

# REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
www.rpcerie.org

## Sunday Morning Worship Second Sunday of Easter

April 8, 2018

Worship Theme: "John sets a foundation in faith with resulting fruit."

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:** *Crown Him with Many Crowns* ..... arr. Carter Shirley Wilson, organist

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

**Reception of New Members** ..... Clerk of Session Laurel LeSuer  
Alexandra Gearing

**Prelude:** *We Walk By Faith* ..... arr. Cherwien

We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,  
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."

We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;  
But in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"

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

Liturgist: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;

**Congregation: Make known among the nations what he has done.**

Liturgist: Sing to him, sing praise to him;

**Congregation: Tell of all his wonderful acts.**

Liturgist: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**Congregation: Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.**

Liturgist: Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced.

**Congregation: He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth.** —Psalm 105:1-5, 7

**\*Hymn No. 151:** *Crown Him with Many Crowns* ..... DIADEMATA

**Psalter Reading:** Psalm 133 ..... Thomas Brooks

**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, who in faithful love made an everlasting covenant with us. You sent Jesus the Christ to seek and to save the lost.**

**We confess that we have strayed from You. We have been willful and prideful. We seek You, O Lord, and call upon You asking for Your mercy and forgiveness.**

**Return us from the wilderness to paths of righteousness through Jesus the Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

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

Liturgist: God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the His Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

—Romans 5:8, NIV

**\*Response Hymn: Doxology** ..... OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

(...continued over...)

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

**Prayers and Petitions of the**

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

**Scripture Readings:** ..... Lisa Gordon  
Acts 4:32-35 and John 20:19-31

**Sermon:** “The Root and Fruit of Faith” .....Rev. Charles Nelson

**Sermon Text:** 1 John 1:1 - 2:2

**Offering:** *O For a Faith that Will Not Shrink* ..... *arr. Bender*

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

**Dear Lord, our desire is to share the resources with which  
You have blessed us. With gratitude, we give this offering  
as a fulfillment of our responsibility to give back a portion  
of what You so graciously bestow. In the name of Jesus the  
Christ we pray. Amen.**

**\*Hymn No. 108:** *Christ is Alive!*..... *TRURO*

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

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

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

**Postlude:** *Postlude on “The Solid Rock”* ..... *R. Parks*

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

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

**Call for a Special Congregational Meeting**

The Session has issued a Call for a Special Congregational Meeting immediately following the 11:00 a.m. regular Worship Service on Sunday, April 22, 2018, for the purpose of voting on the Call and Terms of Call for pastoral candidate, Douglas J. Kortyna. The candidate will preach that day. Additional information about this candidate is available on-line. And, if you do not have internet access, we have a few printed copies of this information at the Information Center..

**Preaching This Sunday**

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, Rev. Nelson served as Director of Ministries at Wesley Church in Erie from 2008 through 2010. From 2006 through 2007, he served as Children’s Associate at Summit Church in O’Fallon, Missouri.

Rev. Nelson has contributed to the Erie community by serving as an Adjunct Professor of World Religion at Mercyhurst University, as a special guest on the “Talk of Erie” program on WQLN Public Radio, and as the Leader of the Great Lakes Church Multiplication Hub, to name just a few.

In 2017, Rev. Nelson served as a plenary speaker at the Annual Gathering of the churches who belong to the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.

We look forward to the message that God has laid on Rev. Nelson’s for us this Sunday.