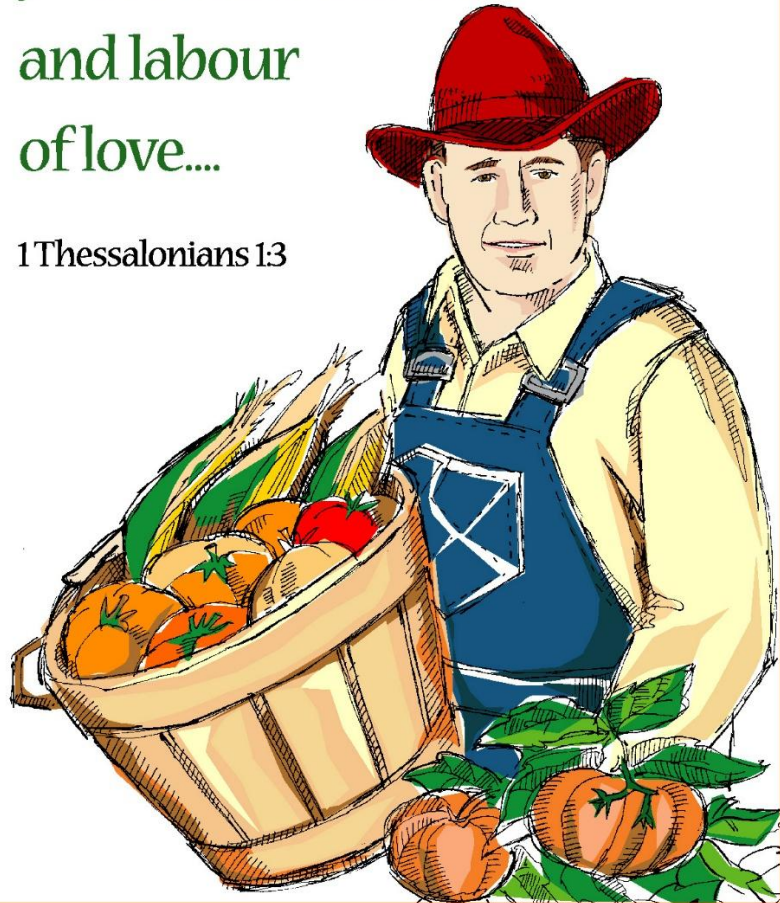


Rock Lake Presbyterian Church
Celebrating 76 years of "Shining Christ's Light"

October 18, 2026
Email: rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com
website: www.rlpc.org

Remembering
without ceasing
your work of faith,
and labour
of love....

1 Thessalonians 1:3



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

October 18, 2026

Gathering

THE CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Arr. Mary McDonald

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

*GATHERING SONG #627

"I Love You, Lord"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The goodness of the Lord passes before us;

the name of the Holy One is proclaimed for all to hear.

God is gracious and merciful to whomever God chooses;

show us your glory, O Lord, we pray!

*OPENING HYMN #1

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

...through Christ, who calls us by name. **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

Holy God, we confess that too often we have not been open to the rhythms of life you offer to us. We let ourselves be put off your pace, and allow ourselves to wander off into our own songs. Too often the melodies of the world confuse us. We have led ourselves and others onto paths that are not according to your loving pace and direction. Help us pay attention with all of our senses. Make our dancing faithful; help us take the risks that are part of letting you lead. Pull us back into your rhythms. Cleanse our hearts, purify our hands and steady our feet that we might know and share your blessings.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

...Accept the offer of the new song we have been given through Jesus the Christ. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SUNG RESPONSE #437

"You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy"

Listening to the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 33:12-23

¹² Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' ¹³ Now if I have found favor in your sight, please show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider, too, that this nation is your people." ¹⁴ He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." ¹⁵ And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not bring us up from here. ¹⁶ For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth." ¹⁷ The Lord said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have asked, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." ¹⁸ Moses said, "Please show me your glory." ¹⁹ And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord,' and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. ²⁰ But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one shall see me and live." ²¹ And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, ²² and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; ²³ then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."

EPISTLE

1st Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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

SERMON

"Better Together"

Cherrie Sizemore, ALP

Responding to God

*HYMN #12

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

*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 #837

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"

*BENEDICTION

*DEPARTING SONG #742

"We Will Walk with God"

**We will walk with God, my brothers; we will walk with God.
We will walk with God, my sisters; we will walk with God.
We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.
We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.**

Greet one another in peace as you depart

Call to worship written by Amy Loving, and posted on *The Worship Closet*. <http://worshipcloset.com>
Prayer of confession written by the Rev. Dr. Bertrice Wood. Posted on the United Church of Christ *Worship Ways* website.
<http://www.ucc.org>
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Church Notes

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgist: Taylor Bailey
Preacher: Cherrie Sizemore, ALP
Music Director: Marilyn Padon
Organist: Pam Ferrell

WE WELCOME BACK CHERRIE SIZEMORE AS OUR PREACHER 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.

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

- Prayers for all those in the path of Hurricane Isaias, especially on the Gulf Coast.
- 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: Philippi Presbyterian Church; Pineville Presbyterian Church; Mathakwaini Church; Thegene Parish