



# FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 17, 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

PRELUDE

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

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 267

**Come, Christians, Join to Sing**

\*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

The musical notation is written on three staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics are: I come in sim- pli - ci-ty\_\_ long-ing for pi - e-ty\_\_ to wor-ship  
You in Spi-rit and truth, on-ly You. Lord strip it all a-way\_\_ 'till on - ly  
You re - main.\_\_ I'm com-ing back to my first love, on - ly You.



You're the rea - son I sing, the rea - son I sing. Yes, my heart will  
sing how I love You. And for - ev - er\_ I'll sing, for - ev - er\_ I'll  
sing. Yes, my heart will sing how I love\_ You.

**\*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**



You're the rea - son I sing, the rea - son I sing. Yes, my heart will  
sing how I love You. And for - ev - er\_ I'll sing, for - ev - er\_ I'll  
sing. Yes, my heart will sing how I love\_ You.

**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 9:1-6

**SERMON**

Evangelism is Complicated: Village to Village

Pastor Nate

**HYMN 543**

**God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me**

# RESPOND

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWLS & QUILTS

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      'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

\*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 465            **What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE            O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee



Thanks to today's worship participants:

Bell Choir, *Music Ministry*

Rick Marsey, *Usher Captain*

Dave Rahn, *Greeter*

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

The flowers today are given in loving memory of my parents, Ray &  
Jean Nichols, from Lisa Nichols.

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.

### **LENT & HOLY WEEK 2024**

- ◆ Ash Wednesday— February 14<sup>th</sup> | 12:30PM
- ◆ 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

### **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](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

Join us on March 24th at 11:30 am for our annual Easter egg hunt. Bring a bag for the hunt and a friend to join in the fun!

Volunteers are needed to help make our event a success.

Please email [jamie@rccpc.org](mailto:jamie@rccpc.org) if you're willing to lend a helping hand.

## 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* ❖ Nancy James, *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*  
Andrew Bloom, *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.

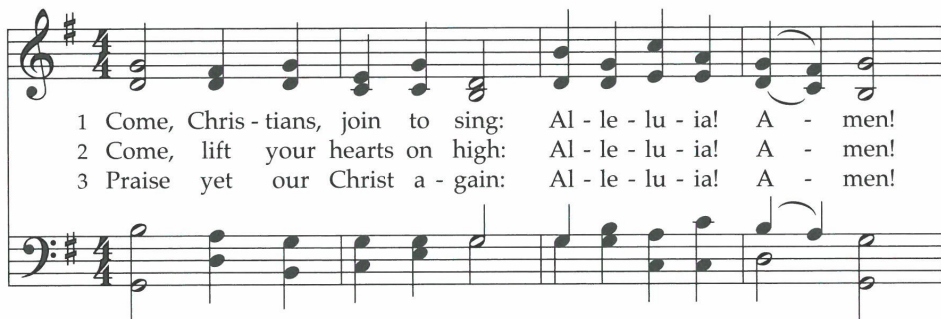
That is where the "**rays**" come in. We hope to extend our love, and the love we know from the graciousness of God, in many ways today. This means engaging in friendships with those that Jesus would have made friends with - those that feel isolated for any number of reasons. We know we will never be 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.

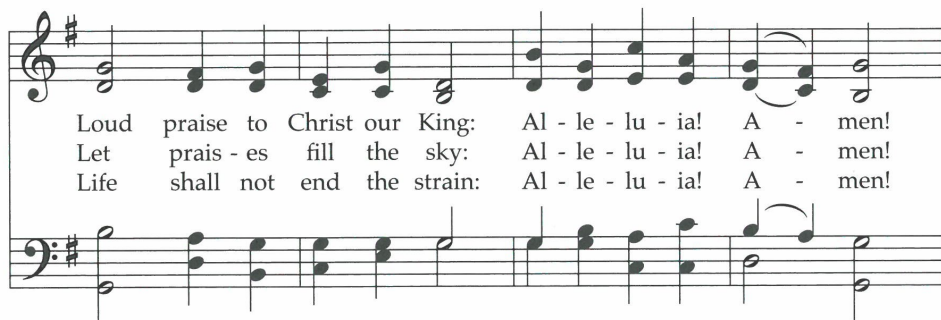




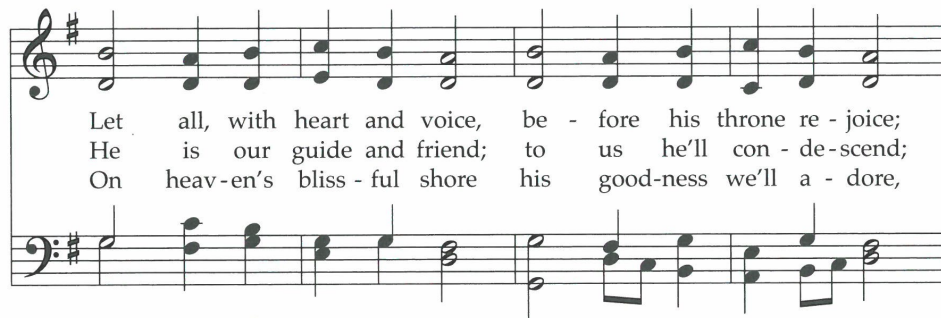
# 267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing



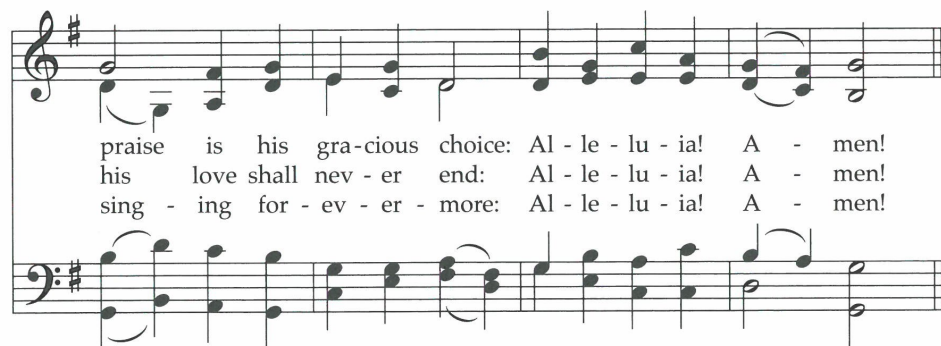
1 Come, Chris - tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
2 Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Let prais - es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - jice;  
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;  
On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,



praise is his gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Like many other hymns of praise, this text was originally addressed to children but has been embraced by adults as well. Although the tune's repetitive elements suggest folk origins (possibly with alternating groups of singers), no specific source has been identified.

# God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

543

O Christ, Surround Me



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -  
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light-ning,  
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:  
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:  
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

# 465 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

죄짐맡은 우리구주



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum-bere'd with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge; take it to the Lord in prayer!



O what peace we of - ten for - feit; O what need-less pain we bear,  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?  
Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak-ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so - lace there.



This text was written by an Irish-born immigrant to Canada to comfort his mother in Ireland when she was going through a time of special sorrow. The role of prayer as a source of strength and consolation is underscored by its repeated use as a rhyme word in all three stanzas.