



Red Clay Creek

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY / SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026 / 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

(a silent prayer)

God of grace and mercy, as we await the Prince of Peace, we come to you with hearts yearning for the day when your peace reigns in the world. May your light dispel the darkness of discord, and may nations unite in the pursuit of harmony and justice. Inspire our leaders with wisdom and compassion that they may work for the well-being of all. Amen.

PRELUDE

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**



Sign-Up!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(Micah 6:8)

One: God has told us what is good.

Many: To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

One: God is good.

Many: All the time.

One: All the time!

Many: God is good. Let us worship God together!

*HYMN 623

I've Got Peace like a River

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Good and gracious God, we can say you are good not because our lives are easy, but because you are faithful.

Many: Yet we confess that we do not always trust your goodness. We turn from what gives life toward what is smaller, quicker, and easier to control. We settle for lesser goods when we lose sight of what truly matters.

One: Forgive us, O God. Remind us again of this truth: that you judge it better to bring good out of evil than to allow no evil to exist.

Many: Reorder our loves. Turn us again toward your goodness. Through Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, who leads us home. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news: In Jesus Christ, God's goodness comes near, meets us in our weakness, and does not let us go.

Many: Thanks be to God.

*SUNG RESPONSE

You Are Good

(cantor sings non-bolded text; congregation sings bold)

Lord, You are good and Your mercy endureth forever

Lord, You are good and Your mercy endureth forever

People from every nation and tongue from generation to generation

We worship You, hallelujah, hallelujah

We worship You for who You are

We worship You, hallelujah, hallelujah

We worship You for who You are. You are good.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN’S MOMENT Good Good Father (Chris Tomlin) Children’s Choir

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 God Is So Good (sing twice)

God is so good, God is so good, God is so good, God’s so good to me.

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 Forever Reign

*SUNG RESPONSE God Is So Good (sing twice)

God cares for me, God cares for me. God cares for me. God’s so good to me.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN 215, vss. 1,2,3 **What Wondrous Love Is This**



Thanks to today's worship participants:

The Red Clay Collective & Children's Choir, *Music Ministry*
Nancy James, *Usher Captain*
Karen Beare, *Greeter*

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God.



The Annual Congregational meeting will be held immediately after the 10:00 a.m. worship service TODAY for the purpose of receiving the reports of the Staff, the Clerk of Session, Session Committees, the Board of Deacons and other church organizations and committees, receiving and acting upon the report of the Nominating Committee for the election of ruling elders, deacons and members of congregational committees, reviewing the 2026 operating budget, and any other business deemed appropriate for congregational consideration.

The annual Congregational meeting will be immediately followed by a short annual meeting of the Cemetery Corporation. All church members are members of the Cemetery Corporation also.

Join us for refreshments (i.e., PIZZA!) & fellowship in Founders Hall following today's Annual Meeting, as we celebrate the conclusion of our *It's All Good* sermon series.



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.

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.

CAMP RED CLAY — 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.

ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY — November 15th, 2026 | 10AM

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

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE — December 24th, 2026

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

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. All are welcome, for Jesus gathers us together even as we divide ourselves by politics, denomination, or whatever labels the world puts on us. Please join us for coffee hour in Founder's Hall after service, and stop by the welcome cart in the hallway 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 and "The Arcaders" social group for GenX and Millennials. 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

**Ash Wednesday is February 18th THIS WEEK
Supper (6 PM) & Service (either 12 PM or 7 PM):**

Join us as we begin the season of Lent on Ash Wednesday with worship at 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm, including the imposition of ashes. A chili supper at 6:00 pm (catered by The Well) will be served in Fellowship Hall. The prayer labyrinth in Founders Hall will be open throughout the afternoon and evening, offering a reflective prayer practice and launching our Lenten Service Challenge.

Come for worship, dinner, prayer - or all three. All are welcome.

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.



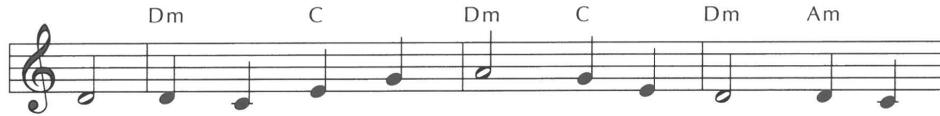
623 I've Got Peace like a River

1 I've got peace like a riv - er; I've got peace like a
 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain; I've got joy like a
 3 I've got love like an o - cean; I've got love like an

1
 riv - er; I've got peace like a riv - er, in my
 foun-tain; I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my
 o - cean; I've got love like an o - cean, in my

2
 soul. I've got riv - er, in my soul.
 soul. I've got foun-tain, in my soul.
 soul. I've got o - cean, in my soul.

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."

192 Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Capo 2: (G) (C) (G) (D) (G)

A D A E A

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the
2 Lord, I come to your awe - some pres - ence, from the
3 As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, so our

(C) (G) (D) (C) (D)

D A E D E

midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, Light of the
shad - ows in - to your ra - diance; by the blood I may
fac - es dis - play your like - ness; ev - er chang - ing from

(Bm7) (Em7) (C) (D) (Bm7)

C#m7 F#m7 D E C#m7

World, shine up - on us; set us free by the truth you now
en - ter your bright - ness. Search me; try me; con - sume all my
glo - ry to glo - ry, mir - rored here may our lives tell your

(Em7) (F) (Dsus)(D) (F) (Dsus)(D)

F#m7 G Esus E G Esus E

bring us. Shine on me; shine on me.
dark - ness. Shine on me; shine on me.
sto - ry. Shine on me; shine on me.

Refrain (G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am7) (C) (D7) (C) (D)

A E F#m D A Bm7 D E7 D E

Shine, Je - sus, shine; fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am) (Am/G) (F) (D7sus)(D7)
 A E F#m D A Bm Bm/A G E7sus E7

Blaze, Spir - it, blaze; set our hearts on fire.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am7) (C) (D7) (C) (D)
 A E F#m D A Bm7 D E7 D E

Flow, riv - er, flow; flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am) (D7) (G)
 A E F#m D A Bm E7 A

Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

While the reference to Jesus as the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) can be understood generally, this hymn is perhaps best understood as a response to the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8/Mark 9:2-8/Luke 9:28-36). This is the most popular of the author/composer's many songs.