

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

January 19, 2025 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.*

**Please silence your cell phones.**

## GATHER

### LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

(a silent prayer; by Howard Thurman)

*When the song of the angels is stilled. When the star in the sky is gone. When the kings and princes are home. When the shepherds are back with their flock, the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost; to heal the broken; to feed the hungry; to release the prisoner; to rebuild the nations; to bring peace among others; to make music in the heart. Amen.*

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: The Lord be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, all who are blessed by God's grace! Let us gather to give thanks and share His love.

**Many: We come, remembering the ways God has blessed us, naming them one by one.**

One: God calls us to serve, to love, and to shine as a blessing in the world.

**Many: Let us worship God, counting our blessings and lifting our hearts in praise!**

\*Indicates all who are able may stand

**Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Lord Jesus Christ, we remember with gratitude those people who have blessed the our lives.

*(silence is kept).*

We recognize how you have blessed our lives with the gift of the Holy Spirit so that our faith has miraculously and mysteriously grown.

**Many: We confess the times we fail to involve ourselves in blessing the lives of others; the times when our personal agendas become more important than yours; the times when we have denied others the opportunity to expand their faith through our lack of interest or involvement; the times when our lives become so entangled with the values of the world that we forget what you have said and done and promised. Amen.**

\*SUNG RESPONSE      Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.*

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*(Psalm 32)*

One: Blessed are those whose transgression is forgiven and whose sin is covered.

**Many: They are happy, for the Lord declares them "not guilty" and there is no deception in their hearts.**

\*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, we look forward to welcoming all Pre-K through 8th grade children to the nursery or their Sunday school classes, as the congregation prepares to hear the sermon.*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Count Your Blessings

*Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
Count your blessings, see what God has done!  
Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
Count your many blessings, see what God has done.*

## BLESS

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

*Reflect on the abundance of blessings in your life by writing them on the provided materials.  
Engage in gratitude actively!*

MUSICAL OFFERING

COMMUNAL BLESSING: FAMILY

CALL TO THE OFFERING & COLLECTION OF BLESSINGS

*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 Roots & Rays Fund, which goes to creative outreach projects in the community.*



MUSICAL OFFERING

What A Friend We Have in Jesus

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

We Lift Our Voices (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 450

Be Thou My Vision

# LISTEN

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 12:1-3

SERMON

The Band Leader

Rev. Dr. Phillips

# SEND

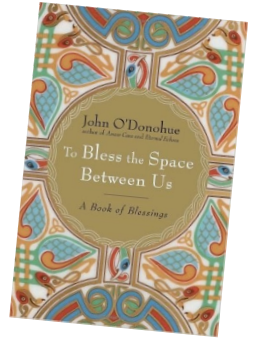
\*HYMN 837

**What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine**

\*BENEDICTION



Born January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1956, in western Ireland, John O'Donohue loved the land of his birth and its Celtic roots. A deeply spiritual man, O'Donohue was ordained as a Roman Catholic priest in 1979, and went on to become a poet, author, activist, philosopher and speaker. His friends describe him as larger than life with a gift for friendship. John O'Donohue died suddenly just two days after his 52<sup>nd</sup> birthday. One of his books, *To Bless the Space Between Us*, is the inspiration for our sermon series and the source for the blessings used in today's worship service.



Thanks to today's worship participants:

Chancel Choir, *Music Ministry*  
Lois Galinat, *Usher Captain*  
Ellen Hinrichs, *Greeter*

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

The flowers today are given in loving memory of my mother, Edith Clement,  
from Marcia Clement Kelly.

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.

### **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 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.

### **OUTDOOR SERVICE & PICNIC — June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 | 10AM**

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

### **SUMMER ARTS CAMP — JULY 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | 9AM-12PM**

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

### **HOMECOMING SUNDAY — September 7<sup>th</sup>, 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 26<sup>th</sup>, 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.

### **ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY — November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | 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>, 2025**

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

# 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, Theology 101 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

**Humane Animals Partners: Saturday, February 26  
(9:30am-12:00pm)!**

Volunteer at HAP's Wilmington campus (701 A Street  
Wilmington, DE 19801) to help our furry friends. 12  
volunteers needed, kids welcome!

## 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, *Director of Children's Choir*

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.





# 35 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -  
 2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly  
 3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy  
 reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so  
 dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with

health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his  
 gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -  
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

tem - ple draw near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
 sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?  
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1-6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

## 450

## Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) E<sup>b</sup> (G) A<sup>b</sup> (D/F<sup>#</sup>) E<sup>b</sup>/G (A7) B<sup>b</sup>7 (D) E<sup>b</sup>



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;  
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) B<sup>b</sup> (D) E<sup>b</sup> (G) A<sup>b</sup> (A) B<sup>b</sup>



naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) A<sup>b</sup> (D) E<sup>b</sup> (F<sup>#</sup>m7) Gm7 (G) A<sup>b</sup> (A) B<sup>b</sup>



thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;  
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) Cm (D/F<sup>#</sup>) E<sup>b</sup>/G (G) A<sup>b</sup> (D) E<sup>b</sup>



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heav - en - ward, O Power of my power.  
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

# What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine 837

## Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

1 What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-  
2 O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-  
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-

last-ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,  
last-ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,  
last-ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,

*Refrain*  
lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms. Lean-ing,  
Lean-ing on Je-sus,  
lean-ing, safe and se-cure from all a-larms; lean-ing on  
Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.

The composer of the tune (and creator of the refrain) asked the author of the stanzas to write a hymn based on the latter part of Deuteronomy 33:27 (as worded in the King James Version): "Underneath are the everlasting arms." Their joint effort has proved very popular.