

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church
www.rpcerie.org

Sunday Morning Worship Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

August 20, 2017

Worship Theme: "God wants His beloved children to daily draw comfort from the reality of His Presence in their lives."

Families with very young children please note that, if you wish to use it, we offer Nursery Care during our Worship Service in the Joyce Parlor.

Gathering Music: *Sheep May Safely Graze* Bach/Biggs
Shirley W. Wilson, Organist

Welcome and Announcements..... Robert LeSuer

Prelude: *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*.....arr. Wood

Call to Worship: (responsively) Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: When the world divides us,

Congregation: Come, Holy Spirit, make us one.

Liturgist: When the world calls us orphaned,

Congregation: Come, Holy Spirit, make us a family.

Liturgist: When the world leads us astray,

Congregation: Come, Holy Spirit, call us home.

Liturgist: Come, Holy Spirit, Come.

Congregation: Come and fill this place.

***Hymn No. 139:** *Come, Thou Almighty King* ITALIAN HYMN

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 45:1-15 Rebecca Rugh

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.

Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before You our sinful nature: prone to evil and slothful in good. We confess all our shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned: in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, and in forgetting Your love.

O Lord, have mercy upon us—we who are ashamed and sorry for everything in which we have displeased You. Teach us to hate our errors. Cleanse us from our secret faults and forgive our sins for the sake of your dear Son. And, O most holy and loving Father, help us, we beseech You, to live in Your light and walk in Your ways according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—Based upon The Book of Common Worship, first order

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

Because Jesus lived and died and rose again for us, we know that nothing can separate us from the love of God. In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

***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!

Moments of Thanksgiving and Praise Thomas Brooks

Prayers of Petitions of the People, and The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)..... Thomas Brooks

Gospel Reading: Matthew 15:21-28..... Brent Sesler

Sermon: "Trapped in the Middle"..... Dean K. Wilson

Sermon Texts: Romans 11:1-36 and Isaiah 51

Offering: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*..... Bradbury

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

Heavenly Father, every good gift comes from You. You give generously without refusing or reproaching anyone. May our gifts assist the preaching of the gospel, so that all can experience Your divine grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn No. 276: Great is Thy Faithfulness** *FAITHFULNESS*

***Passing of the Peace** (*to one another*)..... Thomas Brooks

***Benediction** (*unison, spoken to each other*) Thomas Brooks

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

—from Numbers 6: 24-26

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

Postlude: Processional in C *Hopson*

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

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, Jennifer Pontzer, or Dean Wilson and they will arrange for someone to meet with you today and pray with you.

Please Mark Your Calendar

On Sunday afternoon, **September 17, 2017**, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., we will hold a celebration of the Localization of Redeemer Presbyterian Church (EPC) at Capers Catering, 2743 East 38th Street at the Bayfront Highway, Erie, PA 16510.

Our celebration will include a buffet dinner. More details in our weekly *eNewsletter*.

The Potter's House Picnic

We are all cordially invited to attend a picnic to celebrate the beginning of the school year at Edinboro University on Monday, August 28, 2017, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Natalie Harvey needs our help! She provides the hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks. She is asking if we can please bring a side dish to pass and cookies. More details in our weekly *eNewsletter*.

Please Pray for our Leaders

As a congregation, we continue to express our gratitude to God for the godly Leaders He has raised up in our midst to guide the further development of Redeemer Presbyterian Church (EPC). It is appropriate, therefore, that we continue to hold all our Leaders up in our prayers.

We encourage you to make it a point to pray daily for the following individuals:

Session

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Robert LeSuer, Ruling Elder | Thomas Brooks, Min. of Mus./Worship ¹ |
| Jennifer Pontzer, Ruling Elder | Laurie LeSuer, Clerk of Session ¹ |
| Dean Wilson, Ruling Elder | Marykay Stahl, Treasurer ¹ |

¹ non-voting member

Advisors and Committee Chairs

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Susan Brooks, Chair of Pastor Search | Becky Rugh |
| Lisa Gordon | James Stahl, Chair of Missions |
| Marti Ruggiero, Chair of Fellowship | Shirley Wilson, Chair of Women's Ministry |

Nominating Committee

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bob LeSuer | Susan Brooks | Shirley Wilson |
| Jennifer Pontzer | Eric Stockhoff | |

Pastor Search Committee

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Susan Brooks, Chair | Lisa Gordon | Dean Wilson |
| Judy Bloeser | Robert LeSuer | Rev. Chris Curtis |
| Dillon Gearing | Patrick Pontzer | |