

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Remembrance · Communion · Hope

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

Offering: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* arr. Carter

Unresting, unhasting and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

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.

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

Note: The Congregation may please be seated.

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.

**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

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

***Hymn No. 128:** *God Moves in a Mysterious Way*.....DUNDEE

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

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

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

Postlude: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*..... arr. Patterson

** 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 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— Robert LeSuer, James Stahl, or Amy Stearns—and he or she will arrange for someone to meet with you today and pray with you.



Pastor:Rev. Benjamin D. Giffone, PhD

Minister of Music and Worship: Thomas Brooks

Accompanist: 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 Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost In-Gathering Sunday

November 17, 2024

Worship Theme: "God works behind the scenes, through sinful enemies and adverse circumstances—often unbeknownst to His people—to accomplish His plan of salvation through the Lion of Judah, the Son of David."

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: *How Can I Keep From Singing?*..... arr. Wilson

What if my joys and comforts die?
The Lord my Savior liveth.
What if the darkness round me close?
Songs in the night he giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging;
Since Christ is Lord of heav'n and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

Note: The Congregation should please remain seated.

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

Liturgist: The Lord is our light and our salvation,

Congregation: Whom shall we fear?

Liturgist: The Lord is the strength of our life,

Congregation: Of whom shall we be afraid? We shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

Liturgist: Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage.

—Psalm 27:1 and 14

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

***Hymn No. 457:**

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

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

Epistle Reading: James 3:5-12Marykay 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 ChildrenShirley Wilson

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

Hymn of Reflection: I Will Sing of My Redeemer..... Bliss

I will sing of my Redeemer
and His wondrous love to me;
On the cruel cross He suffered
from the curse to set me free.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer,
with His blood He purchased me.
On the cross He sealed my pardon,
paid the debt and made me free.

I will praise my dear Redeemer;
His triumphant power I'll tell,
How the victory He giveth
over sin and death and hell.

(...continued over...)

Sing, O sing of my Redeemer,
with His blood he purchased me.
On the cross He sealed my pardon,
paid the debt and made me free.

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.

Eternal and Almighty Father, we acknowledge and confess before Your Holy Majesty that we are poor sinners. We were conceived and born in guilt and in corruption. We are prone to evil, unable by ourselves to do any good.

Because of our depravity, we transgress Your holy commandments without end. Therefore, by Your just sentence, O Lord, we have drawn upon ourselves condemnation and death. But, O Lord, with heartfelt sorrow we repent and deplore our offences! We condemn ourselves and our evil ways. With true penitence, we beseech that Your grace may relieve our distress.

Be pleased then, to have compassion upon us, O most gracious God—Father of all mercies—for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. In removing our guilt and our pollution, please grant us the daily increase of the grace of Your Holy Spirit, that acknowledging from our inmost hearts our own unrighteousness, we may be touched with sorrow that shall work true repentance.

And, in response, may Your Holy Spirit, mortifying all sin within us, produce the fruits of holiness and righteousness that are well-pleasing in Your sight—through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray this prayer of confession and repentance. Amen.

—Based on an adaptation from Calvin's
Form of Church Prayers at Geneva
by Dr. T. David Gordon

Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.

Assurance of Pardon (*responsively*) Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Congregation: Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

—Psalm 32:1-2

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!

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*)..... Rev. Giffone

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

Note: If able, the Congregation should please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 15:8 - 16:5Marykay Stahl

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Note: The Congregation may please be seated.

Sermon: "A Scepter Shall Rise Out of Israel" Rev. Giffone

Sermon Text: Numbers 22 - 24

(...continued over...)

Christian Education – Fall 2024, Part II

October 27th through November 24th

Facilitators: Zack Harvey and Pastor Benj Giffone

Join us for a study of Robert D. Lupton's book, *Compassion, Justice and the Christian Life: Rethinking Ministry to the Poor* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007).

<https://www.amazon.com/Compassion-Justice-Christian-Life-Rethinking/dp/0801017912/>

This study explores principles and practical examples of church engagement in urban settings, not only through gospel proclamation and financial giving, but also through community development in pursuit of justice and dignity.

Through reading and discussion, we will think through different ways to engage in the mission of God more thoughtfully, biblically, and impactfully.

Monthly Prayer Focus for November

At the September Meeting of the Presbytery of the Alleghenies, missionary Patricia Premick made a presentation about her work in Taiwan and her move to Thailand. Pat was previously the subject of the Redeemer Monthly Prayer Focus for September, 2023. Her circumstances have changed in Taiwan, and she is moving the location of her ministry to Thailand.

Pat hails from the Presbytery of the Alleghenies' North Park Church in Wexford, PA. She is associated with the EPC World Outreach and Mesa Global. Her goal is to minister to the Thai people she encounters and to the large number of Taiwanese who are emigrating to Thailand.

She asks for our prayers and notes the following requests:

- A positive transition into the Thai culture and into her new country of ministry
- Her ability and perseverance, in order to learn the Thai language
- Her seeking God for direction and for what her ministry will look like
- That her home and table will be a place of respite and peace for all who enter
- That she may be able to build a community with her Mesa Global team and others

Outline of the Book of Numbers by Chapters

At Sinai: Preparations for Travel (Numbers 1 - 10)

- 1 - 2 Census of the exodus generation (Year 2)
- 3 - 4 Levites: census, redemption, responsibilities
- 5 - 6 Laws linked by priestly supervision — Uncleaness; Restitution; Test for adultery; Nazir vow; Aaron's blessing
- 7 Offerings after the Tabernacle is set up
- 8 Consecration of the Levites
- 9:1-14 Passover and exceptions
- 9:15 - 10:36 Pattern of making and breaking camp

The Wilderness (Numbers 11 - 21)

- 11 Two complaint narratives; elders appointed; quail
- 12 Miriam and Aaron grumble against Moses
- 13 - 14 Spying from Kadesh Barnea
- 15 - 19 Thirty-eight years in the wilderness
 - 15 Offerings in the land; unintentional and intentional sin
 - 16 Korah's rebellion
 - 17 Aaron's staff
 - 18 Priestly and Levitical duties, tithes, portions
 - 19 Red heifer ritual for corpse contamination
- 20 Moses's sin; Edom's hostility; Aaron's death (Year 40, per Numbers 33:38)
- 21 Grumbling; battles; poems

Threat from Moab (Numbers 22 - 25)

- 22 Balak (Moab) hires Balaam (seer from the East)
- 23 - 24 Balaam's four oracles
- 25 Idolatry with the women of Moab/Midian

Preparation to Enter the Land (Numbers 26 - 36)

- 26 Census of the conquest generation
- 27 Zelophehad's daughters; Joshua designated as Moses' successor
- 28 - 29 Calendar of feasts and regular sacrifices
- 30 Vows made by women
- 31 Vengeance on Midian
- 32 Two-and-a-half tribes receive Transjordan inheritance
- 33 Travelogue
- 34 Apportionments of the land; new tribal leaders
- 35 Apportionments for the Levites; cities of refuge
- 36 More on Zelophehad's daughters