

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.

***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.*

(Please note that for Communion we use both gluten-free and dairy-free bread or crackers.)

As you pass the bread/crackers, 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.*

(Please note that for Communion the juice we use is non-alcoholic grape juice.)

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. 230:**

Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor *A FRENCH CAROL*

***Benediction** Rev. Giffone

Postlude: *Noel Nouvelet* arr. Carter

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.

Monthly Prayer Focus for January

In January, we celebrate the Epiphany. God led the three Kings by a star to find and worship the Christ child. The Bible is full of stories of God leading people to do miraculous things because they felt God's leading: Noah, Abraham, and Paul to name a few. As you pray this month, please consider the following:

- Lord, what are you asking of me? Please make it clear. Please give me an unmistakable sign of what You want me to do. I am truly listening and ready to follow Your leading.
- Please give me courage, Lord. I am leaning on You for the strength to do what You are asking of me. Please give me energy and clarity of purpose to follow Your leading.
- Focus on the first step to follow God's leading. Ask: "Is this the right way? Please open the door to help me get this done." If it is the proper first step, the next steps will become clear.
- God will not ask you to do more than you can handle. Ask Him for the protection of your health and mental state. Some projects can extract a cost from both of those.
- And, remember, whatever God asks us to do is for His glory, not ours.

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 Second Sunday after Christmas

January 4, 2026

Worship Theme: *"The cruelty of Herod and the suffering of the people of ancient Bethlehem point us to the need for God's justice and salvation. The faith of the Magi from the East reminds us that salvation in Christ is for all peoples."*

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

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

Prelude: *Coventry Carol* arr. Carter

(This ancient Carol, named for the plays presented in 15th century England for royalty, is sung by the grieving women of Bethlehem after Herod's ruling that all boy babies be killed.)

Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child, bye bye, lully, lulla.
Herod the king, in his raging, charged he hath this day
His men of might, in his own sight, all young children to slay.
Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child, bye bye, lully, lulla.

(...continued over...)

(please tear off here)

Connection/Request for Prayer

Name: _____

Phone/Email: _____

I'd like: Call from the pastor Prayer for: Confidential

(...continued on other side...)

