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

Red Clay Creek
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY / SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 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

Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Here may the aged find consolation, and the young be inspired. Amen.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: The Lord be with you.
Many: And also with you.

Sign-Up!

MINUTE FOR MISSION — Linda Neel

*Indicates all who are able may stand

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, all who hunger for hope,
Many: For God's love goes above and beyond what our eyes can see.
One: Come, all who remember the saints and celebrate the servants,
Many: For their faith still lights our way.
One: Come, all who have seen God's steadfast hand through every season,
Many: For God's grace never runs out.
One: Come, all who are ready to rejoice, to sing, to taste joy again—
Many: Let us worship the God who goes above and beyond.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 35 **Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty**

"Your procession has come into view, O God, the procession of my God and my King into the sanctuary. In front are the singers, after them the musicians; with them are ones playing tambourines… there is the little tribe of Benjamin, leading them." (Psalm 68:24)

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Many: Merciful God, you give and give again, yet we live as though Your grace has limits. You call us to go above and beyond in love, but too often we hold back—from generosity, from forgiveness, from joy. You invite us to remember the saints, to serve our neighbors, to trust Your steadfast care through every season, yet we settle for what is easy and expected. Forgive us, Lord. Lift our eyes to see the abundance all around us. Renew us by Your Spirit, that we may live as people of Your mercy—forgiven, freed, and filled to serve in the goodness of God. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news: God's mercy always goes further than our failures. God's love is deeper than our doubt and stronger than our sin. In Jesus Christ, grace overflows.
Many: We are set free to live above and beyond, trusting in the goodness of God.

*SUNG RESPONSE Goodness of God



*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT & THE LORD'S PRAYER

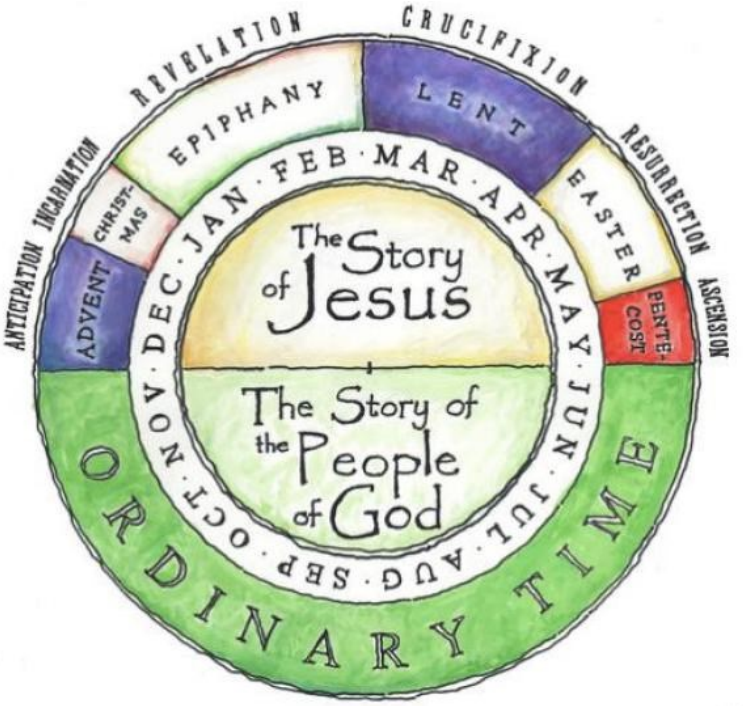
At the conclusion, we look forward to welcoming all children through 8th grade to the nursery or their Sunday school classes, as the congregation prepares to hear the sermon.

SUNG RESPONSE Goodness of God

All my life You have been faithful, and all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able, oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

LISTEN

INTRODUCTION "Celebrating Our Church Year" Rev. Dr. Phillips



ADVENT

Advent is a season of preparation for the coming of Christ: preparation to celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas, to receive faithfully the risen Christ who comes to us in Word and spirit, and to await with hope Christ's coming in final victory. The word "Advent" comes from the Latin adventus, which means "coming". Advent is four weeks, including the four Sundays, before Christmas. The color is purple or blue, symbolizing royalty and penitence.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:26-33

HYMN 88, v.1 **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

CHRISTMAS

The Christmas season is a time of celebration, thanksgiving and praise for God's presence with us in Jesus Christ. Christmas Day was first celebrated on December 25 in Rome sometime between 336 and 354 C. E. A pagan winter solstice festival, the birthday of the unconquered sun, was already celebrated on December 25. Christians adopted that date to celebrate the birth of the Son of God. Christians have often adapted and transformed the

customs of the world around them. Liturgically, the Christmas season begins with Christmas Eve and continues until January 6. The color for the season is white or in some churches, gold.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:1-7

REFLECTION FROM CHRISTMAS EVE 2025

HYMN 122, vss.1,2 **Silent Night, Holy Night!**

EPIPHANY

The word "Epiphany" is from a Greek word that means "manifestation." On the Day of Epiphany, January 6, we celebrate Jesus being revealed to the world and the visit of the wise men, the first gentiles to whom he was made known. Scripture doesn't say how many wise men came to Bethlehem. At various times tradition has set the number from two to twelve. However, because three gifts were mentioned, we usually think of three wise men or Magi. The color for Epiphany is typically white.

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:7-12

HYMN 151, v.1 **We Three Kings of Orient Are**

LENT

Lent is a season of preparation for the celebration of Easter. The word "Lent" comes from an Anglo-Saxon word meaning 'spring", the time of the lengthening of days. At first Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism on Easter Eve. Eventually Lent became a time of reflection and self-examination for all Christians. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on the Saturday before Easter. It lasts 40 days, not counting Sundays. Sundays aren't counted because Sunday always celebrates Jesus' victory over sin and death. The color for Lent is purple, symbolizing penitence and preparation.

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 8:34-37

HYMN 228, vss. 1,5 **Were You There**

PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, celebrating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem as crowds welcomed him with palm branches shouting, "Hosanna!" This day sets the stage for Good Friday and Easter, inviting believers to reflect on Jesus' journey to the cross. The traditional color for Palm Sunday is purple, symbolizing royalty and the solemnity of Lent.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 19:28

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 The Palms J. Faure

*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

EASTER

The Easter season, also known as the Great Fifty Days, begins at sunset on Easter Eve and continues through the Day of Pentecost. At this season we celebrate with joy Christ's resurrection and ascension and the giving of the Holy Spirit on the first Easter. Easter is the first Sunday after the full moon that occurs on or next after March 21, the spring equinox. So, Easter can be as early as March 21 and as late as April 25. The color of Easter is white.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 24:1-9

MUSICAL OFFERING

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth (from *MESSIAH*) Handel

Rachele Gilmore, soprano soloist

REFLECTION FROM EASTER 2026

HYMN 238 **Thine Is the Glory**

PENTECOST

Pentecost, the fiftieth day after Easter, comes from the Greek word for "fiftieth". Greek speaking Jews called the Jewish Festival of Weeks the Day of Pentecost. Acts tells us how anxious and fearful disciples, who had gathered on the Day of Pentecost, were filled with the Holy Spirit and thereafter preached boldly the gospel of Christ. The color for Pentecost is red, representing the Holy Spirit.

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 2:1-4, 41-43

HYMN 288 **Spirit of the Living God** *(sing twice)*

CHRIST THE KING

The last Sunday of the Christian year celebrates the coming reign of Jesus Christ. In a growing number of churches, this day is a time to remember the entire liturgical year. Christ the King Sunday, also sometimes called the "Reign of Christ" Sunday is on the Sunday before the Season of Advent begins, and is the last Sunday in the season of Pentecost. The color of Christ the King Sunday is white.

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 100

SEND

*HYMN 268 **Crown Him with Many Crowns**

BENEDICTION

❖❖❖❖❖❖❖❖❖

Thanks to today's worship participants:

Chancel Choir, *Music Ministry*

Betsy Marsey, Van Sedita, Carolyn Diehl, Dave Conly, Lily Vaughn, Lisa Nichols, Al Behringer and Amy Cziraky, *Liturgists*

Brian & Lois Galinat, *Parament Transitions*

Jim Murray, *Usher Captain*
Linda Neel, *Greeter*

The flowers today are given in loving memory of my father, Pierce Fox, from Barbara Fox.

♥

Join us for coffee, Thanksgiving **PIE** & 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.

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WELCOME TO RED CLAY

For LARGE print 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 125 (just down the hallway from the sanctuary). After the Children's Moment, Pre-K - Kindergarteners will adjourn to Room 123, Grades 1-3 will adjourn to Room 208, and Grades 4-8 will adjourn to Room 204/206.



UPCOMING EVENT SPOTLIGHT

Next Sunday, November 29:
Adopt-a-Family & Deck the Halls!

Take an ornament from the Giving Tree and purchase the matching gift to bless a local family in need this Christmas. Collection will be through December 13th.

Following 10 AM worship, help us transform Founders Hall for the Christmas season. All materials will be provided.

Red Clay Creek
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ADVENT BRUNCH

Sunday, December 20

On December 20th, join us in Founders Hall for food and fellowship as we celebrate the Advent season! Brunch menu consists of: French toast casserole, assorted quiches, bacon, hash brown potatoes, fruit salad, croissants, and danish pastries. Gluten-free/dairy-free vegetable frittata will also be available.

TICKETS:

Adult: $17.00

Children 6–10 years old: $12.00

Children 5 Years & under: free

Catered by Appleton Catering.
Tickets will be on sale in Founders Hall each Sunday after worship.



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

SERVICE OF LIGHT & HOPE — December 6th, 2026 | 3PM

A time of reflection and healing for those carrying burdens this season.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES — December 24th, 2026

- **Family Service with Impromptu Pageant | 4PM**
- **An Acoustic Candlelight Service | 6PM**
- **Holy Night Service with Candlelight | 8PM**
- **Candlelight & Communion Service | 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 16th, 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 13th, 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.

ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY — November 2027 | 10AM

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

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.

35 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty



This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1–6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

HYMN LYRICS

HYMN 88, v.1 **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

HYMN 122, vss.1,2 **Silent Night, Holy Night!**

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!"

HYMN 151, v.1 **We Three Kings of Orient Are**

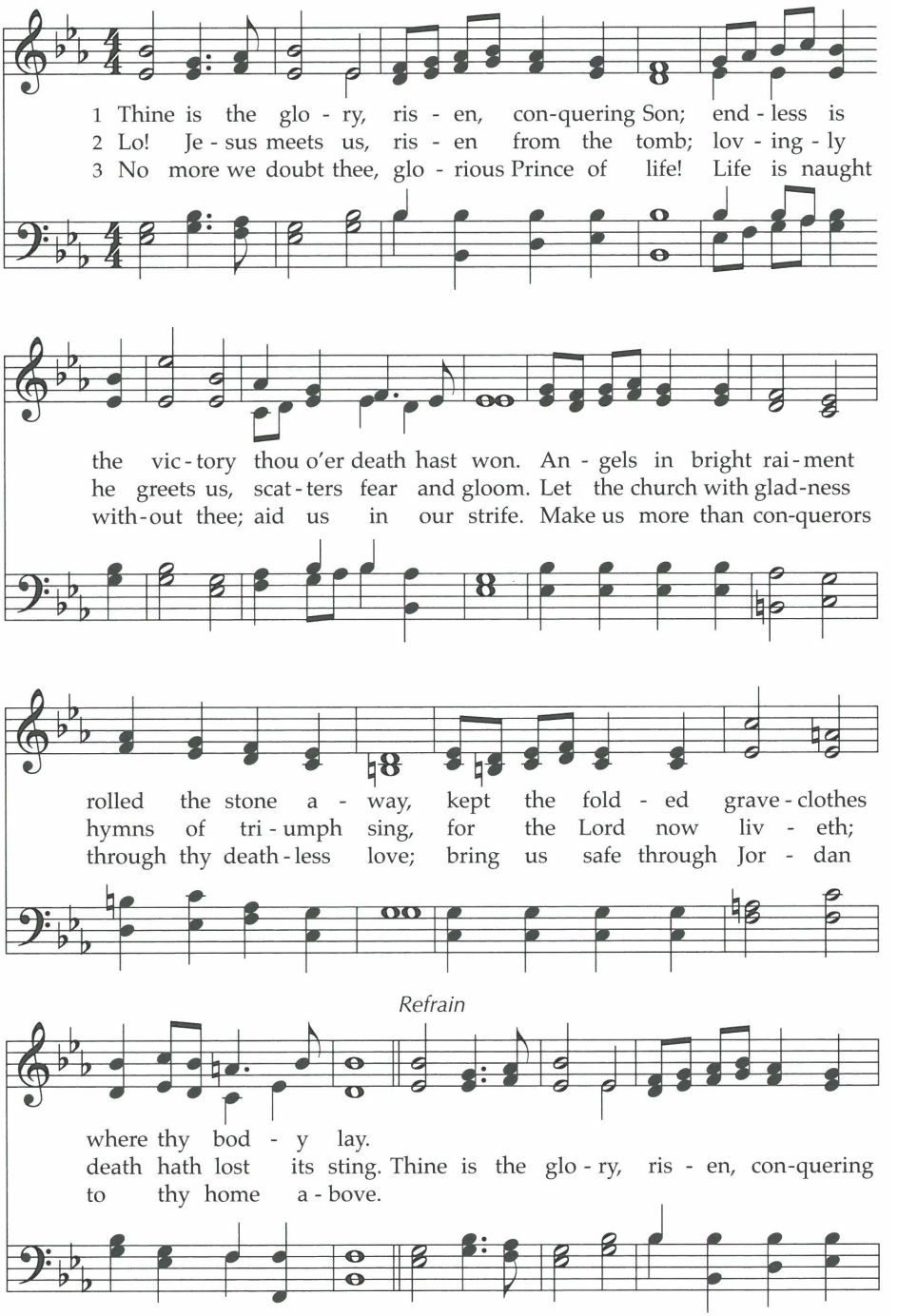
We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

HYMN 228, vss. 1,5 **Were You There**

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)

Were you there when he rose up from the dead? (Were you there?)
Were you there when he rose up from the dead?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when he rose up from the dead? (Were you there?)

238 Thine Is the Glory



This Easter text, first in French and later in English, was written to fit the music, a chorus created for Handel's oratorio *Joshua* and moved to *Judas Maccabeus* in 1751. It grew widely popular following its use at the First Assembly of the World Council of Churches in 1948.


Son; end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

Spirit of the Living God 288



KOREAN

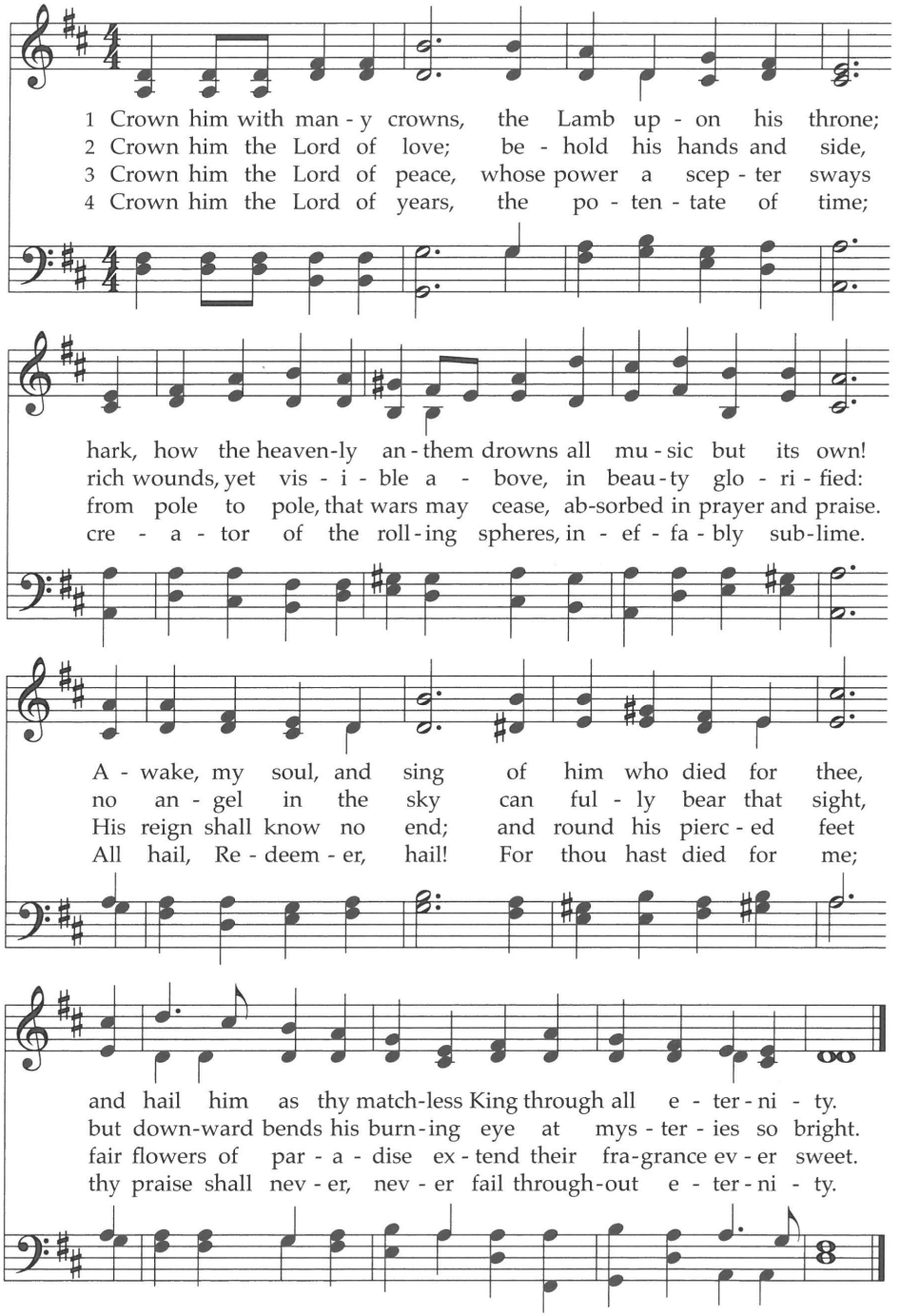
살아계신 주 성령 내게 오소서
살아계신 주 성령 내게 오소서
빚으시고 채우소서
살아계신 주 성령 내게 오소서

SPANISH

Santo Espíritu de Dios, ven sobre mí.
Santo Espíritu de Dios, ven sobre mí.
Tómame, cámbiame, llename, úsame.
Santo Espíritu de Dios, ven sobre mí.

Both the words and the music of this prayer-song were written by a Presbyterian minister from Tarboro, North Carolina. The words were initially inspired by Jeremiah 18:1–6; a friend helped him set them to music during an evangelistic meeting in Orlando, Florida, where the song was first sung.

Crown Him with Many Crowns 268



This text is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.