



SERVICE FOR REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 27, 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: God surrounded by glory:

Many: You notice the people that we walk past.

One: Jesus, healer of the hopeless:

Many: In you, we find ourselves sitting side by side at your table.

One: Spirit of Compassion: **Many:** Sow love in our hearts,

One: that the poor might find in us a friend;

Many: Sow peace in our spirits,

(continued)

One: That the angry might find in us a sea of hope;

Many: Sow generosity in our hand,

One: That the hungry might find in us their daily bread.

Many: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 772

Live into Hope

*CALL TO CONFESSION

One:

Friends, we are invited to God's dinner party, where all are welcome and the table is never full. Yet we confess that we often keep the invitation to ourselves, forgetting that God's grace is meant to be shared. Let us come to this moment of confession, knowing that at God's table, there is always room for mercy, forgiveness, and renewal. Let us bring our hearts honestly before the Host who invites us in love.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Many: God of love and mercy, we confess that too often we have kept

your invitation to the table for ourselves. We have excluded others, and denied them their place. Forgive us for the times when we have hoarded your grace, when we have failed to see that

your table is open for all.

One: We confess that we have come to your table seeking our own

satisfaction, instead of seeking communion with you and one another. Forgive us for the times we have been divided by pride, when we have

ignored the needs of our neighbors.

Many: Gather us in, Lord, reconcile us to one another, and renew our

hearts, that we might truly reflect your love in the world, and come together as one family at your feast of grace. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news: The Host of the heavenly banquet is always ready

to welcome us back, no matter how many times we've stayed away or kept others from the feast. In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we are invited once again to join the party. Friends, believe the good

news of the gospel:

Many: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.



*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN'S CHOIR ANTHEM

Big God

CHILDREN'S MOMENT & THE LORD'S PRAYER

This Sunday we are pleased to present Bibles to our 3rd graders.

COMMISSIONING OF CHILDCARE STAFF & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jamie Russell—Director of Children's Ministries Shelby Beattie—Sunday School Teacher Deena Andrews—Children's Choir Director Judy Lozier—Nursery Director Sofia Martin—Nursery Support

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

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

FIRST LESSON

John 21:1-14

SERMON Dinner Party: The Window Seat Pasto

Pastor Nate

HYMN 66

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart I will pray. Yes, every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart I will pray

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.



MUSICAL OFFERING

Blessed Assurance

*SUNG RESPONSE

We Are An Offering

We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering; we are an offering.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

A Time for Joy



Thanks to today's worship participants:

Bell Choir, *Music Ministry*Lois Galinat and Bob Emmons, *Usher Captains*Barbara Sowden, *Greeter*

Join us for refreshments & fellowship in Founders Hall following the postlude. And/or, come out to the parking lot for Trunk-or-Treat at 11:30 am, followed by our annual flag football game (spectators & participants wanted!). Fund-raising for our 2025 summer mission trip will begin with HOT DOGS for sale!!!

The flowers today are given in honor of my daughters, Sarah Townsend Barton and Katherine Clements Barton, both baptized at RCCPC, from Keith Barton.

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.

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

ROOTS AND RAYS SERVICE CHALLENGE 2025

A month-long service effort beginning in January of each year, that directs our intention to the needs of our community.

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.

HOMECOMING SUNDAY — September 7th, 2025 | 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 26th, 2025 | 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.

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 mww.recpc.org!

<u>Children</u>: 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

SPOOKY YOUTH SERVICE NIGHT: OCTOBER 30th

We'll be hosting a Youth Service Night (youth grades 6-12) on Wed. evening at 6:30pm in Founders Hall. Come in costume for some Halloween fun & help out the community with a service project! Please email Ben if you are interested!

NEXT SUNDAY:

PRAYER SERVICE FOR OUR NATION November 3rd, 2024 | 11:30AM

Join us for a special prayer service on the Sunday before the election, as we come together to seek wisdom, peace, and unity for our nation.

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

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
Barbara Vanderkraats, Pastoral Care Coordinator
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 Marcia Kelly, Memory Garden Chair

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.





Like many African American spirituals, this one mixes the language of biblical narrative with veiled but effective allusions to the hope of escape from slavery, either by crossing rivers into free states or by participating in organized efforts like the Underground Railroad.

275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God might - y for our God, bul-wark nev - er tress is a 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv-ing would be 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat-en 4 That word all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a a - bove fail ing. Our help - er he, mid the flood of los ing, were not the right side, the man on our do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his eth. The Spir - it and the gifts ours through are mor - tal ills pre - vail ing. For still our an - cient foe doth man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark-ness grim, him who with sid eth. Let goods and kin - dred this seek work us His craft and power to woe. are and great, he. Je - sus, it is Lord Sab - a - oth his from name, trem - ble for him. His not rage we can en dure, for mor - tal life al so. The bod - v they may kill; God's

Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.

