

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 8, 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

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: Abraham said, "Here I am!" when his faith was put to the test.

Many: And God provided for him just in time.

One: Gideon was scared and tested to see if God was still there.

Many: But God kept putting his fears to ease.

One: Jesus was tested in the wilderness, to show he is like us.

Many: And the angels came and attended to him.

One: When Peter was sinking from a test he couldn't pass, Jesus reached out his hand and caught him.

**Many: Through every test of life, we trust that God will make the grade.
Let us worship God together!**

*Indicates all who are able may stand

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

*CALL TO CONFESSION

One: We continue to believe that God is taking out a red pen, giving us a bad grade or marking us down as absent. But God's grace is given to each of us, for all of us, freely, unconditionally, always. Let us open our lives to this mercy as we pray saying,

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Many: Holy God, by the grace of Jesus Christ you know the tests and trials we face. Walk with us through the wilderness of our lives and help us to be open to learning your way. Keep us full of wonder, come to us with ministers of healing, and visit us with messengers of hope, so that we may return to you in faith, embracing the good news of the gospel; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Fellow students of the way of Jesus, always remember that there is much more forgiveness in God than we could ever exhaust. Receive from God, through the grace of Christ, the blessing of sins forgiven and a right relationship restored.

*SUNG RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

*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.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

I'm So Blessed

***I'm so blessed, I'm so blessed, got this heartbeat in my chest
No it doesn't matter about the rest, if I got You Lord I'm so blessed!***

LISTEN

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Romans 8:31-34

MUSICAL OFFERING

Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:1-14

SERMON

Making the Grade: D.Y.B.

Pastor Nate

HYMN 508

Come to the Table

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

During today's Musical Offering, you're invited to take part in a special quiz that reflects on the sermon. You can find the quiz as a bulletin insert. Grab a No. 2 pencil and test your knowledge—both for fun and deeper reflection! Answers will be shared at the Benediction.

*SUNG RESPONSE Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*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: God of goodness and mercy, you have invited us to your table and welcomed us as part of your family. You have satisfied our hunger with the bread of life and quenched our thirst with the cup of salvation. Now, send us out into the world by the power of your Holy Spirit, so that your life and your light may shine brightly for all to see. Amen.

*HYMN 295

Go to the World!

*BENEDICTION



Thanks to today's worship participants:

Festival Choir, *Music Ministry*

Zimo Liu, *Trumpeter*

Ray Krout, *Usher Captain*

Meredith Jones, *Greeter*

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

The flowers today are given in loving memory of Richard B. Jeffers,
from his family.

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.

SERVICE OF HOPE & HEALING — September 29th, 2024 | 11:30AM

This service will be a time for quiet prayer and reflection for those seeking healing, hope, comfort or peace individually, for others, and/or for our world, as well as an opportunity to receive individual prayers and anointing with oil, if you desire. All are welcome.

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-treat 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.

HOLY WEEK 2025

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

KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN — May 18th, 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.

OUTDOOR SERVICE & PICNIC — June 1st, 2025 | 10AM

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

SUMMER ARTS CAMP — JULY 14th-18th, 2025 | 9AM-12PM

Kids K-5 will have music, drama, visual arts, snacks, and FUN, culminating with bingo and performance night July 18th, as well as Youth Sunday on July 20th.

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.

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.rcpc.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

September 15th Noonday Concert—11:30 AM!

Join us in the sanctuary for this concert featuring beloved hymns and popular songs played by Jeffrey Miller and sung by guest artist Dinyar Vania!

RED CLAY CREEK PRESBYTERIAN — MINISTERS, STAFF & CHAIRS

Rev. Dr. Nathaniel D. Phillips, *Senior Pastor/Head of Staff*

Rev. Emily Schwenker, *Parish Associate*

Rev. Dr. Philip Jones, *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

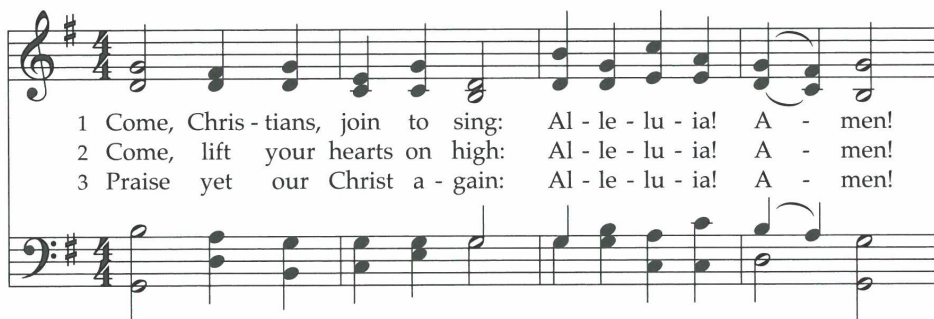
Our church has "**roots**" in the community that date back to 1722. We have been a good neighbor when we were surrounded by farmland up until now when we are surrounded by the suburbs. Our history helps us remember a time when people helped one another out because that was the right thing to do. We hope 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.

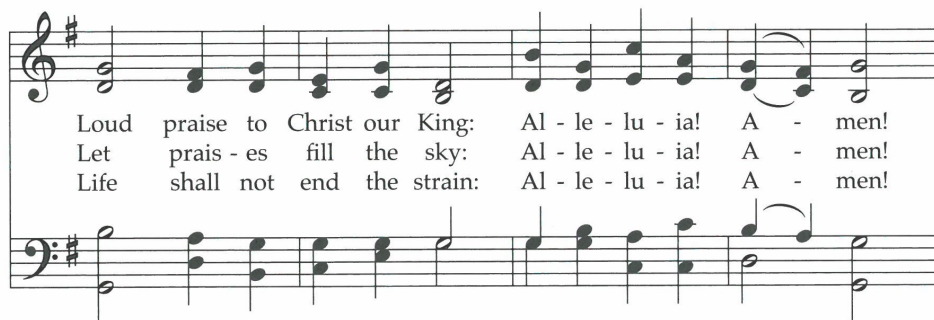
Right there, in the center of it all, is the **cross**. For us, the cross is a "Tree of Life." It represents how God broke into this world to establish a new way of being alive. It symbolizes how God calls us to love with freedom, with recklessness even, if it means connecting the world to the wonder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



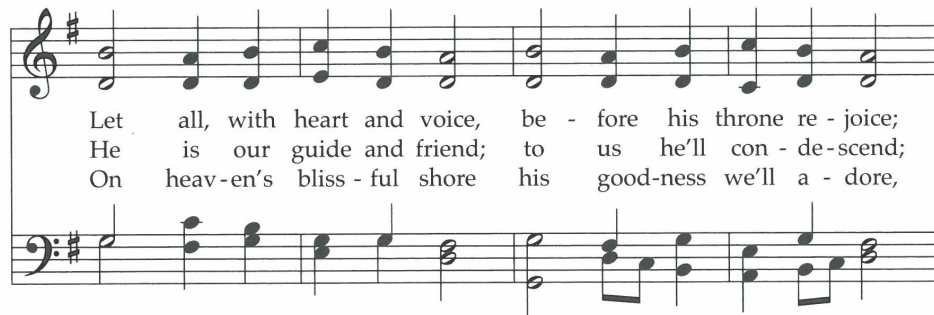
267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing



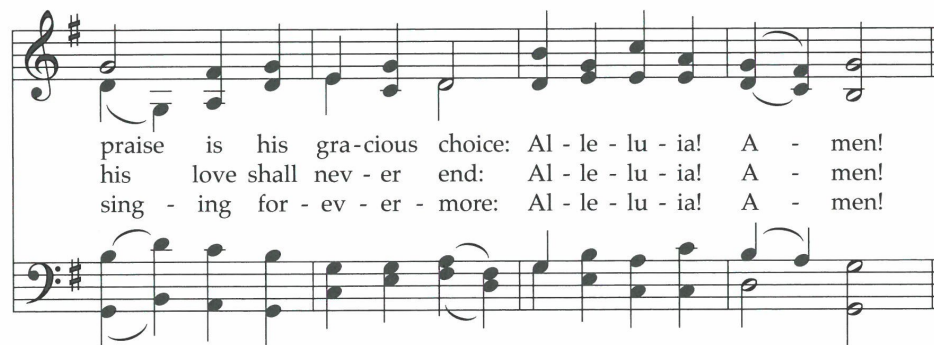
1 Come, Chris - tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 2 Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



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 - joice;
 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.

Come to the Table

식탁에 와서

G Em7 Am7

*1 Come to the ta - ble, all you who praise God.
2 Come eat this bread now, my bro - ken bod - y.
3 All is now read - y, like the first ta - ble.

G Em A7 Dsus D

Laid in a sta - ble, God's gift of love:
My vow re - mem - ber: I am your Lord.
Pray for the Spir - it; lift up your hearts.

G G7 C Cm

Je - sus our Sav - ior poured out his life's blood.
Drink of this wine, the cup of sal - va - tion,
Christ has a - ris - en, our Lord and Sav - ior.

G D7 G

Our sins for - giv - en, God's gift of love.
for you are mine, and I am your Lord.
With great thanks - giv - ing, lift up your hearts.

KOREAN

- 1 식탁에 와서 찬양드리세,
사랑의 선물 나누시네
주님의 몸과 주님의 피를
우리를 위해 주시었네
- 2 너희를 위한 나의 몸이니
받아서 먹고 기념하라
이 잔은 나의 새 언약이니
죄사함 위해 흘린 피라
- 3 주님의 성령 임-하시네,
거룩한 주의 살-과 피
나를 새롭게 바꿔주시네
새생명 주심 감사하세

*Stanza 1 may be sung by a leader.

This Korean text accomplishes a rare feat in a Lord's Supper hymn by dealing with the full range of Christ's life from the Nativity to the Resurrection. The first and third stanzas are in the voice of the congregation, while the middle stanza recalls Christ's words of institution.

Go to the World!

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1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - ery place.
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
 4 Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,

Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
 for I am with you till the age shall end,

bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry "A - men!"

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Based on Christ's great commission (Matthew 28:19-20), this text was written for a Convocation of Emmanuel College in Toronto, the largest theological school of the United Church of Canada, a denomination formed by the union of Methodists, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians.