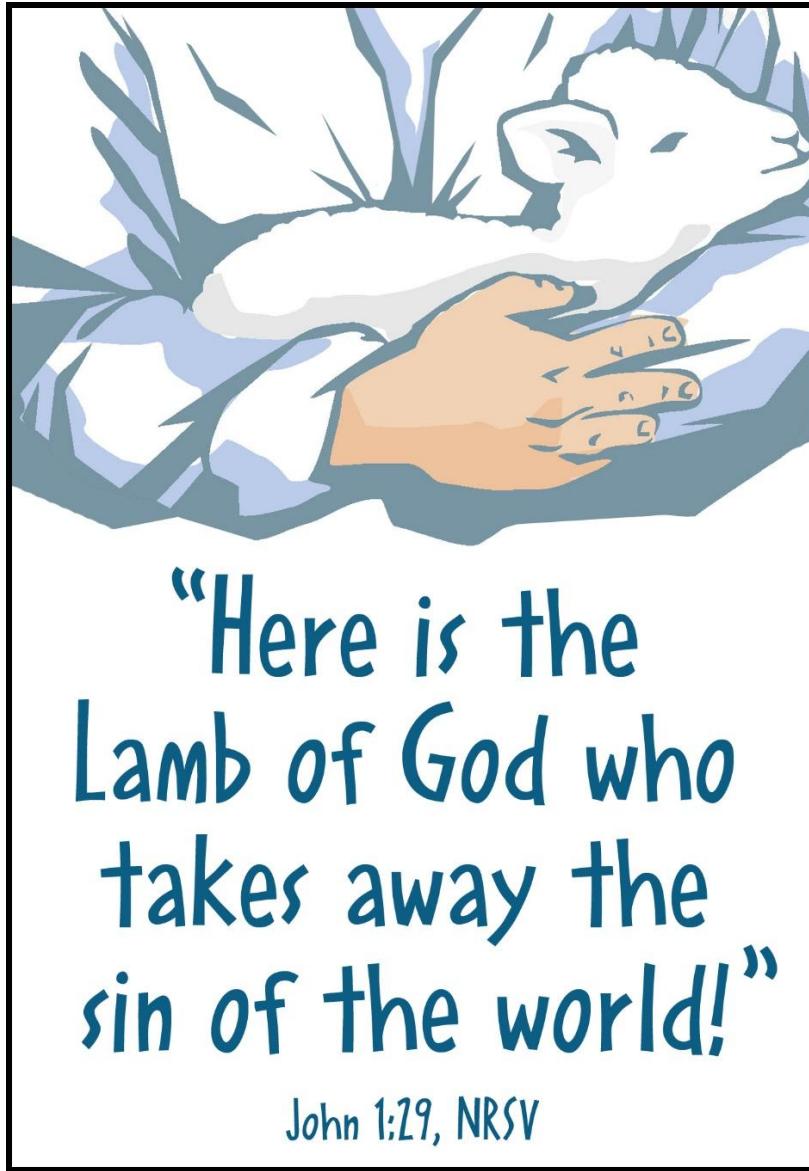


Rock Lake Presbyterian Church  
Celebrating 76 years of "Shining Christ's Light"



January 18, 2026  
Email: [rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com](mailto:rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com)  
website: [www.rlpco.org](http://www.rlpco.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**

**January 18, 2026**

***Gathering***

THE CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

"Lamb of God"

Twila Paris; Arr. John Carter

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

In deep gratitude we come to worship God.

**We recognize God as the source of all goodness.**

All good gifts come from the Spirit of God:

**love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, gentleness are all of God.**

We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who God is.

**We gather to show our gratitude in song and prayer.**

\*OPENING HYMN #408

"There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

\*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 our baptismal waters, you sent the Baptist to point to your Son.**

**But too often we abandon his message and point only to ourselves.**

**We point to our worship preferences rather than the God we worship.**

**We point to our status rather than the grace that marks us all equal.**

**We point to our values rather than the One who has always valued everyone.**

**We point to our traditions rather than to the One who calls us to let go.**

**We point to our past rather than to the One who calls us into the future.**

**Forgive us, Lord, for pointing in all the wrong directions.**

*Lift all that is on your heart and mind to God in silent prayer.*

All God's people say **Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF FORIVENESS

If we are in Christ, we are new people; the past is finished and done. Everything has been made fresh and new. Friends, believe in the Good News of the Gospel! In Jesus Christ we have been forgiven. **Amen.**

## SUNG RESPONSE #588

“Alleluia”

*Repeat each phrase after soloist.*

## ***Listening to the Word***

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 49:1-7

**49**Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me. **2** He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. **3** And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” **4** But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord and my reward with my God.” **5** And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength— **6** he says, “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” **7** Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

### GOSPEL

John 1:29-42

**29** The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! **30** This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ **31** I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” **32** And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. **33** I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ **34** And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.” **35** The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, **36** and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” **37** The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. **38** When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” **39** He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. **40** One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. **41** He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the

Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

*This is the Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

"What We Have Been Given"

Cherrie Sizemore

## ***Responding to God***

\*HYMN #482

"Baptized in Water"

\*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 #475

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

\*BENEDICTION

\*DEPARTING SONG #765

"May the God of Hope Go with Us"

**May the God of hope go with us everyday, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and  
race.**

**Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;  
working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

Alvin Schutmaat, 1984. Public Domain

*Greet one another in peace as you depart*

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## ***Church Notes***

### **WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Liturgist: David Broyles  
Preacher: Cherrie Sizemore  
Music Director: Marilyn Padon  
Organist: Pam Ferrell

### **WE WELCOME CHERRIE SIZEMORE TO OUR PULPIT TODAY**

Cherrie recently retired from Elk Hills Presbyterian Church where she served for 12 years as their Commissioned Pastor. Cherrie previously served as an Authorized Lay Preacher (ALP) beginning in 2001. She has one son, Aaron, who lives in Pennsylvania with his wife Olesea and two grandchildren, Luna and Wyatt. She is also a member of the Commission on Pastoral Ministry (formerly Committee on Ministry) of the Presbytery of West Virginia.

**FIRST QUARTER 2026** 'These Days' devotionals are available on the shelf in the narthex

**THE SESSION HAS CALLED** the Annual Congregational Meeting for next Sunday, January 25, 2026 during worship in the sanctuary. Ed Thompson will moderate. The meeting's purpose is to:

- Receive the annual reports of church committees and organizations, and answer any questions about the reports.
- Review and answer questions on the 2025 Year End Financial Report; and discuss the 2026 church budget.
- Hear and act upon the report from the Congregation's Nominating Committee.
- Hear and act upon a proposed amendment to the Rock Lake Presbyterian Church Incorporated Bylaws. **The clerk withdraws this item pending further consultation.**

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## **2026 STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**

As of this writing (January 16, 2026), with 18 families responding, the 2026 total commitment is \$107,480.

Of these families, 13 have increased their commitments from 2025!

Thank you to all members and friends who have returned commitments for 2026!

If you have not yet responded, won't you please take a few moments to prayerfully consider how you can help Rock Lake Church *Shine Christ's Light* by supporting our ministries!

Returning your commitment card will reduce the number of follow-up contacts which the Stewardship Task Force must make.

We need to hear from all our members and friends so we can plan for 2026. If you need a commitment card, please call Ken Schmidt (304-768-8565 or 304-881-2408).

We invite you to join us in worship each Sunday in the Sanctuary. If you cannot attend in person, subscribe to Rock Lake Presbyterian Church on YouTube. Worship each Sunday is at 10:00 am ET. If you need a printed bulletin, call the church office at 304-768-4141 between 9:30 and 11:30 am ET, Monday through Friday.

***And may God bless you in 2026!***

Ken Schmidt, chair, Stewardship Task Force

# Prayer List

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

## Prayers of Joy

### Prayers for Concerns – Our friends and neighbors and their families

Roberta Alsop  
Merrily Bailey  
Larry Graham  
Mary Graham

Emily Holton  
Ravi Isaiah  
Cheryl Laws  
Hollie McCraw  
Rick McGuire

Don Shroder  
Bill Wagner  
Brandon Ward

- 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.
- Praying for peace in the Ukraine/Russia conflict and the Israel/Hamas conflict and all conflict around the globe. Grant us peace!
- 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  
Jeff Barker  
Brent Bishop

Evan Chaney  
Nigel Jeffries

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:** First Presbyterian Church, Mannington; Rock Forge Presbyterian Church, Morgantown; Kabiru Church; Gaaki Parish