

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



<https://www.rpcerie.org>

Sunday Morning Worship Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 14, 2025

Worship Theme: *"The chief way God uses us is as we reflect His grace."*

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

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

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

O Love that will 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 Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.

(...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: O Lord, open our eyes,

Congregation: That we may see the beauty of your
goodness.

Liturgist: O Lord, open our ears,

Congregation: That we may hear your truth.

Liturgist: O Lord, open our lips,

Congregation: That we may show forth your praise.

***Hymn No. 119:** *I Sing the Mighty Power of God ... FOREST GREEN*

Psalter Reading: Psalm 103:1-14 Martha Ruggiero

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

A Moment for Children Shirley Wilson

Hymn of Reflection: *I Will Sing of the Mercies* Fillmore

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,

I will sing, I will sing.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.

With my mouth will I make known

Thy faithfulness, Thy faithfulness

With my mouth will I make known

Thy faithfulness to all generations.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,

I will sing, I will sing.

(...continued over...)

-----*(please tear off here)*-----

(...continued from other side...)

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.

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.

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love. Please blot out our transgressions according to your abundant mercy. Please wash us thoroughly from our iniquities and cleanse us from our sins.

For we know our transgressions, and our sins are ever before us. Against You, and You alone O God, have we sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified in Your sentence and blameless when You pass judgment upon us. Indeed, we were born guilty, sinners when our mothers conceived us.

Please hide Your face from our sins and blot out all our iniquities. Please create in us clean hearts, O God, and put new and right spirits within us. Do not cast us away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from us. We humbly pray through Him Who loved us and gave Himself for us, even our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

—based upon Psalm 51

Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.

Assurance of Pardon (*responsively*) Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve, or repay us according to our iniquities.

Congregation: **For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.**

—from Psalm 103:8-12

Thanks be to our 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."*

Note: The children attending Children's Church may now go to their classroom.

**Pastoral Prayer, Prayers of the People, and
The Lord's Prayer**..... Robert LeSuer

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.

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Martha Ruggiero

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon: "Grace-Full Ambassadors" Rev. Leuenberger

Sermon Text: Luke 15:1-2, 11-32

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Remembrance · Communion · Hope

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

Offering: *Break Thou the Bread of Life*..... *arr. Beaney*

Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
As thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;
Throughout the sacred page I seek thee, Lord,
My spirit pants for thee, O living Word.

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.

(...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.

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

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 offer to You now 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. Amen.

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

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. Leuenberger

***Hymn No. 457:**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing.....NETTLETON

***Benediction Rev. Leuenberger**

Postlude: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* arr. Patterson

(...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 wish to have a time of personal prayer, please speak 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.

Prayer Focus for September

In our Prayer Focus during September, let us give thanks to God, and also consider the following:

- Are we thankful that our faith in Jesus Christ will bring us eternal life? Ask Him for opportunities to share that Gospel faith with others.
- Have our prayers for that friend or relative born fruit? If so, give God the glory and thanks. Let us know about it so we can celebrate, also. If not, give God praise and thanks that the person is in our lives and keep praying for that person.
- Give thanks for the family in which God has placed us. Even difficult relationships can change through prayer. Maybe God put us there to be that change agent.
- Our standard of living is far above many people in this world. Give thanks to God for His many blessings of adequate food, clothing, and shelter. Pray for ways to share those blessings with others who are less fortunate.
- Give thanks to God that Redeemer has the resources to support missionaries and teachers. Pray for the health and well-being of Usman Kamara, the teacher we support in Fintonia, Sierra Leone. Pray for Sandie Starr Everhart, Sam Van Emen, and Ray Wiesen, CCO staffers on college campuses.

Pastor:Rev. Benjamin D. Giffone, PhD

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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

