



# Red Clay Creek

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

500 McKennans Church Road  
Wilmington DE 19808  
(302) 998-0434 / rccpc.org

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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY / SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2025 / 10 AM

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*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

*Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi*

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: This is the day that the Lord has made!

Many: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Amen. So be it. The word that ends our prayers and begins our trust.

**Many: Amen. So be it. Our yes to God's promises and God's love made real.**

One: Amen. So be it. A candle in the darkness and a path into hope.

**Many: Come, let us worship God,**

One: and say with one voice,

**Many: So be it! Amen!**

\*HYMN 265      **Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(From PCUSA's *Book of Common Worship*)

**Many: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Merciful Lord, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a prayerful and quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Many: Amen and amen.**

\*SUNG RESPONSE

Sweet Hour of Prayer

***Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!  
that calls me from a world of care, and bids me at my Father's throne  
make all my wants and wishes known.***

***In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief,  
and oft escaped the tempter's snare by thy return, sweet hour of prayer!***

\*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 children through 8<sup>th</sup> grade to the nursery or their Sunday school classes, as the congregation prepares to hear the sermon.*

MUSICAL OFFERING      Have Thine Own Way

## PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

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      Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE    O Praise the Name      (Anástasis; sing twice)

***O praise the name of the Lord our God, O praise His name forever more  
For endless days we will sing Your praise, Oh Lord, oh Lord our God***

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN 697      **Take My Life**

## LISTEN

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Luke 8:26-39

SERMON      Amen: Beyond Coping      Rev. Dr. Phillip Jones

## SERENITY PRAYER

**Many:**     **God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with Him forever and ever in the next. Amen.**

## SEND

\*HYMN 39

**Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

\*BENEDICTION



The Serenity Prayer is an invocation by the petitioner for wisdom to understand the difference between circumstances ("things") that can and cannot be changed, asking courage to take action in the case of the former, and serenity to accept in the case of the latter. An abbreviated history is below ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serenity\\_Prayer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serenity_Prayer)):

- Around 1932, Protestant theologian Reinhold Niebuhr is reported to have first used the prayer as the last part of a longer prayer.
- In an October 31, 1932 diary entry by American YWCA official Winnifred Wygal, she quotes her colleague Niebuhr: *The victorious man in the day of crisis is the man who has the serenity to accept what he cannot help and the courage to change what must be altered.*
- Drawing on this, Wygal published a prayer in the March 1933 edition of YWCA periodical *The Woman's Press*, which was soon shared on the front page of the *Santa Cruz Sentinel* of March 15, 1933. It read: *Oh, God, give us courage to change what must be altered, serenity to accept what can not be helped, and insight to know the one from the other.*

- The prayer appeared a few additional times in American and Canadian newspapers in the 1930s, associated with the YWCA or with individual women.
- Wygal published the prayer again in her 1940 book *We Plan Our Own Worship Services*, and attributed it to Niebuhr. It took this form: *O God, give us the serenity to accept what cannot be changed, the courage to change what can be changed, and the wisdom to know the one from the other.*
- In June 1941, the prayer was published in an obituary in the *New York Herald Tribune*, and from here became known by the first Alcoholics Anonymous group. The organization embraced it and spread it widely. It was initially known within the group as "The AA prayer", but by the late 1940s, was known as "The Serenity Prayer."
- Niebuhr presented it in a sermon in the 1944 *A Book of Prayers and Services for the Armed Forces*, and the prayer was printed on cards for American soldiers in WWII.
- Niebuhr also published it in a magazine column in 1951. By this stage, the prayer had become commonly quoted as: *God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.*



Thanks to today's worship participants:

Gary Seydell, *Music Ministry*  
 Lois Galinat, *Usher Captain*  
 Ellen Hinrichs, *Greeter*

The flowers today are given in loving memory of Juo-Chu Chang Lo,  
 loving mother and grandmother, from Pei-Yi, Li-Hwa, Emily & Albert.

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.

**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 14<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 — February 22<sup>nd</sup> – March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026**

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

**HOLY WEEK 2026**

- ◆ Maundy Thursday — April 2<sup>nd</sup> | 7PM
- ◆ Good Friday — April 3<sup>rd</sup> | 12PM
- ◆ Easter Sunday — April 5<sup>th</sup> | 10AM Worship

**KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN — April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026 | 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 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026 | 10AM**

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

# WELCOME TO RED CLAY

For LARGE print bulletins or children's bulletins, please ask an Usher.  
Restrooms are available. Just ask!

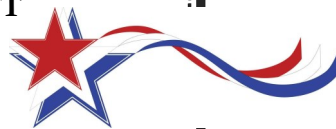
Welcome to worship, welcome to Red Clay, welcome home! Rooted in God's abiding love for all, our church is lighting the way for friendship, compassion, and service. Please join us for coffee hour in Founder's Hall after service, and stop by the welcome cart by the front entrance to learn more about our 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

### **Kids' Wheels Parade! July 6<sup>th</sup> After Worship!**



Everyone is invited to decorate their bikes, scooters, wagons, and wheels for our Stars, Stripes & Spokes Wheel Parade! Decorate your ride in red, white, and blue and roll through our Wheels Parade in honor of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Prizes for creativity, patriotic spirit, and more.

## 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.

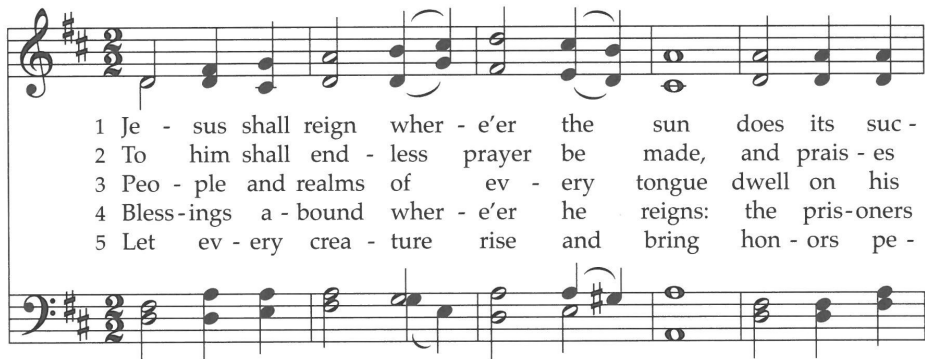
That is where the "**rays**" come in. We hope to extend our love, and the love we know from the graciousness of God, in many ways today. This means engaging in friendships with those that Jesus would have made friends with - those that feel isolated for any number of reasons. We know we will never be 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.

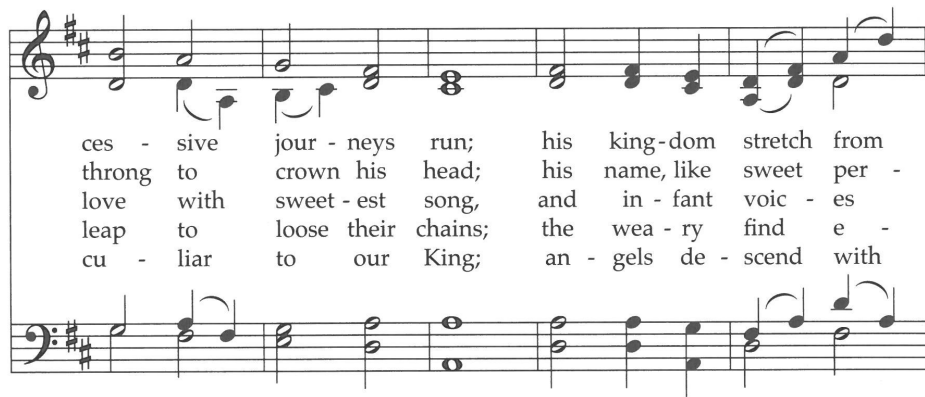




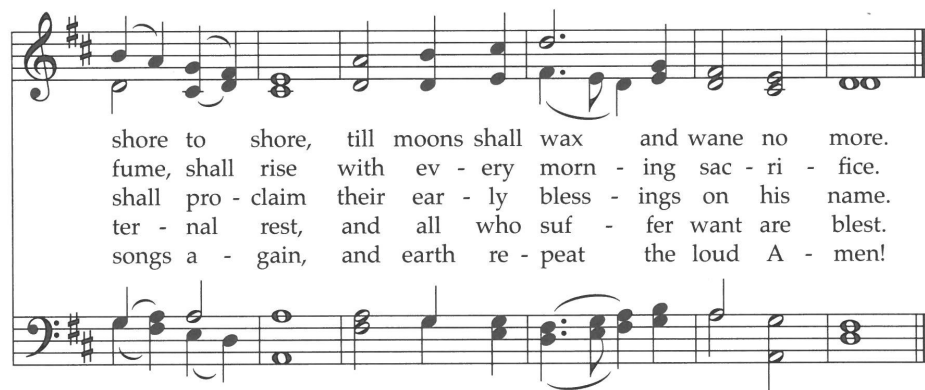
# 265 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his  
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - oners  
 5 Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring hon - ors pe -



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
 throng to crown his head; his name, like sweet per -  
 love with sweet - est song, and in - fant voic - es  
 leap to loose their chains; the wea - ry find e -  
 cu - liar to our King; an - gels de - scend with

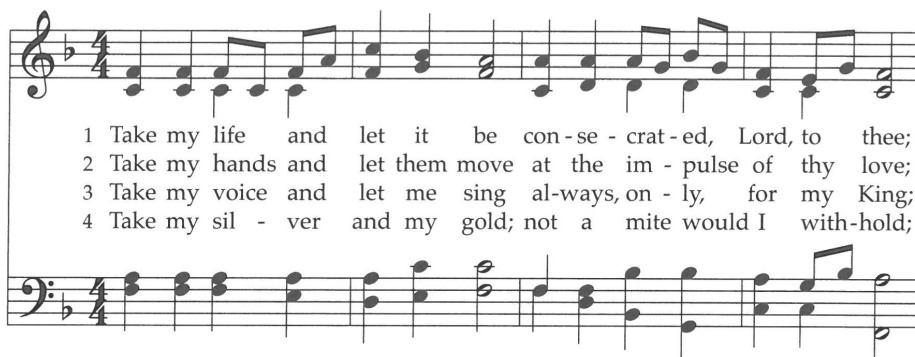


shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 fume, shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud A - men!

This hymn is a classic example of how Isaac Watts Christianized the Psalms, in this case Psalm 72:5–19, by turning their messianic language to New Testament equivalents. The tune was at first nameless and anonymous, but is now called by the address of the supposed composer.

# Take My Life

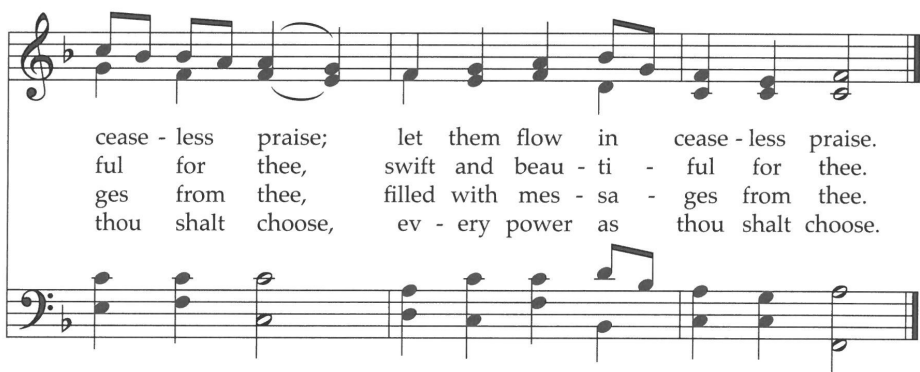
697



1 Take my life and let it be con-se - crat-ed, Lord, to thee;  
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al-ways, on - ly, for my King;  
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would I with-hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in  
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti -  
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -  
 take my in - tel - lect and use ev - ery power as



cease - less praise; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 ful for thee, swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
 ges from thee, filled with mes - sa - ges from thee.  
 thou shalt choose, ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;  
 it shall be no longer mine.  
 Take my heart, it is thine own;  
 it shall be thy royal throne,  
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
 at thy feet its treasure store;  
 take myself and I will be  
 ever, only, all for thee,  
 ever, only, all for thee.

## Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 \*Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.  
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.  
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

\*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

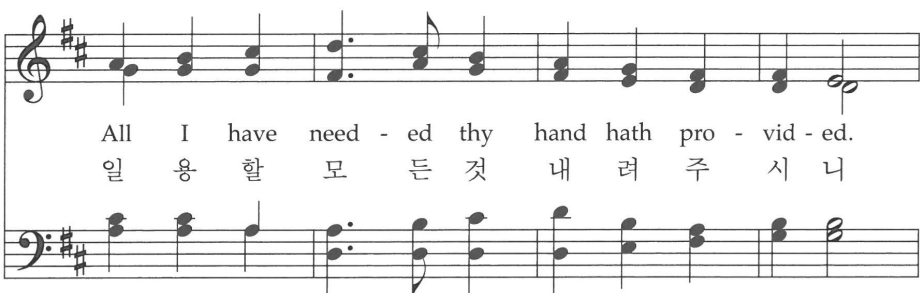
Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!  
오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주



Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.  
날 마 다 자 비 를 베풀 시 며



All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.  
일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니



Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!  
오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주