



Red Clay Creek

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY / SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 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.**

(continued)

One: Remember what God has done, and trust where God will lead.

Many: **With courage and hope, let us worship God.**

*HYMN 634

To God Be the Glory

*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'try 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 above)

PRAYER

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Joshua 5:13–15; 6:1–5, 15–16

SERMON

Joshua: Whose Side Are You On?

Rev. Dr. Brennan Breed

HYMN 435

There's A Wideness in God's Mercy

(to alternate tune)

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)

***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

SEND

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

GRACIOUS INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

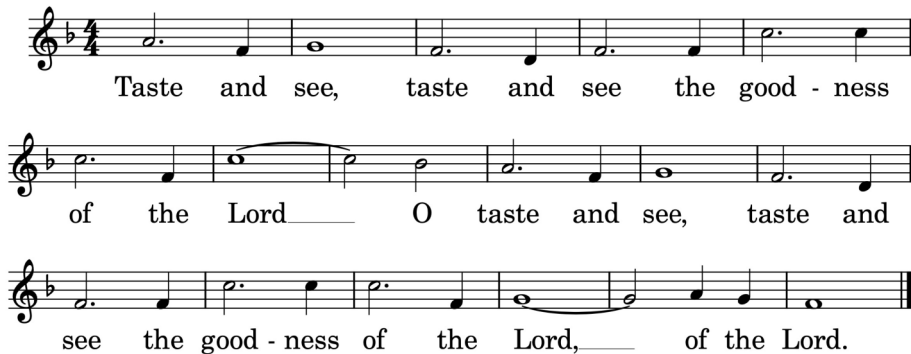
Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

All are welcome to the table! This morning the congregation is served in procession. Those seated in the pews at the front of the sanctuary begin the procession when directed by ushers. For those unable to process forward, stay seated and a server will bring the sacrament to you. All bread is gluten-free; please take a piece from the offered tray. Empty glasses are placed in the bowls provided near the communion servers.

The congregation is invited to join in singing "Taste and See" as individuals process forward.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Many: Gracious God, we thank you for this meal shared in Christ, for bread that unites us with the hungry of the earth, for the cup that binds us with those who long for peace. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to love as we have been loved, to forgive as we have been forgiven, to live as one people—your people—until all the world is gathered at your table in joy. Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

*HYMN 318

In Christ There Is No East or West

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



UPCOMING EVENT SPOTLIGHT

**Hits of the 1970's Coffeehouse
Sunday, October 11 at 7:00 pm!**

Our coffeehouse series on the greatest hits continues with
hits of the 1970's! Doors open at 6:30 pm.



A special welcome today to Dr. Brennan W. Breed, who will be both preaching and leading our Lunch & Learn in Heritage Hall **today!** Dr. Breed is Associate Professor of Old Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary. He is the author of *Nomadic Text: A Theory of Biblical Reception History* and he contributed to Carol A. Newsom's *Daniel: A Commentary in the Old Testament Library* series. His scholarship focuses on biblical wisdom literature and reception history.



Dr. Breed's current research explores the intersection of biblical texts with ancient political, economic, and administrative systems, focusing on how Jewish scribes engaged with Ptolemaic administrative culture in the early Hellenistic period. He is working on commentaries on Daniel and Ecclesiastes, and continues to write for both scholarly and popular audiences about the ongoing use and relevance of biblical literature. As an ordained minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Dr. Breed pursues scholarship for the sake of the church and has a passion for teaching in congregational settings. He has served as theologian-in-residence at a variety of churches and has created online educational programs such as "Office Hours Bible Study" and "Sunday Morning Seminary."

Dr. Breed earned a BA in religion from the University of Virginia, an MDiv from Princeton Seminary, and a PhD in Old Testament from Emory University. Prior to joining Princeton Seminary in 2025, he served as Associate Professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary.

Thanks to today's worship participants:

Chancel Choir & Deena Andrews, *Music Ministry*
Brandon Wallace, *Usher Captain*; Mary Norris, *Greeter*

The flowers today are given in loving memory of my father, Ray Nichols,
from Lisa Nichols.



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.



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.

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.



To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
 2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
 and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
 but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
 our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.

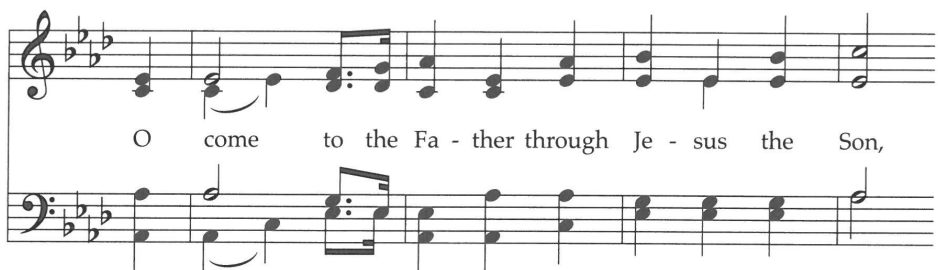
Refrain



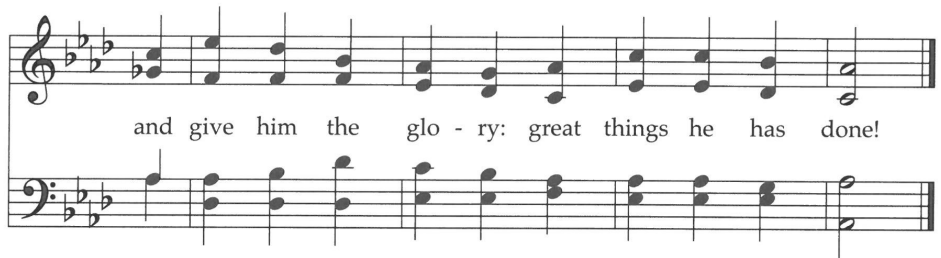
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people re-joice!



O come to the Fa-ther through Je-sus the Son,



and give him the glo-ry: great things he has done!

435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness
 2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures

of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,
 of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal

which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's
 is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more

sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
 faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -

where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
 flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.

These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

In Christ There Is No East or West 318

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in

him no south or north, but one great fel - low -
high com - mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the
e'er your race may be. All chil - dren of the
him meet south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

This text formed a very small part of an elaborate Christian missionary pageant in the early 20th century, yet it has endured while the grander aspects of that production have faded away. It is set to a simple 19th-century tune that does not get in the way of its message.