



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 20, 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

PRELUDE

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**



Sign-Up!

Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho

***Joshua fit the battle of Jericho, Jericho, Jericho,
Joshua fit the battle of Jericho, And the walls came tumbling down!***

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(Joshua 1:9; 24:15)

One: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed.
Many: For the Lord our God is with us wherever we go.
One: Choose this day whom you will serve.
Many: As for us and our house, we will serve the Lord.
One: Remember what God has done, and trust where God will lead.
Many: With courage and hope, let us worship God.

***HYMN 41, vss. 1,2,3 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

(Joshua 1:5–9; 24:14–15)

Many: Faithful God, you promise to be with us wherever we go, yet we are often afraid to follow where you lead. We forget what you have done, cling to what is familiar, and give our hearts to lesser things. Forgive us when our courage fails and when our choices lead us away from you. Remind us of your faithfulness. Give us courage for the road ahead, and teach us again to serve you with all our heart and all our life. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

(Joshua 1:5; Matthew 1:21; 28:20)

One: Hear the good news: the God who promised Joshua, “I will be with you,” is faithful still. In Jesus Christ, God has come near to save, forgive, and lead us forward. Friends, believe the good news:
Many: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

***SUNG RESPONSE**

The Lord Is My Salvation

(congregation joins on cue)



Who is like the Lord our God? Strong to save, faith- ful in love. My



debt is paid and the vic't'ry won: The Lord is my sal-va - tion.

*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

The Lord Is My Salvation

(see previous)

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 Bless the Lord (10,000 Reasons)

***You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find***

***Bless the Lord, O my soul , O my soul,
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN 743

O God, You Are My God

(sing twice)

LISTEN

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Joshua 2:1-14

MUSICAL OFFERING

SERMON

Joshua: Fender Bender

Rev. Dr. Phillips

SEND

*HYMN 643

Now Thank We All Our God

*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.***

POSTLUDE



Thanks to today's worship participants:

Lauda, *Music Ministry*

Jim Murray, *Usher Captain*

Judy Krein, *Greeter*

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God and
with abundant wishes for healing for Rev. Emily Schwenker,
from Lorraine & Dick Gilmore.



Don't forget to sign up for a Good Group, meeting four (4) times to coincide with our Joshua sermon series (Sept. 27-Oct. 24)!



- **Sunday morning Book Study**, hosted by Michael Snouffer, Sundays at 9 AM at RCCPC;
- **Sunday evening Family**, hosted by Sam & Amanda Van Horne, 5:30 PM at RCCPC (children under 6th do chill activity; children 6-12th go to youth group; adults meet for discussion);
- **Monday afternoon Adults**, hosted by John & Leslie Gast, 2 PM at RCCPC;
- **Monday evening Adults**, hosted Dave & Jane Conly, 7 PM at Conly home in Harrogate (First 3 weeks only);
- **Parents of Young Children (Zoom)**, 8:30 PM on Zoom—day of week and time changes based on weekly availability of group;
- **Wednesday evening Adults**, hosted by Susan & Bob Kissell, 7:00 PM in Greenville;
- **Thursday evening Adults**, hosted by Janice & Peter Itzel, 7:00 PM at Itzel home in Skyline Ridge;
- **Friday evening ALL**, hosted by Van & Brooke Sedita, 7 PM at Sedita home in North Star;
- **Saturday evening Men**, hosted by Ben Andrews, 8 PM in Hockessin (various locations).



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

At 11:30 am, join us for a concert of favorite hymns
in the sanctuary, sung by the congregation and led by
Barbara Vanderkraats, accompanied by Jeffrey Miller.

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.

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

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 25th; Good Friday — March 26th
- ♦ Resurrection Remembrance Service — March 28th | 9:30AM Worship
- ♦ Easter Sunday — March 28th | 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-5th grade) can attend one of our three Camp Red Clays! More info coming soon.

HOMECOMING SUNDAY — September 2027 | 10AM

We mark our return to regular church programming with the start of our fall sermon series and Sunday School & youth ministry kick offs.

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.

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!

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

Sunday, September 27

Interested in learning more about membership at Red Clay? Join us
following worship at 11:00 am in Room 208
for this informational class!

Dear Friends,

In 2002, as part of a youth exchange from South Africa, I met two people who would become dear friends: Unathi, who today helps shepherd the work of the Seki Women's Foundation in Port Elizabeth, and Satara, who teaches at Adelaide Primary School in the Eastern Cape.

More than two decades later, those friendships continue. And over the years, one of the ways I—and Red Clay—have been able to support their work is by putting books into the hands of children.

Which brings me—somehow—to Dolly Parton!

This year, September 25 (i.e., 9/25 or 9 • 2 • 5) is being celebrated in communities around the country as “9 to 5 Day,” honoring the life and legacy of Dolly Parton. In Tennessee and Massachusetts, lawmakers have even proposed making the designation official. Dolly's legacy, of course, was about much more than music. Through her Imagination Library, she made putting books into the hands of children one of the hallmarks of her extraordinary generosity.



September 25 also happens to be my birthday... and this year, this is how I'd like to celebrate. Recently, Satara told me about the 1st graders at Adelaide Primary School. Their reading primers have been used so long that some are literally held together with tape. For about \$2,100, we can replace them and put a new primer into the hands of every 1st grader. I'd also love to do something of equal measure for the children served by Unathi and the Seki Women's Foundation. So, together, **we're hoping to raise \$4,200 for books and reading resources for children in these two communities in South Africa.**

From September 20–27, I hope you'll join me in celebrating this way.

And because you can't celebrate Dolly without a little music, we'll finish the week with a Dolly Parton pop-up noonday concert at Red Clay on Sunday, September 27.

Let's buy some books!

Nate

Help Us Buy the **BOOKS!**



Our Goal: \$4,200 USD



Why \$4,200? Books/ reading resources for children at:

- Adelaide Primary School in the Eastern Cape, South Africa; and
- The Seki Women's Foundation in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

How?



- 1 ONLINE:**
Scan the QR code to give through Red Clay.



- 2 BY CHECK:**
Make checks payable to Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church with "Books for South Africa" in the memo line.



- 3 AT THE CONCERT:**
We'll receive gifts at the Pop-Up Concert on September 27 (11:30 am in the sanctuary).



Give \$9.25... give \$92.50...
give \$925... or whatever feels right!



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*
Jamie Russell, *Director of Children & Youth Ministries*
Barbara Vanderkraats, *Pastoral Care Coordinator* ♦ Ben Andrews, *Seminary Resident*
David Newby, *Youth Coordinator* ♦ Judy Lozier, *Nursery Director*
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, A. Bloom, D. Howarth, *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.



41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
 2 O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,
 3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love:
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,
 Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old;
 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 whose char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form;
 es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 it streams from the hills; it de - scends to the plain,
 your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.
 and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

Addressing the first two stanzas to the singers of the hymn and the last three to God, this free paraphrase of Psalm 104 recasts the psalmist's imagery with baroque verve. Though it was first published in England, the tune has been more popular in North America than there.

O God, You Are My God 743

Step by Step

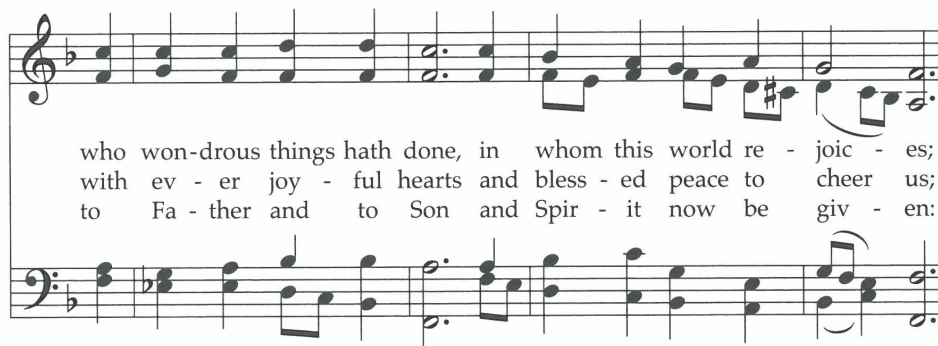
O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise
you. O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise
you. I will seek you in the morn - ing, and I will
learn to walk in your ways. And step by step you'll lead
me, and I will fol - low you all of my days.

Though this refrain from a longer song is not a paraphrase of any particular psalm, the language in the first six lines has definite scriptural overtones (such as Psalms 31:14, 5:3; Deuteronomy 26:17). The final two lines sound more spontaneous and lead to a confident conclusion.

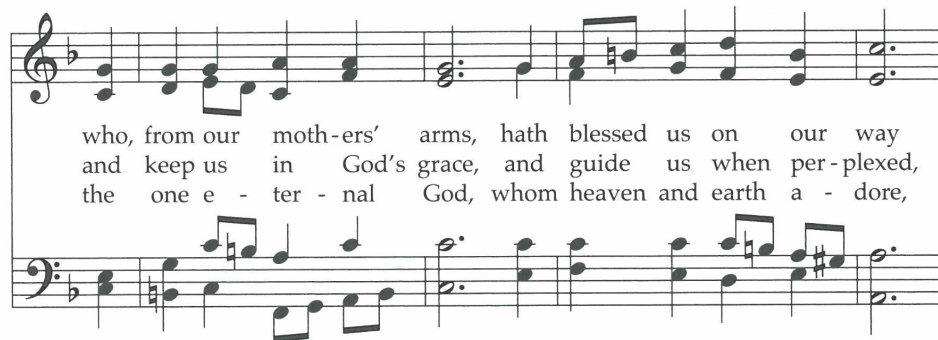
643 Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voice - es,
 2 O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in high-est heav-en,



who won-drous things hath done, in whom this world re-joice - es;
 with ev-er joy-ful hearts and bless-ed peace to cheer us;
 to Fa-ther and to Son and Spir-it now be giv-en:



who, from our moth-ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
 the one e-ter-nal God, whom heaven and earth a-dore,



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be ev-er-more.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.