



Red Clay Creek

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY / SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 / 10 AM

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

Please silence your cell phones.

GATHER

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: The Lord be with you.
Many: **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(from Acts 9)

One: "Suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him, and he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying..."

Many: **"Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"**

One: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." Like with Saul, God calls us by name, shines light into our lives, and sets us on a new path.

Many: **Let us worship God together.**

*HYMN 664, vss. 1,3

Morning Has Broken

*Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!*

(continued)

*Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation; praise every morning,
God's re-creation of the new day!*

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Many: God of the road ahead, we confess that we often miss Your signs. We rush past what You are revealing, clinging to old maps and familiar paths. We like to know what's next. We like to be in control. But sometimes You call us to stop, to sit in the dark for a while, to wait for a hand to lead us. Forgive our impatience. Forgive our fear of the unknown. Forgive the ways we resist being changed. Shine Your light around us. Speak our name with love. And when the way is not clear, teach us to trust your son Jesus, who walks beside us.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Just as Saul was called by name and led toward grace, so too are we called, forgiven, and made new. Hear and believe the Good News—in Jesus Christ, your past does not define you.

Many: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven—and set free to walk a new road. Thanks be to God!

***SUNG RESPONSE** Cornerstone

*My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly trust in Jesus' Name
Christ alone, Cornerstone, weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all*

***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 8th grade for outdoor play time, as the congregation prepares to hear the sermon.

SUNG RESPONSE

Cornerstone

*Christ alone, Cornerstone, weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all*

PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Following today's service, you are invited to place your offering in the basket with the ushers. You may also make an online donation by going to rcpc.org and click "Give".



HYMN, vss. 1,2,4

In Christ Alone

*In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand*

*In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live*

(continued)

*No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand*

LISTEN

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Genesis 50:15-21

MUSICAL OFFERING King of My Heart McMillan

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 7:54-8:3

SERMON Damascus Road: Fee-fi-fo-fum Rev. Dr. Phillips

SEND

*HYMN 475, vss. 1,3 **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!*

*O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.*

*BENEDICTION



Thanks to today's worship participants:

Ben & Deena Andrews, Rachele Gilmore, Charlie Hannagan, *Music Ministry*
Chip Gruber, *Usher Captain*
Linda Neel, *Greeter*

The flowers today are given in memory of Richard B. Jeffers
on the anniversary of his birthday, from the Norris & Jeffers families.

Join us for delicious BBQ sandwiches & homemade desserts with your church
family after today's worship, as we celebrate Homecoming Sunday.

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.



ADULT SMALL GROUPS

Join an Adult Small Group this fall! Small Groups are all about real life change through authentic relationships. God designed us for community, and in Small Groups, we find a place to connect, grow, and support one another in our faith journey. Whether you're looking for a fun activity or a Bible study, there's a group for you. Life is better together, and we can't wait for you to experience the power of Small Groups!

Here are some of our small groups:

- Adult Forum
- Afternoon Games Group (AGGies)
- Art Group
- Arcaders Group
- Bell Choir
- Body & Soul Bible Study Group
- Care Choir
- Caregiver Support Group
- Centering Prayer Group
- Chancel Choir
- Counted Cross Stitch Group
- Craft Group
- Faith, Hope & Love Quilt Group
- Knitting/Crocheting Handwork Group
- Monday AM Bible Study
- Men's Bible Study
- Pastor's Bible Study
- Parables Bible Study
- Romeo's Group

SCAN ME



For more information: rccpc.org/smallgroups/



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

BIRTH - 8TH GRADE

NURSERY & SUNDAY SCHOOL

EVERY SUNDAY - DURING WORSHIP

- Nursery care is available for our youngest children
- Sunday school for children in Pre-K - 8th grade begins after the Children's Moment
- Questions? Contact jamie@rccpc.org

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

BEGINS SEPTEMBER 21 - 11:00 - 11:30AM

- Children in kindergarten - 5th grade meet weekly after Sunday School to learn and sing together
- Questions? Contact deena@rccpc.org

RECESS AT RED CLAY

SEPTEMBER 28 & OCTOBER 19 - 11:30 - 1:00PM

- New this fall, Recess at Red Clay is a 1x per month play and fellowship time for children (nursery - 3rd grade) and their families. Lunch will be provided, followed by playing at the playground.
- Questions? Contact jamie@rccpc.org

YOUNGER YOUTH

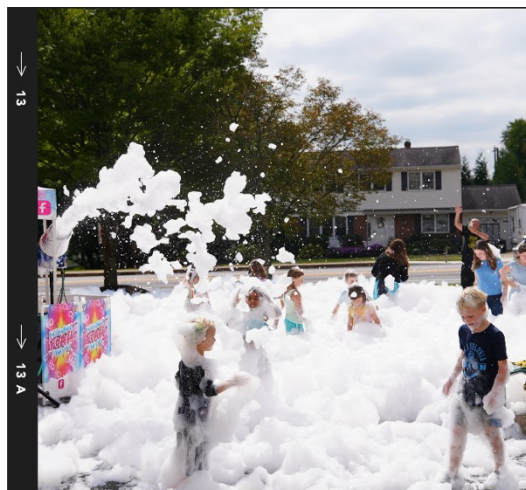
SEPTEMBER 28 & OCTOBER 19 - 11:30 - 1:00PM

- Meeting 1x per month, 4th-7th graders have lunch and enjoy an activity together. This month we'll be making mini-golf obstacles.
- Questions? Contact jamie@rccpc.org

OPEN GYM

OCTOBER 10 - 12:00 - 5:00PM

- Spend your day off from school with us! Inflatable, games, activities, and more. Lunch will be served. An adult must stay.
- Questions? Contact jamie@rccpc.org



6TH-12TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP

We welcome all youth to Red Clay! We hang out together and learn about God through our various activities and events. Any given weekend, we might be playing pickleball in our Founders Hall gym, going to a soccer game, having a midnighter, playing sports and games, learning about God through the arts, or volunteering in our community. We are proud of our scouting program, confirmation classes, mission trips, and a budding high school service group. If you have any specific questions or are interested in joining the youth group, please contact Ben Andrews at ben@rccpc.org; see rccpc.org/connect/youth.

- Camp Red Clay
- Confirmation
- Orff Ensemble
- Midnighters
- Mission Trips
- Scouts (Troop 29)
- Sunday School
- Youth Group

SCAN ME





SERVICE

LOCAL, REGIONAL & GLOBAL

SEPTEMBER

- Roots & Rays Kids Wish List (begins 9/30)
- Annual Picnic for Friendship House Residents

OCTOBER

- Spooky Service Night for Youth (10/12)

NOVEMBER

- Thanksgiving meals for Friendship House & Table of Plenty

DECEMBER

- Stock Santa's Shop Toy Drive for FH
- Santa's 2nd Run Gifts for local families

JANUARY

- Plan for our annual Roots & Rays Service Challenge

FEBRUARY

- R&R Service Challenge begins
- Rise Against Hunger (2/22)
- Lenten Food drive begins for Food Bank

MARCH

- Service Challenge events continue
- Food Bank Saturday sessions

APRIL

- Easter Meals for Table of Plenty and local schools

MAY

- Highmark Walk for Friendship House

JUNE & JULY

- Arts Camps begin
- Mission to Maine (July 22- Aug. 1)

AUGUST

- Back to School Store for School uniforms and school supplies

YEAR ROUND MINISTRIES

Local Ministries:

Friendship House of DE, Meeting Ground, Humane Animal Partners, Food Bank of DE, Meals on Wheels, Table of Plenty, Emmanuel Dining Room

International Ministries:

Sibanye (S. Africa), CDCA Nicaragua & CEDCAS (Costa Rica)



Our serving ministries, led by Rachele Gilmore (our Director of Community Life) are year-round! If you want more information on how to get involved email Rachele at rachele@rccpc.org to receive our weekly outreach newsletter *The Roots & Rays Rundown*.

Red Clay Creek Presbyterian invites you to
its *Signature Services & Events* during the coming year.

SERVICE OF HOPE & HEALING — September 28th, 2025 | 11:30 AM

Join us for a quiet service of prayer and reflection with opportunities for individual prayers for healing, hope, comfort or peace and anointing with oil.

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

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

ROOTS AND RAYS SERVICE CHALLENGE — Feb. 22nd–Mar. 22nd, 2026

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

HOLY WEEK 2026

- ♦ Maundy Thursday — April 2nd; Good Friday — April 3rd
- ♦ Easter Sunday — April 5th | 10AM Worship

KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN — April 26th, 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 7th, 2026 | 10AM

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

SUMMER ARTS CAMPS — July 2026 | 9AM-12PM

Kids will have music, drama, visual arts, snacks, and FUN, culminating with Bingo and performance night, as well as Youth Sunday.

DAMASCUS ROAD: SIGNPOSTS FOR THE SEASON AHEAD



YOU ARE
HERE

Week 1: Genesis 50:15-21 and Acts 7:54-8:3

Joseph Forgives His Brothers

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ... please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." ...

¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today...

The Stoning of Stephen

⁵⁴ When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. ⁵⁵ But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

¹ And Saul approved of their killing him... ³ Saul was ravaging the church [in Jerusalem] by entering house after house; dragging off both men and women, he committed them to prison.



"You Are Here" on Maps and Signs: This marker is a common wayfinding tool, especially in public spaces like parks, shopping malls, or museums, to indicate the user's current position. The purpose is to help users understand their location relative to other points of interest and navigate effectively.

PRAYER PRACTICE: THE PLUS & MINUS GRATITUDE JOURNAL

YOU ARE
HERE

Theme: Finding and naming God's gifts in every part of life. Stephen's witness and Joseph's forgiveness both flowed from a trust that God is present in every chapter - the obviously good and the surprisingly good. This prayer practice helps you see and give thanks for God's presence in both the "plus" and "minus" moments.

Instructions:

MINUS (-): LIFE'S CHALLENGES

PLUS (+): LIFE'S JOYS

1. Complete the chart above.

- MINUS: List a few things from the past week/season that have been difficult, disappointing, or draining.
- PLUS: List the blessings, wins, and good surprises from the past week/season.

2. Add Gratitude!

- Next to at least one MINUS, write a note of gratitude; it could be for what you learned, how you were supported, or simply that God carried you through.

3. Pray the List!

- Read down the PLUS with a prayer of thanks.
- Read down the MINUS with a prayer of trust: *"Even here, I thank You."*

4. Kickoff Blessing.

End by asking God to keep adding more "PLUSES" to your life and our church in this new season.

"ROADS WERE MADE FOR JOURNEYS, NOT DESTINATIONS." —CONFUCIUS

Morning Has Broken

664



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the

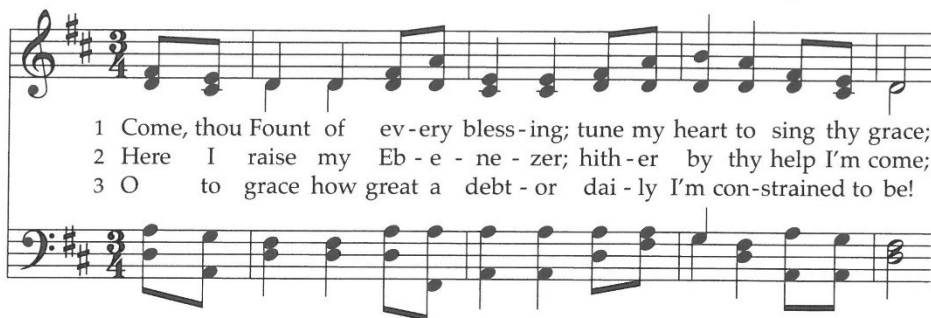


spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery

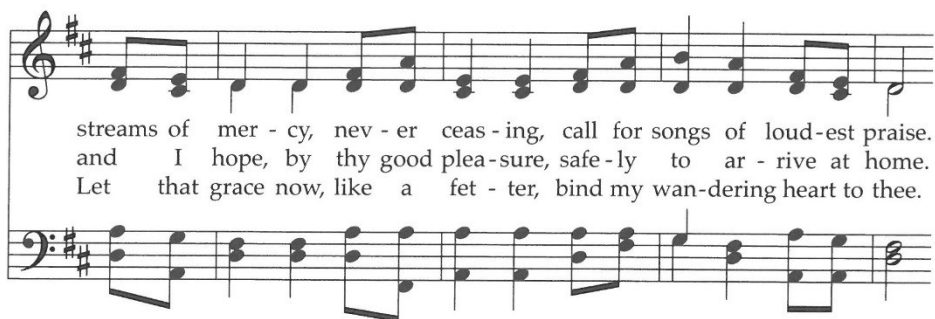


morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

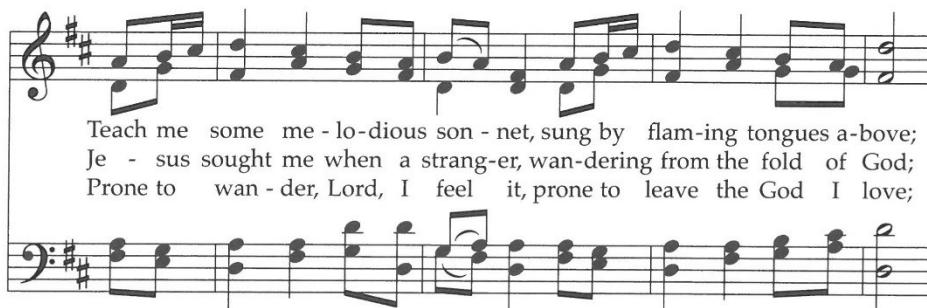
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



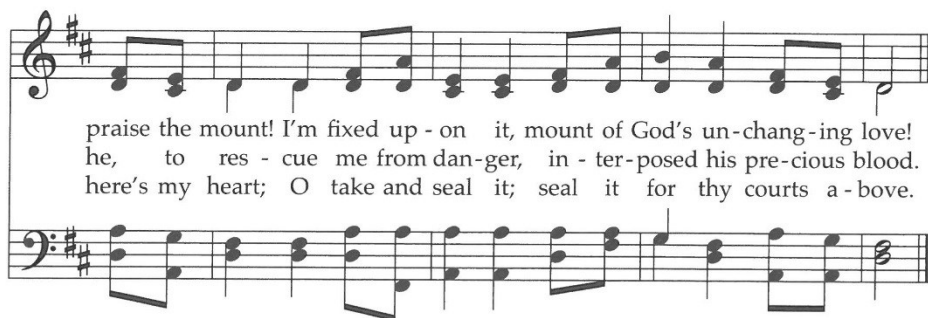
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



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.