

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



## Welcome to Rock Lake Presbyterian Church

January 11, 2026  
Email: [rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com](mailto:rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com)  
website: [www.rlpco.org](http://www.rlpco.org)

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**

**BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

*January 11, 2026*

***Gathering***

THE CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

"Rondo"

John S. Dixon

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 148

The voice of the Lord is powerful and full of majesty.

**May the Lord bless us with God's peace!**

The voice of the Lord proclaimed Jesus as God's beloved.

**In our own baptisms, we are claimed as God's beloved.**

Let us open our minds and hearts and praise God's holy name!

\*OPENING HYMN #482

"Baptized in Water"

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY (in unison)

**God of grace and glory, you call us with your voice of flame to be your people, faithful and courageous. As your beloved Son embraced his mission in the waters of baptism, inspire us with the fire of your Spirit to join in his transforming work. We ask this in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns forever and ever. 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

**Merciful God, we confess that we are estranged from you and from one another. We treat others as strangers rather than as people created in your image and fellow children of God. We exploit the earth as though it were our possession rather than a gift entrusted to our care and a reflection of your image and glory. Forgive us our sins and transform us by your Spirit that we might live as people who have been baptized as your own children.**

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

ASSURANCE OF FORIVENESS

SUNG RESPONSE

"Hear the Good News of Salvation"

Tune: NETTLETON

**Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love.  
Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above.  
Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!  
How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.**

Native American (Dakota). Public Domain

## *Listening to the Word*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 42:1-9

**42**Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. **2** He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street; **3** a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. **4** He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth, and the coastlands wait for his teaching. **5** Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: **6** I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, **7** to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. **8** I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. **9** See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:13-17

**13** Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. **14** John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" **15** But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. **16** And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. **17** And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

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

SERMON

"Washed and Made New"

Brandi Hicks

# **Responding to God**

\*HYMN

"When Jesus Came to Jordan"

Tune: AURELIA

**When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John,  
he did not come for pardon but as the sinless one.  
He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins,  
to speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.**

**He came to share temptation, our utmost woe and loss,  
for us and our salvation to die upon the cross.  
So when the dove descended on him, the Son of Man,  
the hidden years had ended, the age of grace began.**

**Come, Holy Spirit, aid us to keep the vows we make;  
this very day invade us, and every bondage break.  
Come, give our lives direction, the gift we covet most:  
to share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost.**

Fred Pratt Green, 1973. © 1980 Hope Publishing Co.  
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## **\*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 #546

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your 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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Parts of the worship liturgy were written by Roger Gench and provided for free distribution by the *Presbyterian Outlook*.

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## ***Church Notes***

### **WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Liturgist: Shayn Davis  
Preacher: Brandi Hicks  
Music Director: Marilyn Padon  
Organist: Pam Ferrell

### **WE WELCOME BRANDI HICKS 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.

**POTLUCK SUNDAY** will be celebrated today. We invite everyone to the potluck after the worship service. Even if you cannot bring any food to the potluck, we invite you to bring your most important ingredient – YOU!!

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

**THE SESSION HAS CALLED** the Annual Congregational Meeting for 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.

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## **2026 STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**

As of this writing (January 9, 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 this Christmastide!*

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** – Joyful thanks to Patricia Jarvis for her ministry among us for more than 3 years!

**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, Huntington; Cabwaylingo Chapel; Gichira Church; Gaaki Parish