



# 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, AUGUST 2, 2026 / 10 AM

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## *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

(Iona Benediction Prayer)

*The cross, we will take it. The bread, we will break it. The pain, we will bear it. The joy, we will share it. The Gospel, we will live it. The love, we will give it. The light, we will cherish it. The darkness, God shall perish it!*

### PRELUDE

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.



*Sign-Up!*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

(Psalm 10)

One: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

**Many: Worship the Lord with gladness; come before God with joyful songs.**

One: Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us and we are God's children;

**Many: We are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.**

One: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and the courts of the Lord with praise;

**Many: Give thanks to God and praise God's name.**

One: For the Lord is good and God's love endures forever;

**Many: God's faithfulness continues through all generations. Let us worship God!**

\*HYMN 664

**Morning Has Broken**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Many: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart or our neighbors as ourselves. We humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

**Many: Believe the good news of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

\*SUNG RESPONSE

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

(vs. 1)

*Bless now, O God, the journey that all your people make  
The path through noise and silence, the way of give and take.  
The trail is found in desert and winds the mountain round  
Then leads beside still waters the road where faith is found.*

## \*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

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

(vs. 2)

***Bless sojourners and pilgrims who share this winding way  
Your hope burns through the terrors, your love sustains the day.  
We yearn for holy freedom while often we are bound,  
Together we are seeking the road where faith is found.***

# 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.*



## \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

***Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

***World without end, without end. Amen.***

***World without end, without end. Amen.***

***World without end, without end. Amen.***

***As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN 684

**Faith Begins by Letting Go**

LISTEN

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jonah 4:1-10

MUSICAL OFFERING

SERMON

Our Odyssey: Mr. Tanner

Rev. Dr. Phillips

SEND

\*HYMN 611

**Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION I Love to Tell the Story

*I love to tell the story! 'Twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.*



Thanks to today's worship participants:

Lauda, *Music Ministry*  
John Christie, *Usher Captain*  
Peter & Janice Itzel, *Greeters*

The flowers today are given in loving memory of my father and mother,  
Melvin & Martha Wills, from Carolyn Diehl.



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

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.

**HOMEcomings SUNDAY — September 13<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

**ROOTS AND RAYS SERVICE CHALLENGE — February –March, 2027**

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

**HOLY WEEK 2027**

- ◆ Maundy Thursday — March 25<sup>th</sup> ; Good Friday — March 26<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ Resurrection Remembrance Service — March 28<sup>th</sup> | 9:30AM Worship
- ◆ Easter Sunday — March 28<sup>th</sup> | 10AM Worship

**KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN — May 2027 | 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 2027 | 10AM**

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

**CAMP RED CLAY — July 2027 | 9AM-12PM**

Kids (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade) can attend one of our three Camp Red Clays! More info coming soon.

# 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. 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" 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

### **Sports Equipment & Gear Donations for The Starting Line Children's Resource Center: Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>**

We're excited to launch The Starting Line Children's Resource Center, a new ministry dedicated to helping every child have the opportunity to participate in sports by providing needed equipment, shoes, and athletic apparel. Next Sunday, August 9, we'll be collecting equipment donations in the lower parking lot (near the tunnel) after worship. Please review the LATC donation list for the new & gently used items we are accepting for soccer, baseball, lacrosse, field hockey, golf, tennis, cross country and more. Together, we can help remove financial barriers and give every child a chance to play!

## RED CLAY CREEK PRESBYTERIAN — MINISTERS, STAFF & CHAIRS

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

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*  
David Newby, *Youth Coordinator* ❖ Judy Lozier, *Nursery Director* ❖ Sofia Martin, *Nursery Support*  
Delaney Christel & Josephine DeCaire, *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* ❖ Christine Fischer, *Personnel Chair*  
Mark Cozine, *Home Chair* ❖ John Gast, *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.





# 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



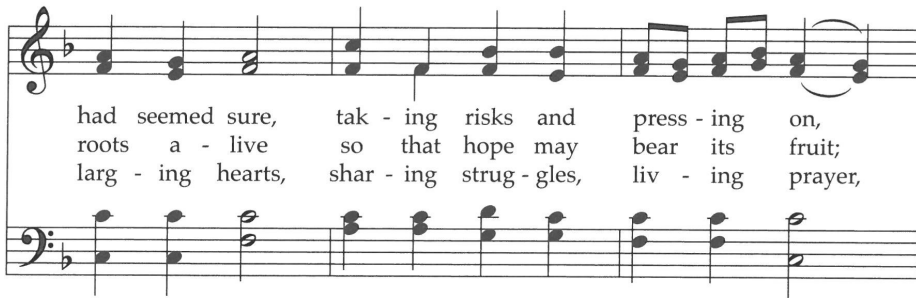
morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

This 20th-century text was created to provide words for this traditional tune named for a small village on the Isle of Mull, off the west coast of Scotland. Through repeated use of "new" and "first," each morning is treated as a re-creation of the promise of the original day.

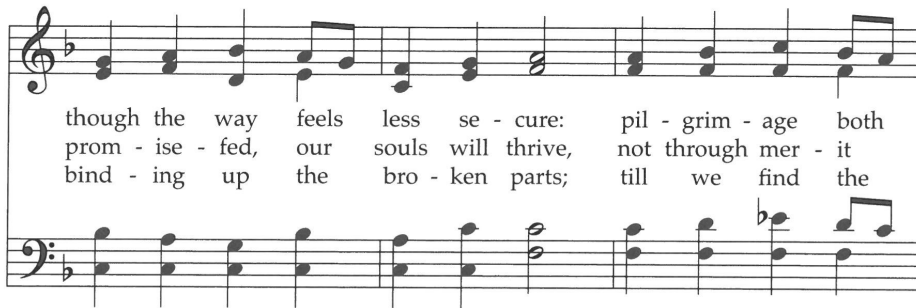
# Faith Begins by Letting Go 684



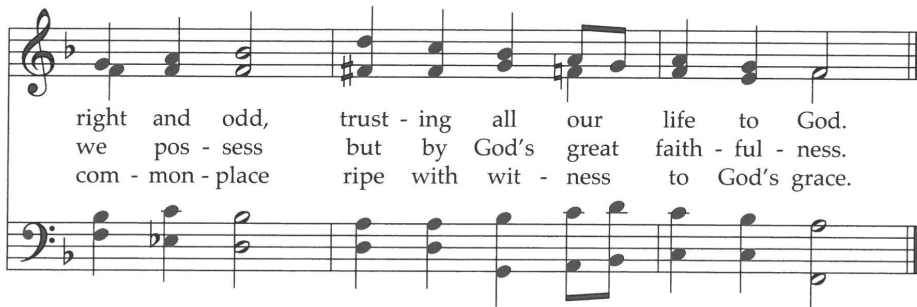
1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what  
2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - ory's  
3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en -



had seemed sure, tak - ing risks and press - ing on,  
roots a - live so that hope may bear its fruit;  
larg - ing hearts, shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer,



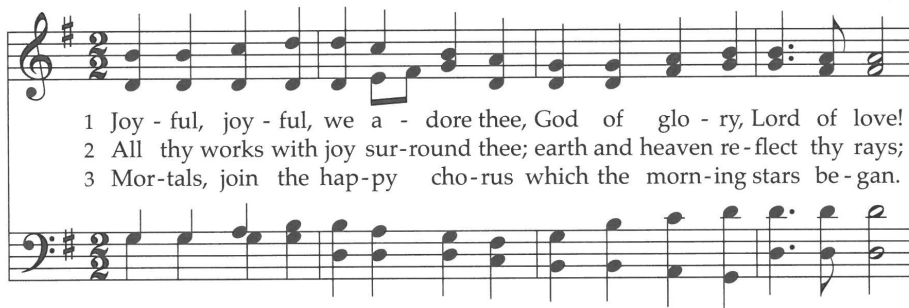
though the way feels less se - cure: pil - grim - age both  
prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive, not through mer - it  
bind - ing up the bro - ken parts; till we find the



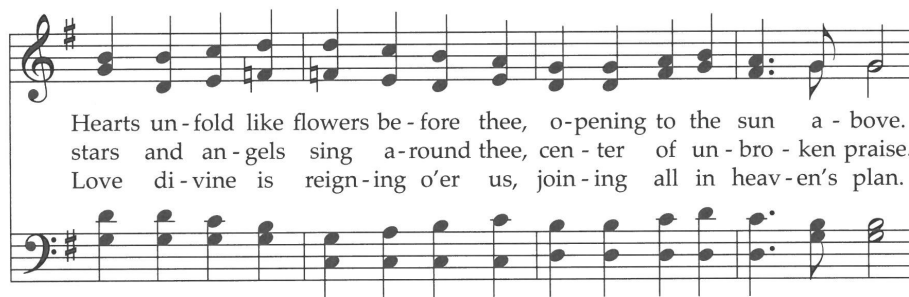
right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.  
we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.  
com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

This text affirms that faith is not a state of being but a process of becoming what we are called to be in relationship to God, other people, and the world. The movement from one stage of faith to another is suggested by gestures of the hand: letting go, holding on, reaching out.

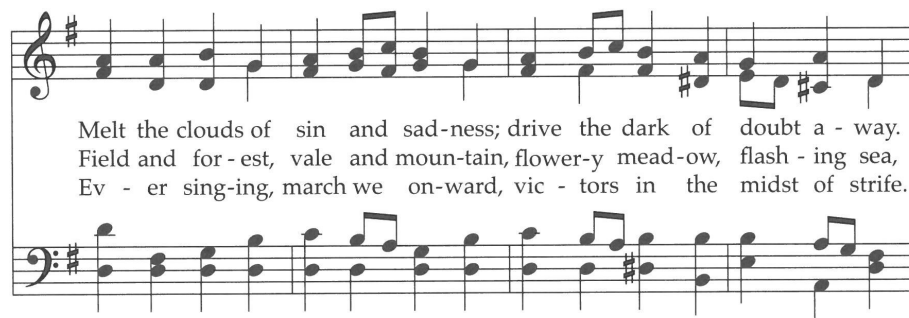
# 611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee



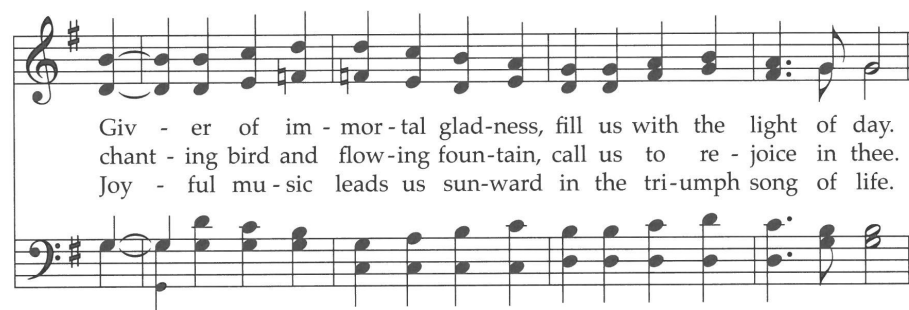
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-flect thy rays;  
 3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.



Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pening to the sun a-bove.  
 stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.  
 Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a-way.  
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,  
 Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife.



Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.  
 chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re-joice in thee.  
 Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

This well-known melody was created to provide a choral setting for J. C. F. von Schiller's poem, "An die Freude" (To Joy), as the final movement of the composer's *Ninth Symphony*. The author, a prominent Presbyterian pastor and author, wrote the words with this tune in mind.