

Easter Flowers

It is a privilege to assist our hosts, the congregation of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, in decorating the sanctuary for Holy Week and Easter. If you would like to donate flowers in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one, please pick up an "Order Form for Easter Flowers" at the Information Center.

The Order Form and your check made payable to "St. Matthew's Lutheran Church" must be received **by Sunday, March 26th.**

Our Guest Preacher for Today

We welcome **David J. Ayers, Ph.D.**, Dean of the Alva J. Calderwood School of Arts and Letters, Grove City College, as our guest speaker this week. Dr. Ayers has been at Grove City College since 1996.

He completed his Ph.D. at New York University, his M.A. at American University, and his B.A. at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. His graduate degrees are in Sociology, but his undergraduate degree is in Psychology.

Dr. Ayers' varied background also includes being on the Sociology faculty at The King's College in New York, at Dallas Baptist University in Texas, serving as a Special Research Affiliate in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Policy Studies, working as Research Associate for a Washington, D.C., consulting firm, carrying out studies in the healthcare field.

As a boy he lived in both Athens, Greece, and Frankfurt, Germany, as his father served in covert operations for the Central Intelligence Agency.

Dr. Ayers is currently writing a book on Christian marriage for Weaver Books tentatively entitled *Two Cords, One Knot: The Wonder of Christian Marriage in a Confused World.*

More than anything else, Ayers is happy to be blessed with a wonderful family that includes his wife Kathy, six children, three sons-in-law, two granddaughters and a grandson on the way, and two dogs. He resides in Grove City.

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Mission Church of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church
www.rpccerie.org

Sunday Morning Worship Second Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2017

Worship Theme: *"In God, and in God alone, can true satisfaction, wholeness, and meaning be found."*

Gathering Music: *Allegro*.....Handel
Shirley W. Wilson, Organist

Welcome and Announcements.....Robert LeSuer

Introduction of Today's Worship.....Susan Brooks

Prelude: *Be Thou My Vision*.....arr. Wood

Be Thou my battle Shield, Sword for the fight;
Be Thou my Dignity, Thou my Delight;
Thou my soul's Shelter, Thou my high Tower:
Raise Thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Call to Worship: *(responsively)*.....Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: I lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from?

Congregation: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Liturgist: He will not let your foot slip-he who watches over you will neither slumber nor sleep.

Congregation: The Lord watches over you-the Lord is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

Liturgist: The Lord will keep you from all harm-

Congregation: He will watch over your life.

—Psalm 121:1-7 NIV

***Hymn No. 483:** *Sing Praise to God, Who*

Reigns Above.....MIT FREUDEN ZART

(...continued over...)

Prayers of Confession..... Thomas Brooks

We will begin by praying silently, confessing our personal sins.
Then, we will join in a unison prayer of corporate confession.

Gracious God, You invite us to live in Your image. But, we confess that too often we say one thing with our lips and another with our lives.

Help us to make our deeds fit our words. Help our conduct to match our affirmation of faith.

Forgive us when we say that we will follow You into the world, yet we stay behind with our feet firmly planted in comfortable places. Forgive us for any hypocrisy. Forgive us for any neglect. Fill us with such gratitude that we cannot help but live and love differently.

May we live in Your image and see that image in all those we meet. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (*unison*)..... Thomas Brooks

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, and the new has come! —2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV

***Response Hymn: Gloria Patri**..... GREATORIX

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
World without end, Amen, Amen!

Anthem: O Praise the Lord!..... Lloyd Larson

Redeemer Choir

O praise the Lord, all ye nations! Praise Him, all ye people of the earth!
O praise the Lord, sing out His praises! For His love is great toward us.
Praise Him for His goodness and His mercy; Praise Him for a love that knows no ending;
Let us sing His praises, sing His glory Come, lift your voices to the King!
Praise Him for the gift of love and compassion
Praise Him for the peace that only His love can bring;
Thank Him for the joy of our salvation. Come, lift our voices, let them ring!
O praise the Lord!

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Praise..... Thomas Brooks

Prayers of Petitions of the

People, and The Lord's Prayer (*debts/debtors*)..... Thomas Brooks

Epistle Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17..... Susan Brooks

Sermon: “I Can't Get No Satisfaction” (Outside of Knowing God)” David J. Ayers. Ph.D.

Sermon Text: Ecclesiastes 1:15 - 2:26

Offering: *O That I Had a Thousand Voices*.....arr. Burkhardt

Prayer of Dedication for Our Offering (*unison*) Thomas Brooks

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the abundance of Your provision. Grant us wisdom to use these offerings to the glory of Your name and the furthering of Your Kingdom. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn No. 306: Fairest Lord Jesus** CRUSADER'S HYMN

***Benediction** (*unison*) Thomas Brooks

The Lord will keep you from all harm- He will watch over your life; The Lord will watch over your coming and your going both now and forevermore. Amen.

—Psalm 121:7, 8 NIV

At the conclusion of the Benediction, the Congregation is dismissed.

Postlude: Arise, My Soul, Arise..... arr. Kelly

** Congregation please stand, if you are able to do so.*

Nursery Available

We offer Nursery Care during our Worship Service. You will find the caregivers in the Joyce Parlor.

After the Worship Service

We invite you to join us for a time of fellowship with coffee and cookies after the worship service in the Joyce Parlor.

If you wish to have a time of personal prayer for any needs in your life, please speak to Bob LeSuer and he will arrange for someone to meet with you today and pray with you.