



# Red Clay Creek

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

---

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY / SUNDAY, April 6, 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.**

### MUSICAL OFFERING

Goodness of God

(congregation joins in for final chorus on cue)

***All my life You have been faithful***  
***All my life You have been so, so good.***  
***With every breath that I am able***  
***I will sing of the goodness of God.***

\*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 327

**From All the Dwell Below the Skies**

\*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

Orff Ensemble

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

## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

*Madison Elizabeth Yarborough*

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

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.

## PRAYER

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

One: There are different gifts,

**Many: But it is the same spirit who gives them.**

One: There are different ways of serving God,

**Many: But it is the same Lord who is served.**

One: God works through different people in different ways.

**Many: But it is the same God who fulfills these purposes through  
them all.**

One: Together we are the body of Christ,

**Many: And individually members of him.**

PRESENTATION OF OFFICERS FOR ORDINATION\* &  
INSTALLATION

Deacons: *Mary Norris\*, Vicki Smith\*, Sue Welsh*

## QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

*Do you, members of the church, accept these Deacons chosen by God through the voice of this congregation, to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? If so, please answer, “We do.”*

*Do you agree to encourage them, respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is head of the church? If so, please answer, “We do.”*

## ACT OF ORDINATION & PRAYER

*The Ordination will conclude 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      You Can Tell the World

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN 834

**Precious Lord, Take My Hand**

(soloist sings verse 1; congregation sings verse 2)

# LISTEN

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 14:29-31

*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 14:47-48

SERMON                                      Blowing a Gasket                      Rev. Dr. Phillips

SEND

\*HYMN 475                      **Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

\*BENEDICTION



Thanks to today's worship participants:

Orff Ensemble, Nicole Joseph, *Music Ministry*  
Bob Kissell, *Usher Captain*  
Lisa Nichols, *Greeter*

The flowers today are given in loving memory of Loved Ones,  
from Norm & Tosh Carlson.

Join us for coffee in Founders Hall following the postlude;  
we will also be holding our Mission to Maine Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser  
featuring pancakes, sausage, and more (\$10 per plate, \$5 for children).  
Then, come to the Sanctuary at 12 NOON for a Noonday Concert featuring  
Nicole Joseph and Martin Hargrove!

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 & Events* during the coming 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> | 9AM Resurrection Remembrance with Dove Release (*Memory Garden*) and 10AM Worship (*Sanctuary*)**

### **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 CAMPS — JULY 2025 | 9AM-12PM**

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

### **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**

### **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](mailto: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.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

### **Wednesday, April 9: UNPLUGGED COFFEEHOUSE!**

Join us as we unplug one last time during Lent! Our 7 PM coffeehouse will be in Fellowship Hall featuring Ben Andrews, Deena Andrews, and Charlie Hannagan as our Red Clay House Band. This concert-style coffeehouse will also feature Bill Sharp, Anne Hawley, Hope McCorkell, and Christine Fischer. Our featured musical artist this week is Sharon Sable.

## 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.rccpc.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.





# 327 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

(Psalm 117)

*Unison*



1 From all that dwell be-low the skies let the Cre - a - tor's praise a -  
 2 In ev - ery land be - gin the song; to ev - ery land the strains be -  
 3 E - ter - nal are thy mer - cies, Lord; e - ter - nal truth at - tends thy

*Harmony* *Unison*

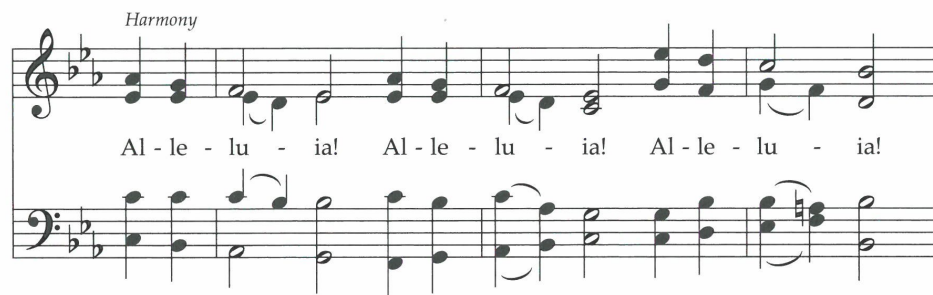


rise: Let the Re - deem - er's  
 long: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! In cheer - ful sound all  
 word: Thy praise shall sound from



name be sung through ev - ery land, in ev - ery tongue.  
 voic - es raise and fill the world with joy - ful praise.  
 shore to shore, till suns shall rise and set no more.

*Harmony*



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Because Psalm 117 contains only two verses, Watts's paraphrase had only two stanzas. Most later hymnals have created or borrowed additional stanzas, like the one included here, to enlarge the hymn. Perhaps the best solution is found by adding Alleluias, as this tune invites.

*Unison*

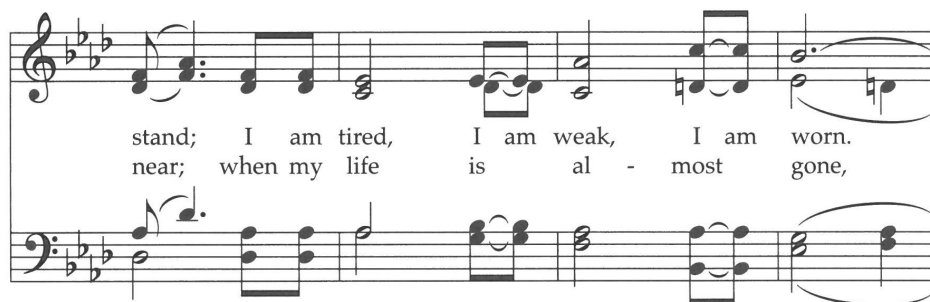
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

This musical score is for a unison setting of 'Alleluia' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves, treble and bass. The melody is written in the treble staff, starting on G4 and ending on G5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment, starting on G2 and ending on G3. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia!' are written below the treble staff, with the first phrase aligned with the first measure and the second phrase aligned with the fifth measure. The score concludes with a double bar line.

# 834 Precious Lord, Take My Hand



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me  
2 When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger



stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
near; when my life is al - most gone,



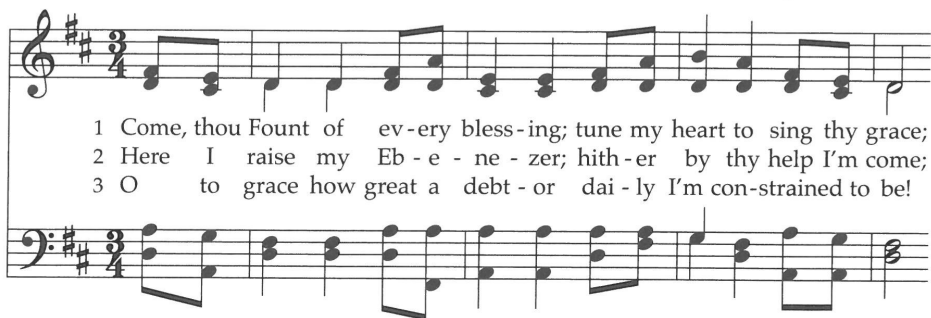
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the  
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I



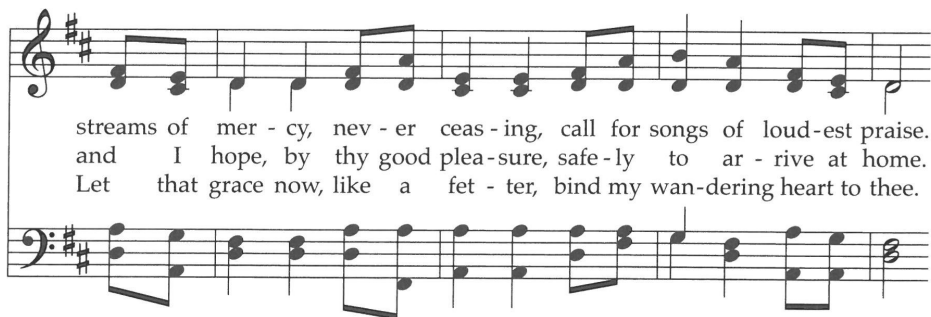
light; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.  
fall; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

This black gospel song, like much hymnody, sprang out of the author's deep personal loss (the death of his wife and newborn son), yet it has brought solace to many. He thought his fingers were playing new music, but they unlocked a deep memory of a tune almost a century old.

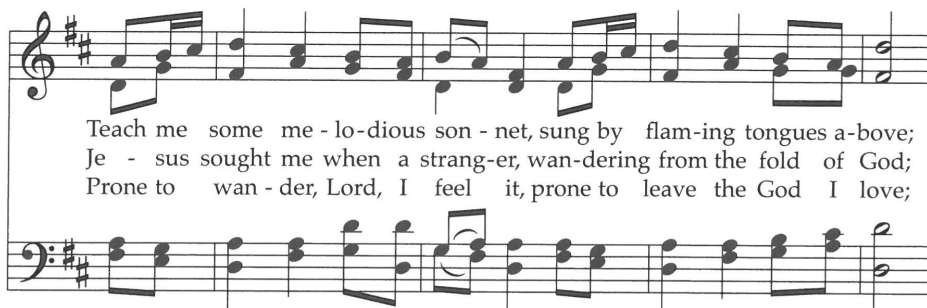
# Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



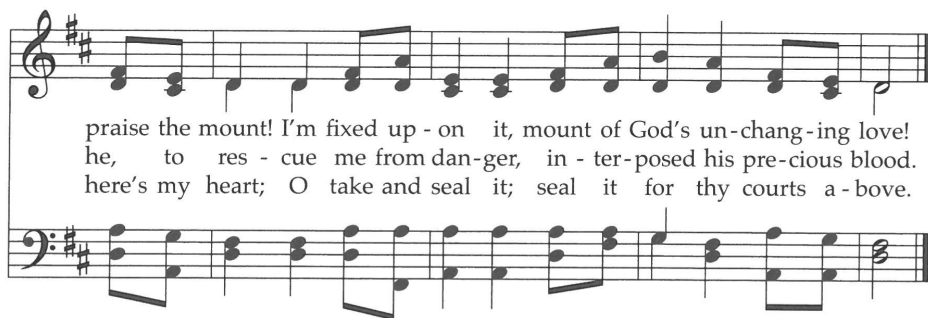
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;  
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.  
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;  
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!  
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.  
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.