Note: The Congregation may please be seated.

# Communion Opening Prayer and Words of Institution ...... Rev. Opitz

**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.

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

\*Hymn No. 59: Forever Settled in the Heavens...... Duke Street Note: The Congregation should please remain standing, if able to do so.

\*Benediction ...... Rev. Opitz

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

**Postlude:** O Zion, Haste ......arr. Berry

\* 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 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 July**

The Monthly Prayer Focus for the month of July highlights Redeemer's long-time commitment to the ministry of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Sierra Leone, West Africa. Since 2013, Redeemer has specifically supported the ministry taking place in the Village of Fintonia, located in the north-central portion of the country. This ministry has included support for the primary and secondary school, and for the church planted in this very remote community. Over the years, we have also provided school supplies, provided sponsorships, and helped pay for means of transportation. In addition, we have helped finance the construction of the church building and have supported the operation of the church. The church has been so successful, they are planting a new church about five miles from the current church. This is a major accomplishment in this majority Muslim area.

This ministry to Sierra Leone funnels through *EduNations*, a non-profit organization that began in 2004, as an outreach ministry of Memorial Park EPC Church in Allison Park, PA, and also as an outreach ministry of the Presbytery of the Alleghenies. *EduNations* eventually extended to serve as the coordinator of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church's ministry to Sierra Leone. *EduNations* currently operates fifteen schools for 3,700 students, with 150 teachers in six villages of Sierra Leone. The Senior Secondary school is a boarding school, providing free room and board for students.

## Please pray for:

- God's continued blessing on the church and church plant in the Village of Fintonia.
- Usman Kamara—the teacher we help to support—as he teaches math. Pray that God will use him to change the lives of his students.
- The EduNations leadership and teachers, as they travel and teach.
   Pray that God will provide protection from the Muslim influences in the country.
- The students that individuals in the Redeemer congregation support monthly. Prayerfully consider whether you can join them to provide monthly support for a student.

Pastor:Rev. Benjamin D. Giffone, PhDMinister of Music and Worship:Thomas BrooksAccompanist:Shirley Wilson

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

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



https://www.rpcerie.org

# Sunday Morning Worship Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 27, 2025

Worship Theme: "The creation is talkative in Psalm 19, displaying the Creation Word, the Covenant Word, and the Living Word: Jesus."

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.

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

**Prelude:** God is Here! arr. Howell

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts Wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us of our life-long need of grace; Here are table, font, and pulpit; Here the cross has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech, Here in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

Note: The Congregation should please remain seated.

Liturgist: Trust the Lord at all times; God is a

refuge for us.

Congregation: God is our Rock and our Salvation; we shall not be shaken.

- 5 - (...continued over...)

Liturgist; God is good and in God's work we find

our strength.

Congregation: We sing of all God's wonderful works!

We give thanks and praise to the

Lord!

Note: The Congregation should please stand, if able to do so.

\*Hymn No. 147:

O God of Light, Your Word, a Lamp Unfailing..... Charterhouse

Note: The Congregation should please remain standing for the Gospel Reading.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation:** Thanks be to God!

Note: We will have A Moment for Children <u>only</u> 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:** Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord ....... Ramsey

Teach me thy way, O Lord; teach me thy way. Thy guiding grace afford; teach me thy way! Help me to walk aright, more by faith, less by sight, Lead me with heav'nly light; teach me thy way.

Long as my life shall last, teach me thy way.
Where'er my lot be cast, teach me thy way!
Until the race is won, until the journey's done.
Until the crown is won, teach me thy way.

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.

Almighty God, as we come before You confessing our sins, we acknowledge that You know our hearts. You know that we struggle to be faithful to You. From moment to moment, and from decision to decision, we are inconsistent and fickle.

- 2 -

Please forgive us for our unfaithfulness. Please forgive us even more when we justify our unfaithfulness with formulas for our lives that serve us and not You. We ask these things in the name of your Son—our Redeemer and King—the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.

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

Liturgist: God has delivered us from the domain of

darkness.

Congregation: and transferred us to the Kingdom

of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

-adapted from Colossians 1:13, 14

Because of Jesus the Christ's sacrifice and resurrection, we are forgiven. Thanks be to our 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!

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

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

Epistle Reading: 1 John 1:1-10......Nate Heinrich

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Note: The Congregation may please be seated.

**Sermon:** "In the Zone" ......Rev. Donald D. Opitz, PhD

**Sermon Text:** Psalm 19

The Sacrament of Holy Communion Remembrance · Communion · Hope

Invitation to the Lord's Table...... Rev. Opitz

**Offering:** O Word of God Incarnate.....arr. Berry

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high, O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky; We praise thee for the radiance that from the hallowed page, A lantern to our footsteps, sines on from age to age.

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.

\*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.

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 now offer to You our lives and with them the work of our hands, as represented by that which is contained in this offering. Please bless us and all we offer, both now and forevermore. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(...continued over...)