



Red Clay Creek

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

500 McKennans Church Road
Wilmington DE
(302) 998-0434 / rccpc.org

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY / SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025 / 10 AM

Rooted in Love, Lighting the Way
Welcome to worship, welcome to Red Clay, welcome home!

Please silence your cell phones.

GATHER

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

Help me, dear Lord, to see my brother with the eyes of Christ, to hear my sister with the ears of Christ, to taste my neighbor's hunger with the mouth of Christ, to smell creation's beauty with the nose of Christ, to touch the world's pain with the hands of Christ, and to love life, each life, every life, with the heart of Christ. Amen.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: "And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark,

Many: **he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed."**

One: In the quiet of Gethsemane, Jesus took time to pray, embracing the space to connect with God, to renew His strength.

Many: **We come together, inspired by Jesus, seeking God's presence as we pause and make room for grace.**

*HYMN 363

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: In the garden, Jesus knelt in prayer, seeking God's will, even as he faced the weight of all that was to come. Let us, too, come before God in honesty,

Many: Gracious God, we come before you today as those who know the weight of decision and the heaviness of our choices. Like Jesus in Gethsemane, we offer you our fears, our doubts, and our desire to control. We confess that we often choose the path of least resistance, seeking comfort over surrender. We confess that we, too, have fallen asleep when called to stay awake with you. We have allowed fear to cloud our judgment, and our hearts have hesitated when your call was clear.

*SUNG RESPONSE

I Surrender All

*All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him, in His presence daily live.
All to Jesus I surrender, Lord, I give myself to Thee;
Fill me with Thy love and power, let Thy blessing fall on me.
I surrender all, I surrender all; all to Thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.*

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Jesus walked the garden alone, but we are never alone. In His suffering, He makes us whole. In His surrender, we find our freedom.

Many: We are forgiven, we are set free. Thanks be to God!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT & THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

*Baird Mateo Morgart-Noble,
son of Richard Lewis Morgart & Charles Glen Noble*

HYMN 482, vs. 1

Baptized in Water

*Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;
Heirs of salvation, trusting the promise, faithfully now God's praises we sing.*

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION & BAPTISM

HYMN 482, vss. 2,3

Baptized in Water

*Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ our King;
One with his rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God's praises we sing.*

*Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our King;
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children; joyfully now God's praises we sing.*

WELCOME OF THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Many: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church
to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

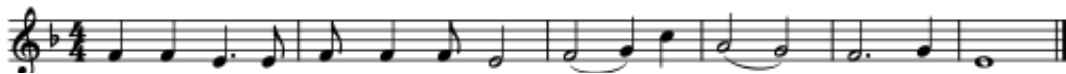
*At the conclusion, we look forward to welcoming all children through 8th grade to the nursery or their
Sunday school classes, as the congregation prepares to hear the sermon.*

PRAYER

MUSICAL OFFERING

PASTORAL PRAYER

The Prayer will begin and end with the Taizé refrain “Stay with Me” [Hymn 204], which repeats the words of Jesus to Peter, James and John in the Garden of Gethsemane (Mark 14:34-38), immediately following the Last Supper.



Stay with me; re - main here with me; watch_ and pray._ Watch and pray.

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



MUSICAL OFFERING

*CONGREGATIONAL 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

HYMN 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

LISTEN

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 14:10-11

During this Season of Lent, our scripture verses will be “paired”. The first highlights the “seeds” of foreshadowing; the latter highlights events leading Jesus to the olive trees in the garden of Gethsemane.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Go to Dark Gethsemane

**Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's power;
your Redeemer's conflict see; watch with him one bitter hour;
turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 14:42-46

SERMON House Rules Rev. Dr. Phillips

SEND

*HYMN 375 **Shall We Gather At the River**

*BENEDICTION



Thanks to today's worship participants:

Jessie Reagen, *Cellist*
Mark Cozine, *Usher Captain*; Ellen Hinrichs, *Greeter*

Join us for refreshments & fellowship in Founders Hall following the postlude.
Then, join us in the sanctuary at 11:30 am for our Noonday Concert,
featuring Jessie Reagen, Deena Andrews, Dinyar Vania, Zimo Liu, Jessica Li
and Jeffrey Miller.

The flowers today are given in honor of Beryl Bouck from Gail Bouck.

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 & Events* during the coming year.

HOLY WEEK 2025

- ◆ **Maundy Thursday — April 17th | 7PM**
- ◆ **Good Friday — April 18th | 12PM**
- ◆ **Easter Sunday — April 20th | 9AM Resurrection Remembrance with Dove Release (*Memory Garden*) and 10AM Worship (*Sanctuary*)**

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 CAMPS — JULY 2025 | 9AM-12PM

- ◆ Instrumental Music | July 7-11 | Completed 4th Grade and Up
- ◆ General Arts | July 14-18 | Completed K-5th Grade
- ◆ TV & Film | July 21-25 | Completed K-8th Grade

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.

ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY — November 16th, 2025 | 10AM

We give thanks for God's many blessings and our rich history of over 300 years.

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE — December 24th, 2025

ROOTS AND RAYS SERVICE CHALLENGE 2026

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

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 Karen Vordemberge at kvordemberge@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.rcclpc.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

Sunday, April 6:

PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER & NOONDAY CONCERT!

Join us after worship at 11:00 am in Founders Hall for our Mission to Maine Fundraiser featuring pancakes, sausage, and more! \$10 per plate, \$5 for children.

Then, come to the Sanctuary at 12 NOON for a Noonday concert. Nicole Joseph and Martin Hargrove return for a varied program of songs and duets. The program will include, among other things, excerpts from Gershwin's Porgy and Bess, one of the most beloved of all American operas.

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*
Quiara Smith, *Sunday School 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*

Nancy James, *Clerk of Session* ❖ Kathy Ciabattoni, *Deacon Moderator*
Bill Ciabattoni, *Belong Chair* ❖ Darlyn Green-Kocher, *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*

* For a complete list of all Session Ruling Elders and Board of Deacons members, please refer to <https://www.rcpc.org>.*

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.

Rejoice, the Lord Is King! 363

Descant

4 Re-joyce in glo-rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

1 Re-joyce, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a-dore!
 2 Our Sav-ior, Je-sus, reigns, the God of truth and love;
 3 His king-dom can-not fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;
 4 Re-joyce in glo-rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

and gath-er all the saints to their e-ter-nal home.

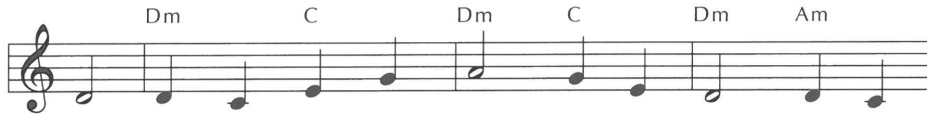
Re-joyce, give thanks, and sing, and tri-umph ev-er-more.
 when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a-bove.
 the keys of death and hell are to our Je-sus given.
 and gath-er all the saints to their e-ter-nal home.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Re-joyce, a-gain I say, re-joyce!

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Re-joyce, a-gain I say, re-joyce!

Each stanza of this enthronement text prepares for the final line of the refrain, based on Philippians 4:4. "Lord" is here a title of Christ rather than a reference to the undivided Trinity. The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) captures the mood well.

What Wondrous Love Is This 215



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful



bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

375 Shall We Gather at the River



1 Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,
2 On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,
3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den down;
4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er; soon our pil-grim-age will cease;



with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the hap-py gold-en day.
grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the mel-o-dy of peace.



Refrain



Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;



gath-er with the saints at the riv-er that flows by the throne of God.



A Baptist pastor wrote this hymn while seated at his parlor organ. Created as an alternative to gloomy "river of death" hymns, it is a celebration of the "pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb" (Revelation 22:1 KJV).