

# REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



<https://www.rpcerie.org>

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## Sunday Morning Worship Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

Worship Theme: *"The three Persons of the Trinity  
are active in our salvation. God chose us because  
of His love for us and for His own plan. His plan of  
salvation gives us confidence to share the good  
news about Jesus with the world."*

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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.

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**Welcome, Announcements, and  
Introduction to Worship** ..... Thomas Brooks

**Prelude:** *Holy, Holy, Holy*..... arr. Weston

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, Holy. Holy! Merciful and Mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee  
Perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.

*Note: The Congregation should please remain seated.*

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

Liturgist:       Awake, O harp and lyre! I will wake the  
                      dawn!

*(...continued over...)*

**Congregation: I will give thanks to you, O Lord,  
among the peoples; I will sing to you  
among the nations.**

**Liturgist:** For your steadfast love is as high as the  
heavens; Your faithfulness extends to the  
clouds.

**Congregation: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!  
Let your glory, be over all the earth!**

—Psalm 108:2-5

*Note: The Congregation should please stand for the hymn, if able to do so.*

**\*Hymn No. 310: Rejoice the Lord is King..... DARWALL**

*Note: The Congregation may please be seated and remain seated for the  
reading of the Scripture.*

**Psalter Reading: Psalm 33:1-12 .....Marykay Stahl**

**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 ..... Rev. Giffone**

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

**Hymn of Reflection: Change My Heart, O God .....Espinosa**

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true,  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the Potter, I am the clay,  
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.  
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true,  
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

**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.

**God and Father of the Risen Christ, we come to  
You confessing our sins and seeking the gift of Your**

(...continued over...)

**grace. We cling to the promise of the resurrection that is made real to us in the miraculous living presence of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Yet though we are eager to share in Christ's victory, we ignore Your call to walk with Him in His suffering, and to be vulnerable and present to the world, like He was. We admit that we desire the privilege of being called Your children, but shy away from bearing the costs of being Your obedient servants.**

**Help us to experience the true joy of living our lives as part of Christ's body—holy and dedicated to Your way. Make us eager to give ourselves, and all that we have, that the world around us might know Your love.**

**We pray this Prayer of Corporate Confession, in the blessed name of Jesus, who challenges us by His example. Amen.**

*Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.*

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

**Liturgist:** For Christ died for sins, once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

**Congregation: He was put to death in the body but made alive by the spirit.**

*—1 Peter 3:18-19*

**Thanks be to God!**

*Note: The Congregation should please stand for the Hymn, if able to do so.*

**\*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!

*(...continued over...)*

*Note: If able, the Congregation should please remain standing following the Hymn*

**\*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.*

**Pastoral Prayer, Prayers of the People, and  
The Lord's Prayer** (*debts/debtors*) ..... Zachary Harvey

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

**Old Testament Reading:**

Deuteronomy 7:6-8; 26:5-10.....Marykay Stahl

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation:** Thanks be to God!

**Sermon:**

"Chosen in Love, For the Praise of His Glory" .... Rev. Giffone

**Sermon Text:** Ephesians 1:1-14

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**  
*Remembrance · Communion · Hope*

**Invitation to the Lord's Table.....** Rev. Giffone

**Offering:** *Grace Greater Than Our Sin* ..... arr. Huggins

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,  
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,  
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,  
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.  
Grace, grace, God's grace,  
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within!  
Grace, grace, God's grace,  
Grace that is greater than all our sin.

*Note: We welcome the families with children sitting in the rear of the sanctuary to come forward and find seating in the front of the church, so that the children may observe the Celebration of Holy Communion.*

*Note: If able, the Congregation should please stand for the Offertory Hymn.*

(...continued over...)

**\*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, if able to do so.*

**\*Offertory Prayer..... Rev. Giffone**

*Note: The Congregation may please be seated.*

**Communion Opening Prayer  
and Words of Institution ..... Rev. Giffone**

**Distribution of the Bread: *The body of Christ, broken for you.***

As you pass the bread, please say to the next person:  
"The body of Christ, broken for you."

Upon receipt of the bread, please hold it until all have been served,  
so that we can partake of the bread together, as a sign of our oneness  
in Christ and membership in His corporate body—the Christian Church.

**Distribution of the Cup: *The blood of Christ, shed for you.***

As you pass the cup, please say to the next person:  
"The blood of Christ, shed for you."

Upon receipt of the cup, please hold it until all have been served,  
so that we can partake of the cup together, as a sign of our oneness  
in Christ and membership in His corporate body—the Christian Church.

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Please use the baskets we have provided in alternate  
rows for disposal of the used communion cups

**Prayer following Communion ..... Rev. Giffone**

*Note: If able, the Congregation should please stand for the Hymn.*

**\*Hymn No. 441: *Jesus Shall Reign*..... DUKE STREET**

*Note: The Congregation should please remain standing, if able to do so.*

**\*Benediction ..... Rev. Giffone**

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

**Postlude: *And Can it Be?* ..... arr. Halberg**

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

(...continued over...)

## 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 Pastor Benj or to one of our Ruling Elders—Zachary Harvey, Robert LeSuer, or Amy Stearns—and he or she will arrange for someone to meet with you today and pray with you.

## Monthly Prayer Focus for May

In Mark 4:35-41, Jesus falls asleep in a boat on the Sea of Galilee and a squall threatens to swamp the boat. In great fear, the Disciples wake Jesus and implore Him to help. Since they do not yet understand who Jesus is, they are probably looking for another pair of hands to help bail water to keep the boat from sinking. His response, calming the storm, was more than anything they could possibly have imagined.

During the month of May, let us:

- Pray to acknowledge how many times we have prayed for help, or for something, with a preconceived solution in mind.
- Pray for understanding of the majestic and truly awesome power of our Lord.
- Pray simply and sincerely for Jesus's help with a particular problem, or a particular situation.
- Then, get out of the way, as Jesus provides His answer to our prayers.

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**Pastor:** .....Rev. Benjamin D. Giffone, PhD  
**Minister of Music and Worship:** ..... Thomas Brooks  
**Accompanist:** .....Shirley Wilson

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To contact the church, please send an email to the following address:

**info@rpcerie.org**

To contact Pastor Benj, please send him an email at: **pastor@rpcerie.org**

Or, please call or text him at: **724-221-2595**

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