

***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. 32:** *Great is Thy Faithfulness*..... FAITHFULNESS

***Benediction** Rev. Giffone

Postlude: *Rejoice! The Lord is King*.....arr. Berry

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.

Christian Education Class

After the time of Fellowship, please join us at the tables in the rear of
the Sanctuary for our Adult Christian Education class. A light lunch
will be served. While adults meet in the rear of the Sanctuary, childcare
will be provided in the Nursery Room.

Prayer Focus for October

The Prayer Focus for October deals with various aspects of patience.
Our society has become so fast-paced, rewarding quick responses over
quality service, instant gratification, and no tolerance for values or
opinions that are different. In your prayers this month, please take time
and wait patiently for the Lord and then begin your conversation with
Him:

- Have you been praying for a family member or friend? Wait in
a prayerful attitude for the Lord to arrive and then pray for that
individual again.
- Is there an older or younger person in your family, who is trying your
patience? The young can be too quick and the old too slow to suit us
sometimes. Ask the Lord for an extra measure of grace.
- If you are drawn into a political argument, ask the Lord for patience.
Then, listen to the other person and hear that one out. Don’t try to
score your points or change the other person’s mind. Listening and
tolerating his or her viewpoint does not mean you agree that he or she
is right, but perhaps a bit of understanding will result from listening.
- When you give to the church, does your neighbor seem more
prosperous? Over time, the Lord will bless you abundantly in other
ways. Be patient and watch for those blessings.
- In past months, we have listened to what the Lord may be trying to say
to us. It takes practice and patience to allow the Lord to break through
the noise, “hectivity,” and busyness of daily life.

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
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 5, 2025**

Worship Theme: “*The genealogies of 1 Chronicles 1 - 9
demonstrate God’s concern for people of all nations, His
gracious gift of homeland to His people, and His mercy in
regathering His people after the discipline of the exile. We
can be confident that God will unite and preserve people
from every nation and different branches of the Christian
church, in Christ.*”

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

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

Prelude: *Jesus Shall Reign*arr. Tornquist

Jesus shall reign where’er the sun
does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;

(...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...)

And infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

Call to Worship: *(responsively)* Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: With all that is within us, let us bless the Lord,

Congregation: Who forgives our sins, Who heals all our diseases,

Liturgist: Who lifts us up from rock bottom, Who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.

Congregation: With all that is within us, let us give thanks and praise to God, Who creates, redeems, and sustains us.

***Hymn No. 296:** *A Hail the Power of Jesus Name ...CORONATION*
(Verses 1, 3, 5, and 6)

***Gospel Reading:** John 4:7-10, 19-26 Mark Kmecik

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
Congregation: Thanks be to God!

A Moment for Children Rev. Giffone

Hymn of Reflection: *Spirit of the Living God* Iverson

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

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

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

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 great and everlasting God, Who dwells in unapproachable light, Who searches and knows the thoughts and intentions of the heart: we confess that we have not loved You with all our heart, nor with all our soul, nor with all our mind, nor with all our strength; nor our neighbors as ourselves.

We have loved what we ought not to have loved. We have coveted what is not ours. We have not been content with Your provisions for us. We have complained in our hearts about our family, about our friends, about our health, about our occupations, about Your church, and about our trials. We have sought our security in those things which perish, rather than in You, the Everlasting God.

Chasten, cleanse, and forgive us, through Jesus Christ, Who is able for all time to save us who approach You through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for us. Amen.

.....*—adapted from Dr. T. David Gordon and based upon Deuteronomy. 6 and Hebrews 7*

Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.

Assurance of Pardon *(responsively)* Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: He has rescued us out of the darkness and gloom of Satan’s kingdom

Congregation: and brought us into the kingdom of his dear Son, who bought our freedom with his blood and forgave us all our sins.

.....*—Colossians 1:13-14*

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 Amy Stearns

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.

Psalter Reading: Psalm 80 Lydia Kmecik

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: “Let Your Face Shine, That We May Be Saved” Rev. Giffone

Sermon Text: 1 Chronicles 1 - 9 *(various portions)*

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Remembrance · Communion · Hope

Invitation to the Lord’s Table Rev. Giffone

Offering: *We Have a Gospel to Proclaim**arr. Berry*

We have a gospel to proclaim: Good news for men in all the earth.
The gospel of a Savior’s name; We sing His glory, tell His worth.

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...)*

Outline of the Book of Chronicles

- 1 Chr 1 - 9 Genealogies: sources, structure and significance
- 1 Chr 10 - 20 The establishment of David's house
- 1 Chr 21 - 29 Preparations for the temple
- 2 Chr 1 - 9 Solomon's reign
- 2 Chr 10 - 35 The kings of Judah
- 2 Chr 36 The exile and return

1 Chronicles 1 - 9

- 1 All-Israel's origins among nations of the East
- 2 - 4 Judah (and Simeon); royal line of David
- 5 Transjordan tribes; exiled by Assyria
- 6 Levi; priestly line from Kohath to Zadoq to the exile (12-1-12)
- 7 (some) Northern tribes; exiled by Assyria
- 8 Benjamin; "royal" line of Saul
- 9:1-34 All-Israel's return from exile among nations of the East
- (• 9:35-44 Saul's genealogy copied from 8:29-38, segue to ch. 10)

Judah, Levi and Benjamin: main post-exilic tribes

Important Points from 1 Chronicles 1 - 9

- The names of individuals represent places and peoples, establishing relationships between ethnic groups in the Chronicler's world.
- The Israelites are not the first people—all peoples, even Israel's rivals and enemies, are descended from Adam and are also made in the image of the one God, YHWH.
- Eber (descended from Shem), the ancestor of the Hebrews, is not indigenous to the land of Canaan (descended from Ham). Israel's claim to Canaan is based on covenant and promise.
- Israelite tribes are grouped by location and significance within the conquered land of Canaan. Settlement in the land is presumed. Reconciliation between Judah and Northern tribes is hoped for; in the NT, Jew-Samaritan reconciliation becomes the firstfruits of the gospel (John 4; Acts 1:8; Acts 8).
- The Israelite genealogies integrate many non-Israelites, including Canaanites, Kenites, Edomites, and Egyptians. Even though the genealogies are patrilineal, many important women are highlighted.
- Israel's genealogies extend to the exile and beyond, indicating continuity across the catastrophe. YHWH is gracious to allow many of All-Israel to return to the land in the Persian period.

The Genealogies of the Tribes: Many Ways to Count to Twelve

Everyone knows that there are twelve tribes of Israel, corresponding to the twelve sons of Jacob. However, there are many different ways to get to "twelve," and each one means something a bit different.

The variation in the twelve tribes is due to several factors: 1) Joseph's sons, Manasseh and Ephraim, are often counted as tribes in their own right due to Joseph receiving a double portion of his father's blessing and inheritance (birthright); 2) Levi is not counted for purposes of military service or land apportionment; 3) Manasseh's land falls on both the west (Cisjordan) and east (Transjordan, or "Gilead") sides of the Jordan River—occasionally, each half-Manasseh is counted as one full tribe; 4) Simeon is eventually absorbed into Judah; 5) Benjamin is sometimes counted with the "ten" northern tribes, sometimes associated with Judah.

- Birth order: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah; Dan, Naphtali; Gad, Asher; Issachar, Zebulun; Joseph, Benjamin (Gen 29 - 30; 35)
- Birth order, grouped by mother (sons of Leah, Rachel, Bilhah, Ziphah): Exod 1:1-5; nearly replicated in 1 Chr 2:1-2
- Blessing order in Gen 49: Sons of Leah, slightly out of order (Reuben, Simeon & Levi, Judah, Zebulun, Issachar), concubine sons, out of order: (Dan, Gad, Asher, Naphtali); sons of Rachel (Joseph, and Benjamin)
- Blessing order in Deut 33: Reuben, Judah, Levi, Benjamin, Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh named at the end), Zebulun & Issachar, Gad, Dan, Naphtali, Asher. No Simeon!
- Encampments around the Tabernacle: Numbers 2
 - East: Judah, with Issachar and Zebulun ("oops-baby" sons of Leah)
 - South: Reuben, with Simeon and Gad
 - West: sons of Rachel. Ephraim, with Manasseh and Benjamin
 - North: Dan, with Asher and Naphtali (all concubine sons)
- Tribal allotments in Joshua 13 - 19
 - Transjordan tribes: Reuben, Gad, Half-Manasseh (Gilead)
 - Judah, Ephraim, Manasseh (note Ephraim is younger among Joseph's sons)
 - Remaining tribes by lot: Benjamin, Simeon, Zebulun, Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, Dan
- Twelve leading officers in David's administration (1 Chr 27:16ff.): Joseph counts three times! Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Naphtali, Ephraim, Cisjordan Manasseh, Transjordan Manasseh (Gilead), Benjamin, Dan. (No Asher or Gad!)