

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



<https://www.rpcerie.org>

Sunday Morning Worship Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

Worship Theme: *“The Father is glorified and our full joy is experienced as we bear fruit by abiding in Jesus’ love for us and love one another.”*

We welcome children of all ages in our Worship Service. At the Information Center in the rear of the Sanctuary, we offer children a “Book Bucket” with books and activities for their use. Parents, please do not be concerned if your young child cries. We believe that the cries of young children signal that the church is alive, well, and destined to continue for generations to come.

Prelude: *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go* arr. Courtney

Shirley Wilson, accompanist

O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

Welcome, Announcements, and

Introduction to Worship..... Thomas Brooks

Note: The Congregation should please remain seated.

Call to Worship: *(responsively)* Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: Let us worship the name of our wonderful Lord.

Congregation: The Lord reigns over all creation.

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(...continued over...)

Liturgist: The voice of God creates all things,

Congregation: Nothing exists without the creative power of the Lord.

Liturgist: May God give strength to all who gather here today.

Congregation: May the Lord bless us with peace.

Note: The Congregation should please stand.

***Hymn No. 100: Holy, Holy, Holy!**..... *NICAEA*

Note: The Congregation may please be seated.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 27:2-6 Joshua Stearns

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Note: We will have A Moment for Children only if two or more children are present in the Worship Service.

A Moment for Children Shirley Wilson

Note: The Congregation should please remain seated for the following Hymn.

Hymn of Reflection: Jesus, Lover of My Soul..... Wesley

Plenteous grace with thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound;
Make and keep me pure within:
Thou of life the fountain art,
Freely let me take of thee;
Spring thou up within my heart,
Rise to all eternity.

Prayers of Confession..... Thomas Brooks

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

Holy and merciful God, in Your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against You. You alone know how often

(...continued over...)

**we have sinned, in wandering from Your ways, in
wasting Your gifts, and in forgetting Your love.**

**Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and
sorry for all we have done to displease You. Forgive
our sins and help us to live in Your light and walk
in Your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our
Savior, Lord, and King. Amen.**

Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.

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

**If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and
will forgive us our sins and purify us from all
unrighteousness.**

—1 John 1:9

Thanks be to God!

Note: The Congregation should please stand for the Hymn.

***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!

Note: The Congregation should please remain standing.

***Passing of the Peace**..... Thomas Brooks

*Note: The Congregation will please turn to each other and speak these words of
greeting: "May the peace of Christ be with you."
And the answer of response: "And, also with you."*

Note: The Congregation may please be seated.

Prayers of the People and

The Lord's Prayer (*debts/debtors*) Robert LeSuer

*Note: The Congregation should please remain seated for the reading of
Scripture.*

Epistle Reading: Revelation 21:1-4..... Amy Stearns

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

Note: The Congregation should please remain seated.

Sermon: “No Place Like Home” Robert LeSuer

Sermon Text: John 15:1-12

Installation of a Ruling Elder Robert LeSuer

Ruling Elder Amy Stearns

Offering: *Children of the Heavenly Father* *arr. Dillon*

God his own doth tend and nourish,
In his holy courts they flourish;
From all evil things he spares them,
In his mighty arms he bears them.

More secure is no one ever
Than the loved ones of the Savior;
Not yon star on high abiding
Nor the bird in home-nest hiding.

Note: The Congregation should please stand for the Hymn.

***Offertory 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.

Note: The Congregation should please remain standing.

***Offertory Prayer** (*unison*) Thomas Brooks

Almighty God, with hands outstretched, You have poured out wonder, pleasure, delight, goodness, beauty, and bounty. By Your grace, please accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives. in union with our risen Lord, who forever lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

NNote: The Congregation should please remain standing for the Hymn.

***Hymn No. 184:**

The King of Love My Shepherd Is *DOMINUS REGIT ME*

Note: Following the Hymn, the Congregation should please remain standing.

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

May the love of God surround you, the wisdom of Christ guide you, and the power of the Holy Spirit encourage you, as you joyfully proclaim and exhibit the love of God, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Postlude: *Praise to the Lord the Almighty*..... arr. Carter

** Congregation should 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 rear of the sanctuary.

If you have any special needs in your life and you wish to have a time of personal prayer, please speak to one of our Ruling Elders— Robert LeSuer, James Stahl, or Amy Stearns—and he or she will arrange for someone to meet with you today and pray with you.

April Prayer Focus

The April Prayer Focus for our church families was written by a member of the Redeemer congregation. During the month of April, let us uphold our families, trusting in the power of the Lord Jesus Christ to mend what is broken, to restore what is lost, and to strengthen the bonds that unite us. May our homes be sanctuaries of Christ's love and grace and healing, where each family member finds solace and support amidst life's challenges.

Let us pray fervently for:

- The healing of broken relationships and reconciliation. Ask God to prepare us for the role we may need to play in the restoration process, whether it be to speak up, to listen, or to reach out. May forgiveness abound and may hearts be softened and be opened to healing and restoration.

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- Those family members who have wandered away from walking with our Lord Jesus Christ. May they be guided back to the path of faith. May the light of God's love illuminate their hearts once more. May we be ready to rejoice at their return to the fold.
- Our children, as we bring them up, that they would come to know the Lord Jesus Christ and to love Him with all their hearts, souls, minds, and strength.
- Our families to serve as beacons of hope and faith, drawing people closer to the embrace of our Savior.

Redeemer Sunday School Resumes

Starting on **Sunday, May 5, 2024**, from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., in the Christ Center adjacent to the Sanctuary, Sunday School will re-convene at Redeemer. We will have classes for both adults and for children.

Jaye Moelk and Jamie Stahl, along with additional parent teachers, will be leading the children's class, which will incorporate both a time of learning and a time of physical activity for the kids.

The adult class will be led by Bob LeSuer, and is entitled "The Way Forward." In this class, we will be looking both forward and backwards in the life of this congregation. You can read more information about this adult class in the weekly *eNewsletter*.

We will plan to meet for six Sundays from May 5th through June 16th, with a break on Sunday, May 19th, due to a Koinonia being hosted by Weis Library UMC in the Christ Center that Sunday. We invite you to plan to attend these important times of discussion and learning. We hope to see you there!

