

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 12, 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

### LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

(a silent prayer)

*God of Hope, on this and every day, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth, from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Let peace fill our hearts, our world and our universe that, together with our brothers and sisters around the world, we might dream together, pray together and work together to build one world of peace and justice for all. Amen.*

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Friends, we know what God desires of us:

Many: **That we do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.**

One: We gather this morning to remind each other about that,

Many: **To remember that now is always the right time to do these things.**

One: So with thanks in our hearts,

Many: **Let us worship God.**

\*HYMN 401, vss. 1,2,3

**Here In This Place**

\*Indicates all who are able may stand

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Many:** Before God and every person here, we release anything we hold against another. We regret the harm we have done, we remain committed to bringing more kindness into the world, and we ask for God's restoration.

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God's hope and vision for us is to restore us. We fail, make mistakes, harm others and turn off our compassion, our concern. Despite all the ways we fail, however, God works for the restoration of how we relate to one another, to God's creation, to ourselves, and carry God in us. If we pause to listen to God and to one another, if we open our mouths and our hearts to confess our regrets, God fills our emptiness with forgiveness, hope and strength to love.

Many: **In God's restoring love, we are made new. God restores in us the power and strength to make a difference in our life and others.**

\*SUNG RESPONSE Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN'S CHOIR & THE LORD'S PRAYER Try Everything

*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

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE

1 Samuel 24:1-3; Psalm 18:1-6, 16-19

## SERMON

The Ump Imposter

Pastor Nate

## HYMN (insert)

**In the Garden**

# 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.*



## \*SUNG RESPONSE

Let Us Break Bread Together

***Let us break bread together on our knees;***

***let us break bread together on our knees.***

***When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,***

***O Lord, have mercy on me.***

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

## GRACIOUS INVITATION TO THE TABLE

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**Many: We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*All are welcome to the table! This morning the congregation is served in procession. Those seated in the pews at the front of the sanctuary begin the procession when directed by ushers. For those unable to process forward, stay seated and a server will bring the sacrament to you. All bread is gluten-free; please take a piece from the offered tray. Empty glasses are placed in the bowls provided near the communion servers.*

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Many: In your body broken and in your blood shed for all of us, Lord, we have tasted and seen that you are good. In this meal, we have experienced again your deep love for your world. May the sweet taste of this meal strengthen us for living for you and remind us that we are called to live according to your will and to love as you love. Help us to yearn for your coming again, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

\*HYMN 547

**Go, My Children, with My Blessing**

\*BENEDICTION



Thanks to today's worship participants:

Children's Choir, *Music Ministry*

Ray Krout, *Usher Captain*

Mary Norris, *Greeter*

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

The flowers today are given in loving memory of Maura Sarjeant  
from Joe & Sandy Sarjeant.

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.

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

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

**SUMMER ARTS CAMP — JULY 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | 9AM-12PM**

Kids K-5 will have music, drama, visual arts, snacks, and FUN, culminating with bingo and performance night July 19<sup>th</sup>, as well as Youth Sunday on July 21<sup>st</sup>.

**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-treat 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.

**HOLY WEEK 2025**

- ◆ Maundy Thursday — April 17<sup>th</sup> | 7PM
- ◆ Good Friday — April 18<sup>th</sup> | 12PM
- ◆ Easter Sunday — April 20<sup>th</sup> | 10AM

**KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN — May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | 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.

# 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).

Here at Red Clay, we have numerous groups that are open and that welcome newcomers, including, e.g., Quilters, Crafters, "Friends and Fellowship" free luncheon for seniors, Bible study, ROMEOs ("Retired Old Men Eating Out"), Centering Prayer, "The Arcaders" social group for GenX and Millennials, Breakfast & the Bible with Pastor Nate, and Pickleball. Details can be found at [www.rccpc.org](http://www.rccpc.org)!

Children: Nursery care is available from 9:45AM 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.



## UPCOMING EVENT SPOTLIGHT

All are invited to join us on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> for our annual Celebration Picnic & Strawberry Social! The picnic will be in the Upper Meadow following our outdoor service. Lunch will be provided but please bring a favorite picnic side/salad to share; dessert will feature the freshest local strawberries for shortcakes with all the toppings. We'll have outdoor games and activities, plus a bounce house for kids. RSVP please.

## 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.





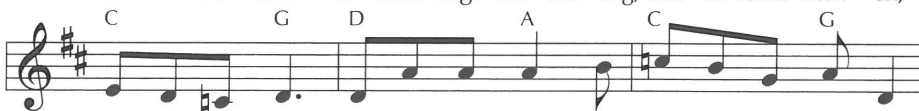
# Here in This Place

## Gather Us In

401



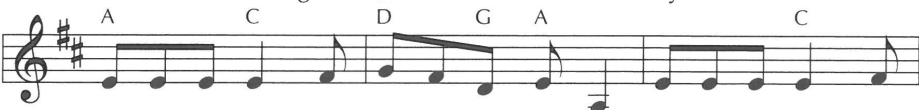
1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ish-ed 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.

## 15

## In the Garden

C. Austin Miles

GARDEN  
Irregular Meter

1. I come to the gar - den a - lone, While the dew is still on the  
2. He speaks, and the sound of His voice Is so sweet the birds hush their  
3. I'd stay in the gar - den with Him Tho' the night a - round me be

ros - es; And the voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear, The Son of God dis -  
sing - ing; And the mel - o - dy that He gave to me With - in my heart is  
fall - ing; But He bids me go thro' the voice of woe, His voice to me is

*Refrain*

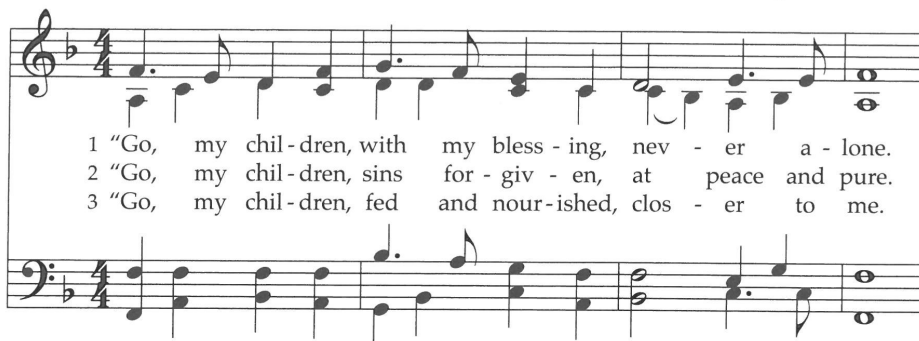
clos - es. And He walks with me, and He talks with me, And He  
ring - ing.  
call - ing.

tells me I am His own; And the joy we share as we tar - ry there None

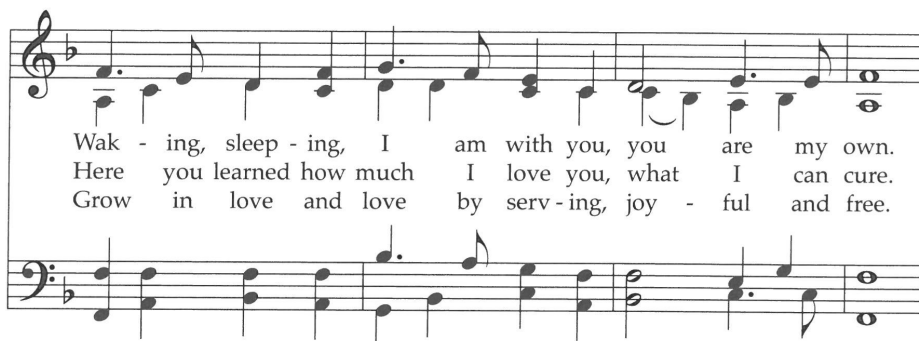
oth - er has ev - er known.

oth - er has ev - er known.

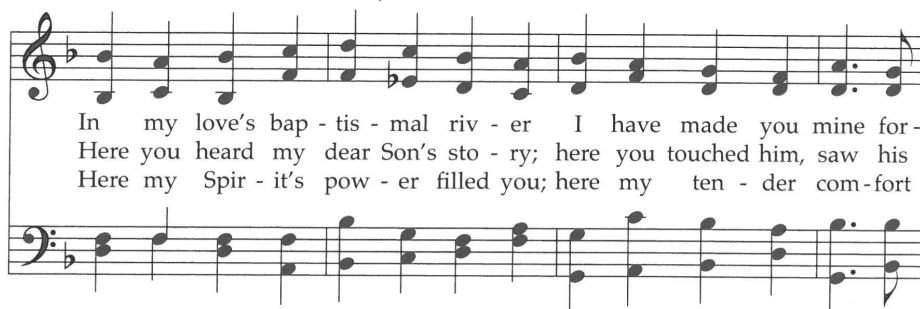
# Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547



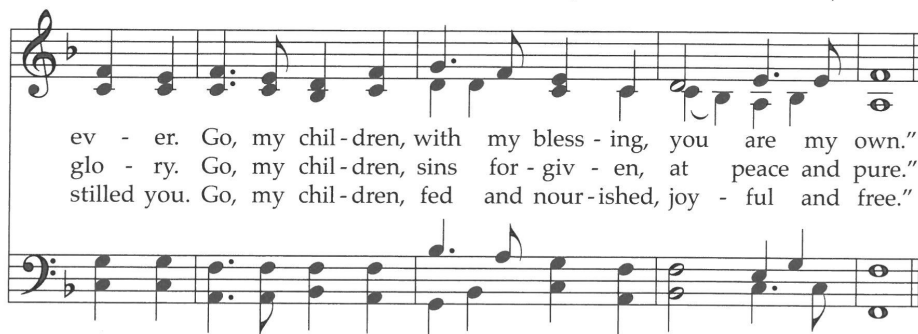
1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.  
2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his  
Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort



ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."  
glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."  
stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22–27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.