

***Offertory Prayer** Rev. Giffone

Note: The Congregation may please be seated.

**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 remain standing for the Hymn.

***Hymn No. 457:**

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

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

***Benediction** Rev. Giffone

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

Postlude: To God Be the Glory.....arr. Weston

** 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 Wish Personal Prayer Today

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.

Monthly Prayer Focus

My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him.

—Psalm 62:1

The children of Redeemer have been working on the Scripture passage
above as a memory verse in Sunday school. It seemed like a good topic
for prayer during the month of January, 2025. The start of the new
year feels like a good time to step back and take stock of how God is
at work in our lives and how much we do, or do not, depend on Him.
During this month of January, in prayer, let’s ask God:

- How much do we depend on Him daily? Is God someone we give focus to just on Sundays? How can we bring God to mind more often throughout each day?
- In what other things do we place our trust, in order to sustain us and to give us comfort? Do they truly provide rest and peace?
- Do we truly trust and believe that our faith in the existence of God, and the saving work of Jesus Christ on the cross, will assure us of eternal life? How often do we try to “earn” our salvation through good behavior and good works?
- To what extent do we trust in the salvation that God has given us?
- For the assurance of God’s protection and care, what will we do today to show our love and gratitude to Him?
- To receive our thanks for His constant presence in our lives.
- To help us in our unbelief.

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 Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 26, 2025

Worship Theme: *“Pride prevents us from seeing our true need for spiritual healing. But God responds to all who realize their sickness, and draw near to Him for healing and renewal.”*

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: Jesus! What a Friend of Sinners arr. Page

Jesus! What a Friend of sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me, he, my Savior, makes me whole.
Hallelujah! What a Savior! Hallelujah! What a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

Note: The Congregation should please remain seated.

Call to Worship: (responsively) Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: Happy are the people whose God is the Lord

Congregation: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

Liturgist: Every day I will bless you, Loving God, and praise your name forever.

Congregation: We worship the God who has conquered sin and death, Who is raised to eternal life, and Who claims us each one as brothers and sisters with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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

***Hymn No. 53:**

Praise to the Lord the Almighty LOBE DEN HERREN

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

Old Testament Reading: 1 Samuel 2:1-10.....Joshua Stearns

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: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus..... Lemmel

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
look full in his wonderful face;
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace.

O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior,
and life more abundant and free!

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
look full in his wonderful face;
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace.

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, You are eternal, gracious, loving, and steadfast. We come into Your presence knowing that Your mercy is beyond our deserving, none of us is worthy of Your tender care.

We come before You, confessing our sins, including our sins of self-righteousness, pride, and possessiveness. Please remove the blinders to our faults and increase our sensitivity to those around us. Please renew Your peace within us, that we may approach You with confidence and serve You with joy. We make these requests through Your Son, our risen Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.

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

Liturgist: Through Jesus Christ forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.

Congregation: In Christ, we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

—adapted from Acts 13:38 and Ephesians 1:7

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.

Epistle Reading: James 4:1-10Amy Stearns

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Note: The Congregation may please be seated.

Sermon: "A Doctor for the Sick" Rev. Giffone

Sermon Text: Luke 5:27-32

The Sacrament of Holy Communion
Remembrance · Communion · Hope

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

Offering: There is a Balm in Gilead..... arr. Patterson

There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul.

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 HUNDRETH**

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.

(...continued over...)

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

The Session has issued a call for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation immediately following the 11:15 a.m. regular Worship Service on **Sunday, February 16, 2025**, for the purpose of conducting such business as required by the ByLaws of Redeemer Presbyterian Church (EPC), including the election of a Ruling Elder, election of the Members-at-Large of the Nominating Committee, and a presentation of the Session-approved 2025 Budget.

Nominations for Office

At the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, scheduled for Sunday, February 16, 2025, the Nominating Committee will present the following Session-approved nominees for office:

Ruling Elder (*Class of 2028*): Zachary Harvey

Nominating Committee Members-at-Large (*Class of 2026*):

Jennifer Pontzer, Joshua Stearns, and Matthew Steinkirchner



“Souper Bowl of Caring”

On **Sunday, February 9, 2025**, we will collect monetary donations to benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania. The money collected will provide food to those in need within the eleven counties of northwest Pennsylvania.

Sermon Notes
