

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.

***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.

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

**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.

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

Prayer following Communion..... Rev. Giffone

***Hymn No. 585:** *Take My Life, and Let It Be*..... HENDON
(Verses 1, 4, 5, and 6)

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

Postlude: *O For a Thousand Tongues*..... arr. Halberg

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 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 August

During August, we respectfully ask that you focus your prayers on unchurched people. More specifically, choose one person (family or friend) and pray for that person every day for the entire month. Please pray earnestly for:

- The Holy Spirit to cause a change in his or her heart and make that one receptive to faith in Jesus Christ.
- Someone to enter the person’s life and explain the gospel to him or her in a way that is compelling and irresistible.
- God to give you an opportunity to connect with that person yourself.

When you do connect, be courageous in your statement of why faith in Christ is an important part of your life. Mention that, recently, you have been praying for him or her every day. While you are with the person, ask if you can pray with that one right there. Then, ask if you can explain the Gospel. If this person has accepted Christ as his or her Lord and Savior, rejoice and celebrate. Maybe you can make plans to attend a worship service together. If that one has not accepted Christ, pray that the Holy Spirit will create a movement in his or her heart.

Pastor:Rev. Benjamin D. Giffone, PhD
pastor@rpcerie.org/724-221-2595
Minister of Music and Worship: Thomas Brooks
Accompanist: Shirley Wilson
Ruling Elders: Robert LeSuer, Amy Stearns, Zachary Harvey


Ways to Give to Redeemer:
• Offering Plate
• Mail: RPC Treasurer, c/o 115 W Lakeview Blvd., Erie, PA 16508
• Online: https://www.rpcerie.org/give.html



To contact the church: info@rpcerie.org

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



https://www.rpcerie.org

Sunday Morning Worship
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 24, 2025

Worship Theme: “Giving cheerfully to support the work of the church brings about blessings and joy. When we fully surrender our economic lives to Christ’s Lordship: we enjoy His ongoing provision, we enjoy fellowship with Him at the communion table, and we receive the honor of participating in the New-Creation work of the church in society.”

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

Welcome, Announcements, and
Introduction to Worship Thomas Brooks

Prelude: *Prelude in B Flat Minor*..... J. S. Bach

Even after losing his first wife and burying eleven children, Johann Sebastian Bach found strength in his Christian faith. At the beginning of many compositions, Bach wrote “J.J.” (Jesu Juva: “Lord help me”), and at the end of his compositions he often signed “S.D.G.” (Soli Deo Gloria: “Glory to God alone”). To Bach, music wasn’t just sound—it was prayer. It was how he processed sorrow, how he found hope, and how he spoke to God. Bach’s music remains a conversation between human suffering and divine grace.

(...continued over...)

(please tear off here)

Connection/Request for Prayer

Name: _____

Phone/Email: _____

I’d like: ☐ Call from the pastor ☐ Prayer for:

(...continued on other side...)

Call to Worship: *(responsively)* Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: I lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from?

Congregation: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Liturgist: He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will neither slumber not sleep.

Congregation: The Lord watches over you—the Lord is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

Liturgist: The Lord will keep you from all harm—

Congregation: He will watch over your life. —*Psalm 121:1-7*

***Hymn No. 598:**
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah CWM RHONDDA

Psalter Reading: Psalm 50:7-23 Jennifer Pontzer

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 ChildrenShirley Wilson
(...continued over...)

-----*(please tear off here)*-----
(...continued from other side...)

Hymn of Reflection: *God, Whose Giving*..... Edwards

God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store.
Nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom,
costly cross, grave’s shattered door.
Gifted by you, we turn to you,
off’ring up ourselves in praise;
Thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.

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.

O God, we confess that we have sinned against You: some of our sins we know, and some are known only to You. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

Have mercy on us and forgive us through the name of Your Son, our redeemer, Jesus Christ, that we may walk in Your ways to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.

Assurance of Pardon *(responsively)* Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.

Congregation: This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

—1 Peter 1: 3-5, NIV

Thanks be to God!

(...continued over...)

***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!

***Passing of the Peace** Thomas Brooks

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

Pastoral Prayer, Prayers of the People, and The Lord’s Prayer *(debts/debtors)* Rev. Giffone

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading:
Deuteronomy 14:22-29 Jennifer Pontzer

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: “Enriched in Every Way to Be Generous in Every Way” Rev. Giffone

Sermon Text: 2 Corinthians 9:1-15

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Remembrance · Communion · Hope

Invitation to the Lord’s Table..... Rev. Giffone

Offering: *Something For Thee*..... *Improvised*

Savior, thy dying love, thou gavest me,
Nor should I aught withhold, dear Lord from Thee;
In love my soul would bow, my heart fulfill its vow,
Some off’ring bring thee now, something for thee.

(...continued over...)