

# REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

## Sunday Morning Worship Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 2, 2017

Worship Theme: "God gives us joy in our daily lives, as we acknowledge who He is and what He has done."

**Gathering Music:** *Come, Thou Almighty King*..... arr. G. Smith  
(In a setting by J. S. Bach)

Shirley W. Wilson, Organist

**Welcome and Announcements**..... Robert LeSuer

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

**Prelude:** *In Thee is Gladness*.....arr. Manz

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

Liturgist: If God is on our side, who can ever be against us?

**Congregation:** **Since He did not spare even his own Son for us, but gave him up for us all, won't He also surely give us everything else?**

Liturgist: Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? Will God?

**Congregation:** **No! He is the one who has forgiven us and given us right standing with himself.**

Liturgist: Who then will condemn us? Will Christ?

**Congregation:** **No! For He is the one who died for us and came back to life again for us and is sitting at the place of honor next to God, pleading for us there in heaven.**

Liturgist: Who then can ever keep Christ's love from us? When we have trouble or calamity, when we are hunted down or destroyed, is it because he doesn't love us anymore? And if we are hungry, or penniless,

(...continued over...)

or in danger, or threatened with death, has God deserted us?

**Congregation:** **No, for the scriptures tell us that for his sake we must be ready to face death at every moment of the day- we are like sheep awaiting slaughter; but despite all this, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ who loved us enough to die for us.**

Liturgist: For I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from his love. Death can't, and life can't. The angels won't, and all the powers of hell itself cannot keep God's love away.

**Congregation:** **Our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow, or where we are—high above the sky, or in the deepest ocean—nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God demonstrated by our Lord Jesus Christ when he died for us.**

—Romans 8:31-39 TLB

**\*Hymn No. 83:** *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High.. DEO GRACIAS*

**Old Testament Reading:** Jeremiah 14:1-9 ..... Laurie LeSuer

**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.

**God of all creation, in love You made an everlasting covenant with us, You sent Your son Jesus the Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have often strayed from You. We have been willful and prideful.**

**Have mercy on us, O God, and forgive us. Return us from the wilderness to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

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

**There is now no condemnation awaiting those who belong to Christ Jesus. For the power of the life-giving Spirit—and this power is mine through Christ Jesus—has freed me from the vicious circle of sin and death. Amen.**

—Romans 8:1-2 TLB

**\*Response Hymn:** *Gloria Patri*..... *GREATOREX*

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!

**Gospel Reading:** Mark 8:11-21..... Sam Ruggiero

**Moments of Thanksgiving and Praise**..... Thomas Brooks

**Petitions and Prayers of the**

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

**Epistle Reading:** Galatians 4:21-5:1..... Marti Ruggiero

**Sermon:** "So, What Have We Learned During Lent" ....Dean Wilson

**Sermon Text:** Psalm 118

**Offering:** *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*..... *arr. Hopson*

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

**God our Redeemer and God our Provider, we offer these gifts as a testimony of our faith. Use them so that others may experience your love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

**\*Hymn No. 384:** *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*..... *St. MARGARET*

**\*Benediction** (*unison*) ..... Thomas Brooks

**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.** *—Romans 15:13 NIV*

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

**Postlude:** *Toccata on "Rejoice, the Lord is King* ..... *G. Young*

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

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### Nursery Available

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

### Special Congregational Meeting

The Board of Directors has issued a call for a Special Meeting of the Congregation immediately following the 11:00 a.m. regular worship service today, **Sunday, April 2, 2017**, for the purpose of conducting such business as required by the ByLaws of Redeemer Presbyterian Church (EPC), including the election of Elders to assume office upon the localization of Redeemer Presbyterian Church and the election of members to serve on the Pastor Search Committee, as follows:

Elder (Class of 2018):..... Robert LeSuer

Elder (Class of 2019):..... Jennifer Pontzer

Elder (Class of 2020):..... Dean Wilson

Pastor Search Committee: ..Judy Bloeser, Susan Brooks,  
Dillon Gearing, Lisa Gordon,  
Bob LeSuer (Elder), Pat Pontzer,  
Dean Wilson (Elder)

### Maundy Thursday Service—April 13, 2017

On Thursday, April 13th, we welcome you to join us for a service of Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m.—Meeting here at:

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church  
950 West 7th Street  
Erie, PA 16502

