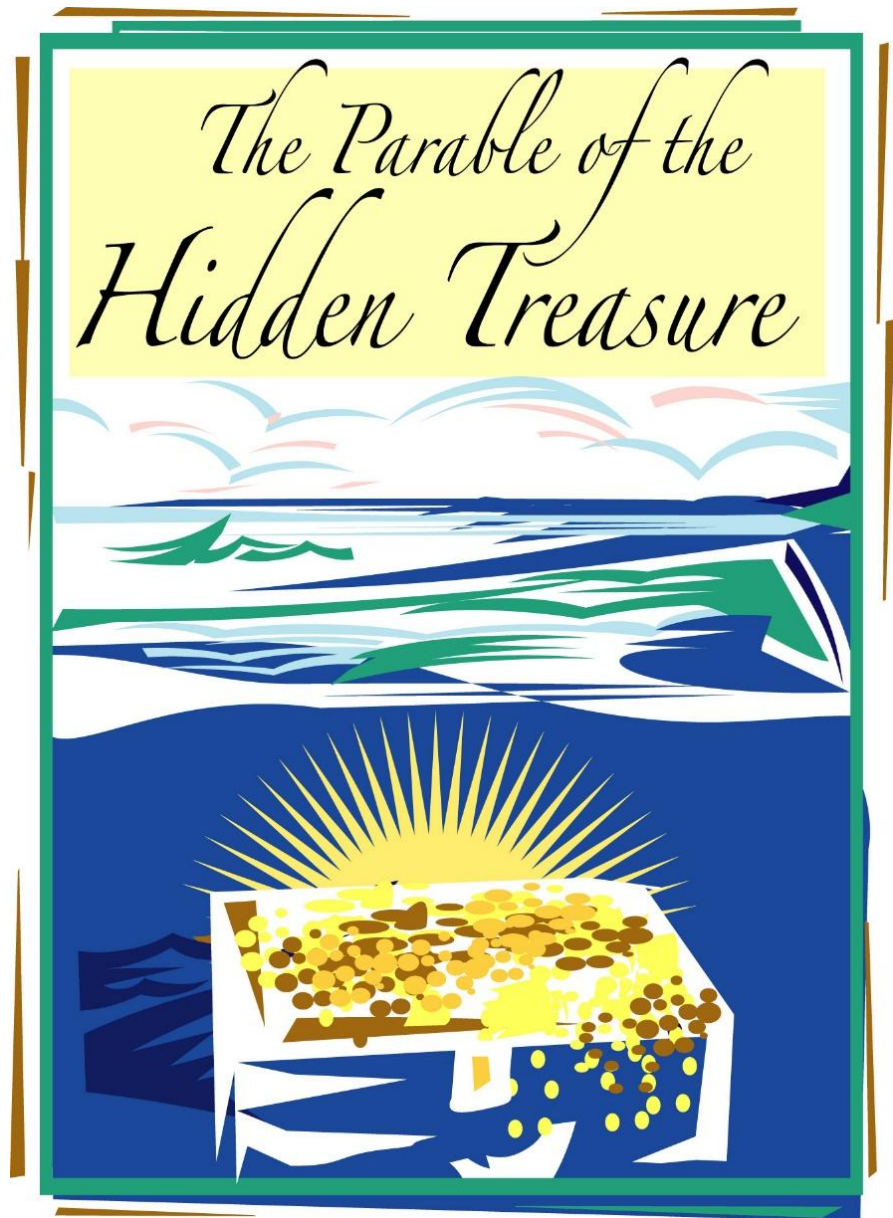


Rock Lake Presbyterian Church
Celebrating 76 years of “Shining Christ’s Light”



July 26, 2026
Email: rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com
website: www.rlpcc.org

Welcome to Rock Lake Presbyterian Church

Here are a few tips to help you participate:

“*” Invites all who are able to stand.

Bold type invites reading or singing by the congregation.

Italic type invites silent reading by the congregation.

Large print hymnals are available from the usher.

Please return hymnals after the service.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

July 26, 2026

Gathering

THE CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

"This Is My Father's World"

Arr. Alfred V. Fedak

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

From Psalm 119

The decrees of the Lord are wonderful.

The unfolding of God's word gives light and understanding.

Turn to us, O God, and be gracious to us.

Make your face shine upon your servants.

We come together to worship the living God.

*OPENING HYMN #370

"This Is My Father's World"

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

...through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OPENING OURSELVES TO GOD #466

"Come and Fill Our Hearts"

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, we want to understand what the kingdom of heaven is like, but our minds are clouded by cares and concerns of the world. We fail to trust your power, hidden in all things. We fail to watch for you, working out your purposes in mysterious ways. We fail to be whole-hearted in our faith and discipleship. We fail to put our trust in the treasures of your kingdom instead of the treasures of the world. Gracious God, hidden and manifest, give us eyes to see and ears to hear your good news for the world even here and now. Transform our lives and our world by your grace.

*Silence for personal confession. God's people say **Amen.***

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

From Romans 8:31-32

Friends, hear these words, and listen to this good news; the empires of this world will rise and fall, but the mercy of the Lord will never end.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, thanks be to God!

Listening to the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT

I Kings 3:5-12

⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?" ¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." ³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." ⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"More Than Meets the Eye"

Brandi Hicks, ALP

Responding to God

*HYMN #519

"You Are My Strength When I Am Weak"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the
forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

JOYS & CONCERNS

If you would like to share a joy or concern, we would like to hear it. In order to hear it, please raise your hand and a microphone will be brought to you.

PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we
forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is
the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Going Forth to Serve

*HYMN #175

"Seek Ye First" Stanza 1

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia! (Repeat)**

*BENEDICTION

*DEPARTING SONG #745

"Now Go in Joy"

Greet one another in peace as you depart

Parts of the worship liturgy were written by Matthew A. Rich and provided for free distribution by the *Presbyterian Outlook*.
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Church Notes

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgist: Ken Schmidt
Preacher: Brandi Hicks, ALP
Music Director: Marilyn Padon
Organist: Pam Ferrell

WE WELCOME BRANDI HICKS BACK TO OUR PULPIT TODAY.

Brandi Hicks is a single mom of two beautiful kids—Alexis (10) and Lincoln (8). She grew up going to Bream Memorial Presbyterian Church, which was a rock in her life and faith. She currently works full-time for the State and has been an Authorize Lay Preacher (ALP) for about two years. She likes all types of crafting, watching her kids do their activities, and reading.

POSTCARDS TO OTHER CHURCHES are on the table in the narthex. They will be sent to other West Virginia Presbyterian churches this week. Please take time to add your signature to let them know that we are thinking of them and have them in our prayers.

Prayer List

*To add/remove/correct names on the prayer list,
please call the church office (768-4141) or email rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com*

Prayers of Joy

Prayers for Concerns – Our friends and neighbors and their families

Patricia Ansley & Family	Emily Holton	Karen Robinson
Merrily Bailey	Ravi Isaiah	Don Shroder
Barker Family	Doug Lathom	Mike & Susan Spurgeon
Bob Binning	Cheryl Laws	Bill Wagner
Shayne Compton	Hollie McCraw	Gary Withrow
Larry Graham	Rick McGuire	

-Praying for all who are affected by the Canadian wildfires. Millions of Americans are at risk as dangerous smoke from Canadian wildfires blanket the country.

-We are praying for all Texans as heavy rainfall triggers flash flood threat across the hill country of Texas.

- Praying for peace in the US/Iran conflict, Ukraine/Russia conflict, and the Israel/Hamas conflict and all conflicts around the globe. Grant us peace!

- We pray for peace in the world. We pray for our world leaders to do what is right and just. We pray for all the people in the world who are affected by war: The children, the common person, the armies, the leaders. Grant us courage and grace during the coming year.

- Climate change as evidenced by more severe and deadly storms, fires, floods, and prolonged heat waves locally, nationally, and globally. These events are causing large numbers of injuries and deaths of people, disruptions of food supplies, and many animal & plant species to greatly diminish and even go extinct

Prayers for our Military

Brett Baker	Evan Chaney
Jeff Barker	Nigel Jeffries
Brent Bishop	

All who are serving, who have been injured and the families who have lost someone in combat; those who live and serve on the Korean Peninsula and other nations in that region of the world; our troops facing terrorist attacks.

Prayers for those in Senior Residential Centers - Jackie Pauley, Valley Center

Prayers for those at Home –Joel Callison, Bonnie Cheely, Anita Wehrmann

Prayer List for Churches: Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro; Tygarts Valley Presbyterian Church, Huttonsville; Gitathiini Church; Rware Parish