

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



Jesus and the Canaanite woman

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.

August 16, 2026
Email: rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com
website: www.rlpcc.org

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

August 16, 2026

Gathering

THE CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

Arr. Robert Lau

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Psalm 133

Holy God, the Father of us all, we gather to worship you and to reaffirm our shared relationship as children of God.

With fatherly care, God welcomes us to our shared experiences of worship, fellowship, prayer and praise.

Renewing God, we gather to be re-invigorated in our worship, and in the witness and relationships that flow from worship.

Together and individually, we will be cleansed and refreshed by the holy winds of God's Spirit, as it blows around and within us.

The Lord our God gives new life and new blessings as we come together in the unity of one purpose—to praise and glorify God

Blessings, honor, glory and power belong to our God, the Father of all humanity—who claims us all as beloved children.

Written by Joan Stott, and posted on the Geelong City Parish UCA website. "The Timeless Psalms" RCL Psalm Year B, used with permission.

*OPENING HYMN #37

"Let All Things Now Living"

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

...and rejoice in your astounding grace in Jesus Christ. **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, just like Jesus' disciples, we too sometimes lose patience with people who need our help and support. Like the disciples, we find ourselves wishing that they would just go away and leave us in peace. In Your mercy, forgive us. Remind us again of the deep love You showed toward us when we were still in need—a love so deep that it sent You willingly to the cross on our behalf. Show us how to love others as You

have loved us. Teach Your compassion, so that we may be Your hands and feet to those in need. In Jesus' name we pray.

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

...Your sins are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

Listening to the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 45:1-15

45 Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ² And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. ³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. ⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.' ¹² And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. ¹³ You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." ¹⁴ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters'

table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“How Do We Understand the Powerful and the Powerless?” Cherrie Sizemore, ALP

Responding to God

*HYMN

“Help Us Accept Each Other”

Tune: MERLE’S TUNE

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness, and laughter’s healing art.

Lord, for today’s encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for justice and for bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us; make us one!

Fred Kaan, 1974. © 1975 Hope Publishing Company. Reprinted under OneLicense #A-734832

*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 #649

"Amazing Grace"

*BENEDICTION

*DEPARTING SONG #591

"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!"

**Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, Hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Greet one another in peace as you depart

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Church Notes

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgist: Ken Schmidt
Preacher: Cherrie Sizemore, ALP
Hymn Leader: John Haynes
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.



Blessing of the Backpacks

School is getting ready to start again!!

We will begin packing food ministry bags for Bridgeview Elementary after church service on Sunday, August 30 for a September 2nd delivery.

Our closet is completely empty so any donations will be welcome!

Below is a list of food needed for the program:

Mac & Cheese (microwavable and single serving)

Pudding Cups

Juice Boxes

Individual cereal packages

Snack Bags (pretzels, cheezits, goldfish, gummies, chips, cookies (individual packages)

Chocolate milk

Ravioli (or other Chef Boyardee Pastas, microwavable, single serving)

Applesauce or Fruit Cups

Pop Tarts

Thank you for your generosity!!

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

All the preachers who have served in our pulpit since January. And the generosity of this part of Christ's Body.

Prayers for Concerns – Our friends and neighbors and their families

Patricia Ansley & Family	Ravi Isaiah	Don Shroder
Merrily Bailey	Kirk King*	Mike & Susan Spurgeon
Barker Family	Doug Lathom	Ed Thompson
Shayne Compton	Cheryl Laws	Bill Wagner
Pam Gano*	Hollie McCraw	Gary Withrow
Larry Graham	Rick McGuire	
Emily Holton	Karen Robinson	

- Praying for all those people in the Northwest U.S. who are experiencing wildfires.
- 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: First Presbyterian Church, Morgantown; First Presbyterian Church, Parkersburg; Kingongo Church; Rware Parish