

**\*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 to do so, the Congregation should please stand for the Hymn.*

**\*Hymn No. 237:** *Ride on, Ride On in Majesty!* .....*ST. DROSTANE*

*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:** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*..... *arr. Carter*

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

**Maundy Thursday Communion Service**

Please plan now to attend our  
Maundy Thursday Communion Service  
on Thursday, April 17, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.  
here in the sanctuary.

**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— 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**

During the month of April, let us pause our prayer petitions and give thanks to God for the many blessings He has bestowed on us personally, and also on Redeemer. Please give thanks to God for:

- Being able to know Him through His written Word and through the life of Jesus Christ here on earth.
- The love of Jesus Christ, for His redeeming work on the cross, for the gift of faith, and for the reality that He has called us to be included in His Kingdom.
- Our families, including our Redeemer family.
- Placing us in a country where the standard of living grants us plenty of opportunities for food, water, and physical comfort. Let us declare with joy that all that we have comes from God, and that we are grateful.
- Living in an area that is safe from earthquakes, hurricanes, wildfires, dangerous animals, floods, drought, and other physical dangers. Yes, we must admit that we experience significant snow once in a while, but that is a minor threat compared to these other calamitous events.

**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**



<https://www.rpcerie.org>

**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**Sixth Sunday in Lent—Palm Sunday**

*April 13, 2025*

Worship Theme: “*God desires fruitfulness, loyalty, and obedience from his people. Jesus’s sacrificial death at the hands of His people, on behalf of all peoples, reconciled us to God, and created a new people for Himself, in one Spirit.*”

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:** *All Glory, Laud and Honor* ..... *arr. Parks*

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
Thou art the King of Israel, thou David’s royal Son,  
Who in the Lord’s name comest, the King and blessed One.

*Note: The Congregation should please remain seated.*

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

Liturgist: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

**Congregation: Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!**

Liturgist: Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

**Congregation: Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!**  
—Psalm 24:7-10

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

**\*Hymn No. 235: All Glory, Laud, and Honor.....** ST. THEODULPH

*Note: If able, the Congregation should please remain standing for the reading of the Gospel.*

**\*Gospel Reading: Luke 19:28-44.....** Robert LeSuer

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

*Note: The Congregation may please be seated.*

*Note: We will have A Moment for Children only if two or more children are present in the Worship Service.*

**A Moment for Children .....** Shirley Wilson

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

**Hymn of Reflection:**

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross .....* Watts/Gregorian

When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

**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.

**Our Father, like the people who greeted Jesus, as He entered Jerusalem and later shouted: “Crucify**

*(...continued over...)*

**him”—we acknowledge that we are fickle people, who often deny Christ in our thoughts, words, and deeds.**

**As we remember the events of Jesus’ final week, we ask You to help us see ourselves for what we are: sinners in need of a Savior.**

**We thank You, O God, that You are willing to hear us, as we confess our corporate sins honestly before You. And now, with a clear understanding of Your mercy, we individually and silently confess our personal sins to You.**

*Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.*

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

Liturgist If we confess our sins to him, he can be depended on to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong. —1 John 1:9

**Congregation: So, there is now no condemnation awaiting those who belong to Christ Jesus. For the power of the life-giving Spirit—and this power is mine through Christ Jesus—has freed me from the vicious circle of sin and death.**

—Romans 8:1-2

**Thanks be to God!**

*Note: The Congregation should please stand for the Hymn, if able to do so.*

**\*Response Hymn: There is a Redeemer.....** Melody Green

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God’s own Son—  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.  
Thank you, oh my Father, for giving us Your Son  
And leaving Your Spirit ’til the work on Earth is done.

*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.*

**Old Testament Reading:**

Zechariah 9:9-10; 12:7 - 13:1.....Laurel LeSuer

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

*Note: The Congregation may please be seated.*

**Sermon:**

“He Looked for Justice, But Behold, Bloodshed”..... Rev. Giffone

**Sermon Text: Luke 20:9-18**

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Remembrance · Communion · Hope*

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

**Offering: Go to Dark Gethsemane .....** arr. Carter

Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter’s power;  
Your Redeemer’s conflict see, watch with Him one bitter hour;  
Turn not from His griefs away, Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

*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...)*