



Red Clay Creek

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY / SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2025 / 10 AM

Rooted in Love, Lighting the Way

Welcome to worship, welcome to Red Clay, welcome home!

We're glad you're here. If needed, a family area with CCTV is in the narthex near the front doors, and our nursery is open for young children. Restrooms are available by exiting out the side door near the pulpit and turning left. After worship, join us for Coffee Hour in Founders Hall by the main parking lot. Please silence your cell phone as we enter into worship.

GATHER

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Here may the aged find consolation, and the young be inspired. 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 hunger for hope,

Many: For God's love goes above and beyond what our eyes can see.

One: Come, all who remember the saints and celebrate the servants,

Many: For their faith still lights our way.

One: Come, all who have seen God's steadfast hand through every season,

Many: For God's grace never runs out.

One: Come, all who are ready to rejoice, to sing, to taste joy again—

Many: Let us worship the God who goes above and beyond.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 15 All Creatures of Our God and King**

"Your procession has come into view, O God, the procession of my God and my King into the sanctuary. In front are the singers, after them the musicians; with them are ones playing tambourines... there is the little tribe of Benjamin, leading them." (Psalm 68:24)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Many: Merciful God, you give and give again, yet we live as though Your grace has limits. You call us to go above and beyond in love, but too often we hold back—from generosity, from forgiveness, from joy. You invite us to remember the saints, to serve our neighbors, to trust Your steadfast care through every season, yet we settle for what is easy and expected. Forgive us, Lord. Lift our eyes to see the abundance all around us. Renew us by Your Spirit, that we may live as people of Your mercy—forgiven, freed, and filled to serve in the goodness of God. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Hear the good news: God's mercy always goes further than our failures. God's love is deeper than our doubt and stronger than our sin. In Jesus Christ, grace overflows.

Many: We are set free to live above and beyond, trusting in the goodness of God.

*SUNG RESPONSE

Goodness of 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

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.

SUNG RESPONSE

Goodness of God

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

PRAYER

MUSICAL OFFERING

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

J. S. Bach

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

I Love to Tell the Story †

(congregation is invited to join in singing on cue)

*I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.
I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

LISTEN

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 136:1-9

After each intercession, please respond: **For his steadfast love endures forever.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

In modo religioso

Alexander Glazunov

SERMON

Above & Beyond: 303 Years Young

Rev. Dr. Phillips

SEND

*HYMN 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Canzona per sonare no.2

Giovanni Gabrieli

† Today's anthem "I Love to Tell the Story" was commissioned by Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church to celebrate its 300th anniversary on November 20, 2022, from internationally known composer and arranger Mark Hayes. The arrangement features a "new" tune to the familiar words of the hymn "I Love to Tell the Story of Jesus and His Love"—intentionally selected because Red Clay has been telling Jesus' story for over 300 years!



Thanks to today's worship participants:

Festival Choir, *Music Ministry*
Sue Peo and Katie Soukup, *Trumpets*
David Aument and Pam Letts, *Trombones*

Luke Meyer, Ross Meyer, *Liturgists*

Chip Gruber, *Usher Captain*

The flowers today (provided by *The Florist's Daughter Designs* by Paige Hanna) are given in loving memory of my grandmother, Sarah V. Townsend, born November 18, 1900, from Keith Barton. She was a member of RCCPC from 1920 until her death in 2003; for many years, she was Red Clay's oldest member.



November is Global Bible Month—a worldwide celebration of the Bible, with this year marking its first year. The celebration highlights the Bible's enduring relevance and continued impact on lives today, as it is accessed through various modern forms like apps and the internet, in addition to printed copies. We honor this initiative by having our youth serve as liturgists during today's worship.

Join us for coffee, anniversary cake & fellowship in Founders Hall following the postlude... or head outside to support Lucky Shot Coffee!

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.

SERVICE OF LIGHT & HOPE — December 7th, 2025 | 3PM

A time of reflection and healing for those carrying burdens this season.

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
- ◆ Resurrection Remembrance Service — April 5th | 9:30AM Worship
- ◆ 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.

HOMEcoming SUNDAY — September 6th, 2026 | 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 25th, 2026 | 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.

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.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 - Kindergarteners will adjourn to Room 303, Grades 1-3 will adjourn to Room 206, and Grades 4-8 will adjourn to Room 202/204.

UPCOMING EVENT SPOTLIGHT

Next Sunday: Celebration of the Church Year & PIE DAY!

We'll close our Above and Beyond sermon series with a joyful celebration of the church year. Just when we think the feast of God's grace and blessings is finished, He surprises us with one more course.

Pie becomes the parable: the unexpected encore, the taste of Easter all over again, the reminder that His goodness keeps coming back around.

Join us for fellowship and PIE after worship. We invite you to bring your favorite PIE to share!



RED CLAY CREEK PRESBYTERIAN — MINISTERS, STAFF & CHAIRS

Rev. Dr. Nathaniel D. Phillips, *Senior Pastor/Head of Staff*

Rev. Emily Schwenker ❖ Rev. Dr. Philip Jones

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*

Barbara Vanderkraats, *Pastoral Care Coordinator*

Jamie Russell, *Director of Children's Ministries*

Judy Lozier, *Nursery Director* ❖ Sofia Martin, *Nursery Support*

Delaney Christel, Josephine DeCaire, Quiara Smith, *Sunday School Teachers*

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.

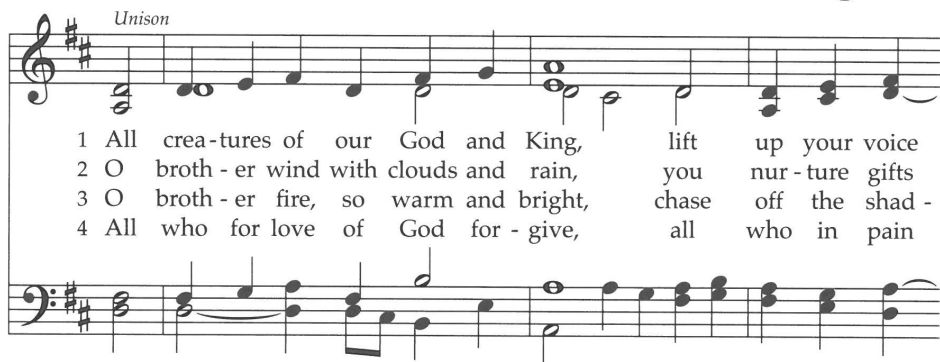
That is where the "**rays**" come in. We hope to extend our love, and the love we know from the graciousness of God, in many ways today. This means engaging in friendships with those that Jesus would have made friends with - those that feel isolated for any number of reasons. We know we will never be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



15 All Creatures of Our God and King

Unison



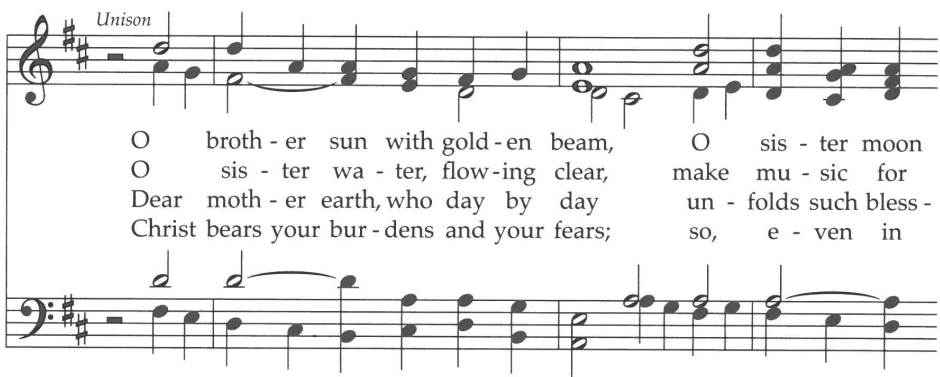
1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice
 2 O broth-er wind with clouds and rain, you nur-ture gifts
 3 O broth-er fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shad-
 4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain

Harmony



and with us sing, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
 of fruit and grain. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
 ous of the night. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
 or sor-row grieve, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Unison



O broth-er sun with gold-en beam, O sis-ter moon
 O sis-ter wa-ter, flow-ing clear, make mu-sic for
 Dear moth-er earth, who day by day un-folds such bless-
 Christ bears your bur-dens and your fears; so, e-ven in

Sometimes called "The Canticle of the Sun," this cosmic roll call allows human beings to give voice to all creation. One of the earliest religious poems in the Italian language, it is made even more expansive by this broad, repetitive melody with interspersed "Alleluias."

Harmony

with sil - ver gleam, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 your Lord to hear. Sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 ings on our way, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 the midst of tears, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

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

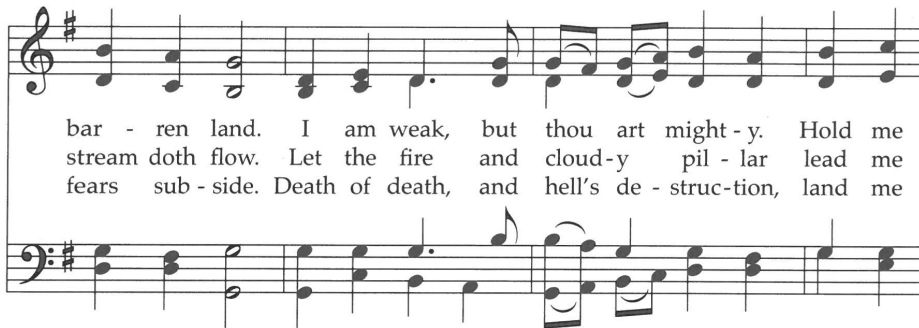
5 And you, most gentle sister death,
 waiting to hush our final breath:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
 fair is the night that leads us home.
 Sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
 and worship God with humble heart.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 Sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

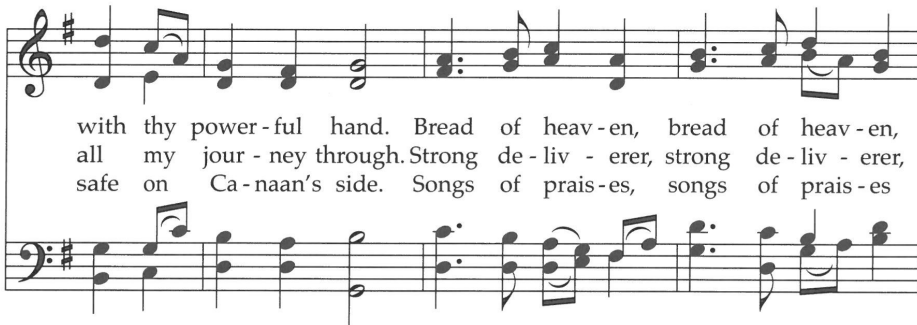
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65



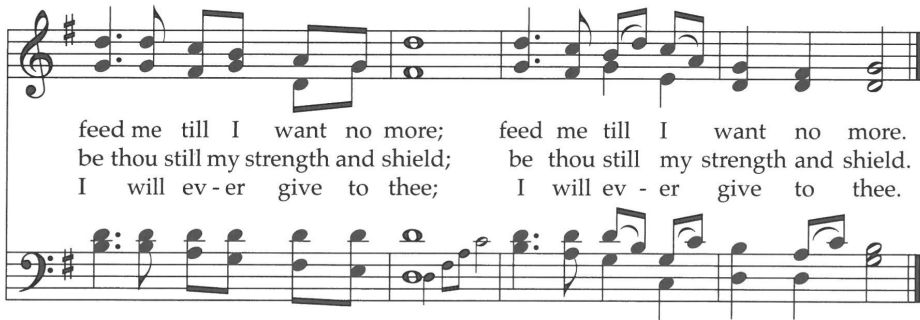
1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es



feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.