

# REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

www.rpcerie.org

## Sunday Morning Worship Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2018

Worship Theme: *“As Christ takes on the cross, He demonstrates our benefit.”*

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:** *Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us* ..... arr. Leavitt  
Shirley W. Wilson, Organist

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

**Introduction to Today’s Worship** ..... Susan Brooks

**Prelude:** *Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices* ..... arr. Manz

Oh that I had a thousand voices to praise my God with thousand tongues!  
My heart, which in the Lord rejoices, would then proclaim in grateful songs  
To all, wherever I might be, What great things God hath done for me.

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

Liturgist: God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth!

**Congregation: Your glory is sung by all your creation!**

Liturgist: When we look to the heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and stars, we wonder—Who are we that you care for us and for this world?

**Congregation: You are the God of life, crowning us with glory and honor to serve you all our days. O God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth!**

(...continued over...)

**\*Hymn No. 442:** *The Church’s One Foundation* ..... AURELIA

**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.

**Almighty God our Father, who is generous in mercy to all who call on Your name, hear us as we come humbly to You confessing our sins and seeking Your grace and forgiveness.**

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father, and grant that we, through Your great goodness, may serve and please You in newness of life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. 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 ours through Christ Jesus—has freed us from the vicious circle of sin and death. Amen.**

—based on Romans 8:1-2 TLB

**\*Response Hymn No. 466:** *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*.... AZMON

**Old Testament Reading:** Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 ..... Judy Bloeser

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

**Prayers and Petitions of the**

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

**Epistle Reading:** Romans 4:13-25 ..... Judy Bloeser

**Sermon:** “Christ for Us” ..... Rev. Charles Nelson

**Sermon Text:** Psalm 22:23-31

(...continued over...)

**Offering:** *Just As I Am* ..... Charlotte Elliott/William Bradbury

*In honor of the graduation to heaven of Evangelist  
Rev. Dr. William Franklin Graham, Jr.  
(November 7, 1918 – February 21, 2018)*

Just as I am, without one plea, But that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!

Just as I am, and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot;  
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, though tossed about With many a conflict, many a doubt;  
Fightings within, and fears without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind;  
Yes, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thy love unknown Has broken every barrier down;  
Now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

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

**Dear Lord, You have given so many gifts to us. You have held nothing back of Yourself. But rather, You have come among us in Christ Jesus to save us and make us new. We offer to You now our lives and with them the work of our hands, as represented by that which is contained in this offering. Bless us and all we offer, both now and forevermore. Amen.**

**\*Hymn No. 92:** *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* ..... St. Christopher

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

**\*Benediction** .....Rev. Charles Nelson

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

**Postlude:** *Fugue in A* ..... Selby

*\* 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.

## Preaching Today

We welcome to our pulpit this week **Rev. Charles Nelson**. Rev. Nelson is the pastor of The Cross, a church plant here in Erie of the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference. His church serves an impoverished population with a median household income of roughly \$10,000 in its zip code.

In 2007, Rev. Nelson earned a Bachelor Of Arts In Religion degree from Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri. In 2014, he earned a Master of Divinity degree from Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Prior to his current ministry assignment, from 2006 through 2007, Rev. Nelson served as Children's Associate at Summit Church in O'Fallon, Missouri. From 2008 through 2010, he served as Director of Ministries at Wesley Church in Erie.

## Jubilee Report Luncheon: Sunday, March 4th

The congregation is invited to a luncheon sponsored by the Mission Committee following the Worship Service on Sunday, March 4, 2018. This luncheon will take place in the dining hall in the basement of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. There is no charge for the luncheon. But, a free will offering will be accepted.

After lunch is served, the Edinboro University of Pennsylvania college students in attendance will talk about their experiences at the recent *Coalition for Christian Outreach* Jubilee Conference in Pittsburgh.

Please come and join us for an exceptional time, as we listen to how God is working in the lives of these young people.