and know that I am God."

Many: "Be still and know that I am."
One: God says, "Be still and know."

Many: "Be still."

One: God simply says, "Be."

Many: Just be.

One: God says, "Be still, and know that I am God."

Many: Let us worship God together.

\*HYMN 54 Make a Joyful Noise to God!

<sup>\*</sup>Indicates all who are able may stand

### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

(from Richard Rohr)

One:

Lord, help us to simplify our lives, purify our hearts, and give us the discernment to know what is essential. Make us aware of your presence, and strengthen our faith, that I may be a living example of your love.

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(from Wendell Berry)

Many: Merciful God, all goes back to you,

and so I do not desire pride of excess or power,

but the contentments made by those who have had little:

One: the fisherman's silence receiving the river's grace,

the gardener's musing on rows.

Many: I lack the peace of simple things.

I am never wholly in place. I find no peace or grace.

One: We sell the world to buy fire, our way lighted

by angry people, and that has bent my mind

and made me think of darkness and wish for the simple life of roots.

Many: This is our confession. Amen.

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(from Wendell Berry)

One: Since God makes us free, friends: live simply.

Every day do something that won't compute.

Love the Lord. Love the world. Work for nothing.

Take all that you have and be poor.

Many: Love someone who does not deserve it.

One: And know that you are loved by God

even when you don't deserve it.

### \*SUNG RESPONSE

Simplicity





### \*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



**SCRIPTURE** 

Micah 6:6-8

**SERMON** 

The "Right Thing" is Complicated:
Remus and Muhammad

Dr. Phillips

### ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

One: There are different gifts,

Many: But it is the same spirit who gives them.
One: There are different ways of serving God,
Many: But it is the same Lord who is served.

One: God works through different people in different ways.

Many: But it is the same God who

fulfills these purposes through them all.

One: Together we are the body of Christ,

Many: And individually members of him.

### PRESENTATION OF OFFICERS FOR ORDINATION\* & INSTALLATION

Deacons: Kathy Ciabattoni, Jane Conly\*, Sandy Dudley, Bonnie Hudson, Jackie Kacmar,

Pei-Yi (Andy) Lo, Betsy Marsey, Antoinette (Toni) Rayfield\*, Barbara Sowden

& Barb Tostrup\*

Elders: Fred Crowley, Christine Fischer, Scott McHenry & Karen Vordemberge\*

## QUESTIONS TO THE OFFICERS & QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION

Do you, members of the church, accept these Deacons and Elders chosen by God through the voice of this congregation, to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? If so, please answer, "We do."

Do you agree to encourage them, respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is head of the church? If so, please answer, "We do."

### ACT OF ORDINATION & PRAYER

## RESPOND

### 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.



### MUSICAL OFFERING

It is Well with My Soul

\*SUNG RESPONSE Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (to alternate tune)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN 100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE In the Cross of Christ I Glory

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Thanks to today's worship participants:
Bell Choir, *Music Ministry*Bob Kissell, *Usher Captain*Melissa Levy, *Greeter* 

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

The flowers today are given in memory of Fu-Yun Tseng, loving father and grandfather, from Li-Hwa, Pei-Yi, Emily and Albert.

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.



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

### LENT & HOLY WEEK 2024

- ♦ Ash Wednesday— February 14th | 12:30PM
- ♦ Palm Sunday March 24th | 10AM
- ♦ Maundy Thursday March 28th | 7PM
- ◆ Good Friday March 29<sup>th</sup> | 12PM
- ♦ Easter Sunday March 31st | 10AM

## KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN — April 21st, 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 8th, 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 27th, 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 17th, 2024 | 10AM

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

## CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE — December 24th, 2024

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

## **JANUARY SERVICE CHALLENGE 2025**

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

## 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.

<u>Children</u>: 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 <u>www.rccpc.org</u> for a calendar of events and for more on the history and other information about our church!



## **UPCOMING EVENT SPOTLIGHT**

Join us TODAY at 11:30 am in the sanctuary for a Noonday Concert/Seminar hosted by Jeffrey Miller and Barbara Vanderkraats entitled "Simplifying Music"! Basic principles of how the human singing voice functions will be presented, and then all will join in the singing of some favorite songs and hymns.

### 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 Vanderkraats, 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

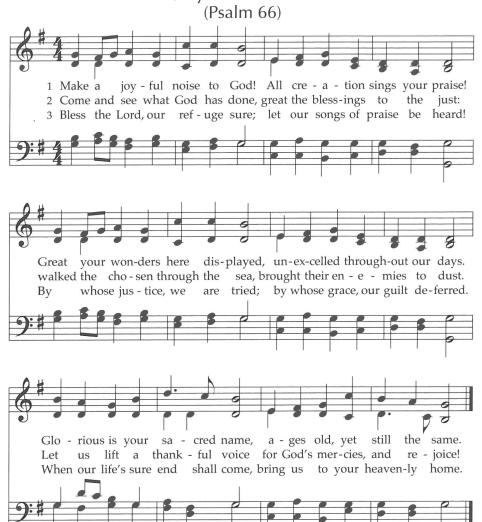
community to exist, we need to stay "rooted" in the Good News that God has chosen to love us - not because of who we are, but because of who God is. We call that grace.

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.

## Make a Joyful Noise to God!

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Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

# $100\,$ My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

## Canticle of the Turning



By employing an energetic Irish folk song for its melody, this ballad-like paraphrase of the *Magnificat*, Mary's song at her meeting with her relative Elizabeth (Luke 1:46–55), recaptures both the wonder and the faith of the young woman who first recognized what God was doing.

