



# Red Clay Creek

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

---

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY / SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026 / 10 AM

---



James Tissot's painting 'Reconstruction of the Temple of Herod, Southeast Corner' (between 1886 and 1894) is a watercolor painting [gouache over graphite on gray wove paper], showcasing his attention to historical and biblical accuracy. Tissot's work captures the cultural and religious atmosphere of the time, portraying the setting of the ancient city. Brooklyn Museum, Accession Number 00.159.7.

*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)

*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.*

### PRELUDE

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**



*Sign-Up!*

### RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

*Andrew & Brittany Anastor, Ben & Deena Andrews, Peter & Janice Itzel*

Many: **We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love.**

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather in the shadow of the cross, not to turn away, but to look with love.

Many: **We come to see what Jesus saw.**

One: From the cross, Jesus saw the city and the Temple, friends and strangers, faithful love and fierce opposition.

Many: **We come to see what Jesus saw.**

One: He saw us—and did not look away.

Many: **Come, let us see with him. Come, let us worship.**

\*HYMN

Cornerstone

*Verse 1*                    ***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***

*Chorus*                    ***Christ alone, cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love  
Through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all***

*Verse 2*                    ***When darkness seems to hide His face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil  
My anchor holds within the veil (chorus)***

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**One:** From the cross, Jesus sees us as we are—not as we pretend to be, not as we wish to be, but as we truly are. Trusting in his mercy, and knowing we are already seen and loved, let us confess our sin together.

**Many:** **Jesus, from the cross you saw us clearly. You saw our fear and our pride, our compassion and our cruelty, our longing for life and our resistance to change. You saw how often we turn away—from suffering that unsettles us, from truth that calls us to repent, from love that demands something of us. We confess that we do not always want to see what you see. We protect ourselves instead of loving our neighbors. Forgive us, Lord. Give us eyes to see, hearts to love, and lives shaped by your mercy.**

*(silence is kept)*

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**One:** Hear the good news. From the cross, Jesus did not look away. He saw the world clearly—and loved it still.

**Many:** **What he saw, he loved. What he loved, he served. What he served, he redeemed.**

**One:** In Jesus Christ, we are seen, forgiven, and made new.

**Many:** **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*SUNG RESPONSE

Come, Jesus, Come

***Come, Jesus, come  
We've been waiting so long for the ways You return  
To heal every hurt and right every wrong  
We need You right now, come and turn this around  
Deep down I know this world needs some hope  
Come, Jesus, come***

\*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.*

SUNG RESPONSE

Come, Jesus, Come

(see previous lyrics)

## 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: *Karen Caldas, Janice Hench\*, Bonnie Hudson, Susan Kissell\*, Debbie McNesby\*,  
Eric Sanford\*, Brooke Sedita\**

Elders: *Jason Baxley, Mark Cozine, Lois Galinat, Amy Harter\*, Holly Martinez\*,  
Derek Meyer\*, Brandon Wallace*

## QUESTIONS TO THE OFFICERS & QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

*Do you, members of the church, accept these Elders and 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

### 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      When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

\*SUNG RESPONSE      In Christ Alone

***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.***

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## LISTEN

SCRIPTURE LESSON      John 2:13-22

SERMON      What He Saw: ODWOC      Rev. Dr. Phillips

## SEND

\*HYMN 66      **Every Time I Feel the Spirit**

\*BENEDICTION & POSTLUDE



Thanks to today's worship participants:

The Red Clay Collective & Festival Choir, *Music Ministry*  
Chip Gruber, *Usher Captain*; Linda Sopkanich, *Greeter*

Join us for refreshments & fellowship in Founders Hall following the postlude.

The flowers today are given in loving memory of my mother, Lillian Fox,  
from Barbara Fox.

# WELCOME

## *New Members*

### **Andrew & Brittany Anastor**

Andrew Anastor grew up in Vineland, NJ, while Brittany was raised in Stewartville, NJ. They met in Easton, PA in April 2010. After moving to Wilmington together in 2014, they married in October 2017. Andrew works as an AVP of Ocean Marine Claims at Ascot Group and holds a BA in Government & Law from Lafayette College and a JD from Delaware Law School. He volunteers as a Den Leader with Cub Scout Pack 3029 and coaches and serves as a Board Member at Large for Wilmington Little League. Brittany is a commercial real estate asset manager at Morgan Properties and earned her BA in Economics & Political Science from Rutgers Univ. Andrew & Brittany have two sons: Warren is 6 years old and enjoys participating in Cub Scouts, as well as playing golf, baseball, ice skating, and swimming; Rory will turn 3 years old in March and enjoys playing with Warren and learning how to swim and trying different sports. The Anastor family also has 2 German Shorthaired Pointers named Shep and Remi.



# WELCOME

## *New Members*

### **Peter & Janice Itzel**

Peter: I grew up in San Mateo, CA and Stamford, CT. After graduation from the University of Connecticut, I joined the United States Marine Corps. During my 21 years in the Corps, I was a designated Naval Aviator and had the pleasure of piloting a variety of rotary and fixed wing aircraft. I retired in 1996, having attained the rank of Major. I finished my full time working career as a Special Education teacher (K-4) in the Capital School District. During the summer of 1972 while working at a Country Club in Greenwich, CT, I met Janice and we were married in 1976. Over the past 40 years, we have lived in Southern CA, FL and several other states. After living in the Dover area for almost 28 years, we moved to Pike Creek in 2015. For the past 10 years, I have had the pleasure of working at the Hagley Museum. My hobbies include playing guitar, reading and marksmanship.



Nancy: I was born and raised in Greenwich, CT and I'm the middle child of three children. I have a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from the University of Connecticut and a Master's of Science in Teaching from the University of Wisconsin. My husband and I have been married for 50 years (as of February 21, 2026!) and have been pet parents for all of that time, up to September, 2025. As a retiree, I volunteer at Carousel Park, sew for two charities, make items for sale at the Newark Senior Center, read, garden, and work out at the gym. I am also an adjunct professor at Wilmington University.



# ANNOUNCING

## *Seminary*

### Ben & Deena Andrews

Dear Red Clay Family,

We are thrilled to join as members today, and at the same time, announce our move to Princeton Seminary! As part of the seminary program, it is important that we become members of a home church. There are few places in the world where our family has felt more at home. You warmly welcomed us from Nashville, have embraced Nora as one of your own, and continue to support our family through consistent acts of love every week.

We look forward to this next chapter of our lives as Ben pursues a calling toward ministry. Thank you, Red Clay, for your love and support during this new season.

With love, The Andrews Family



Friends,

As you read Ben's announcement, I want to add my voice of gratitude and celebration. We are thrilled for Ben, Deena, and Nora as they prepare to move to Princeton this fall so Ben can begin seminary. Princeton Theological Seminary—what you've heard me call "the finest theological seminary in the land"—will be a wonderful place for his gifts and calling to grow.

This is not goodbye. We are committed to remaining in close relationship, and the Andrews family plans to continue worshiping and serving with us on Sundays in a role we are shaping with Personnel. We will also begin a search right away for a half-time leader to guide our youth ministry as Ben steps away from that responsibility. Our commitment to our young people remains strong, and we are grateful for the faithful foundation he has built.

Please join me in celebrating and praying for the Andrews family in this exciting new chapter.

Stay warm, Nate

## JAMES TISSOT, ARTIST OF THE SERIES “THE LIFE OF CHRIST”

Jacques Joseph Tissot (15 October 1836 – 8 August 1902), better known as James Tissot, was a French painter, illustrator, and caricaturist. He decided to pursue a career in art at a young age, coming to incorporate elements of realism, early Impressionism, and academic art into his work. He is best known for a variety of genre paintings of contemporary European high society produced during the peak of his career, which focused on the people and women's fashion of the Belle Époque and Victorian England, but he would also explore many medieval, biblical, and Japoniste subjects throughout his life.

In 1885 Tissot experienced a religious vision at the Church of St. Sulpice, leading him to revive his Catholic faith and spend the remainder of his life making paintings about biblical events. As part of this artistic effort Tissot traveled to the Middle East in 1886, 1889, and 1896 to make studies of its landscapes and cultures, which would come to distinguish his series from contemporary Biblical art through its “*considerable archaeological exactitude*” in striving for accuracy rather than religious emotion. His series of 365 gouache illustrations showing the life of Christ were shown to critical acclaim and enthusiastic audiences. Tissot spent the last years of his life working on paintings of subjects from the Old Testament; although he never completed the series, he exhibited 80 of these paintings in Paris in 1901.

The theme for our Lenten Sermon Series (“What He Saw”; February 22-March 22) this year features James Tissot’s painting, **What Our Lord Saw from the Cross** (*Ce que voyait Notre-Seigneur sur la Croix*). This c. 1890 watercolor painting is unusual for its portrayal of the Crucifixion of Jesus from the perspective of Jesus on the cross, rather than featuring Christ at the center of the work. The scene shows witnesses, including Jesus' followers (the women and the disciple whom Jesus loved), participants, and bystanders; of Jesus' own body only the feet can be seen, at the bottom of the picture. The painting is part of the series The Life of Jesus Christ.



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

**ROOTS AND RAYS SERVICE CHALLENGE — Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>–Mar. 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>; Good Friday — April 3<sup>rd</sup>
- ◆ Resurrection Remembrance Service — April 5<sup>th</sup> | 9:30AM Worship
- ◆ 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.

**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 6<sup>th</sup>, 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 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 | 10AM**

A joyous worship service where we give Bibles to our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and dedicate our pledges, followed by outdoor trunk-or-treat and a flag football game.

**ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY — November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 | 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>, 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](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 and "The Arcaders" social group for GenX and Millennials. 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 - 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

### TONIGHT at 7 PM: Unplugged Coffeehouse

Join us in Fellowship Hall at 7 pm as our coffeehouse series continues with Dinyar & Charlie. Doors open at 6:30 pm.



For more Roots & Rays Service Challenge activities during this Lenten season, go to:

<https://www.rccpc.org/serve/>

## 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.



## 66

## Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Refrain

Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing in my

heart I will pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the

Spir - it mov - ing in my heart I will pray. *Fine*

1 Up - on the moun - tain, when my Lord spoke, out of God's

2 Jor - dan Riv - er, chil - ly and cold, it chills the

mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a - round me, it looked so

bod - y but not the soul. There is but one train up - on this

*to Refrain*

fine, till I asked my Lord if all was mine.  
track. It runs to heav - en and then right back.

Like many African American spirituals, this one mixes the language of biblical narrative with veiled but effective allusions to the hope of escape from slavery, either by crossing rivers into free states or by participating in organized efforts like the Underground Railroad.