

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. 237: *Ride on, Ride On in Majesty!**St. DROSTANE*

*Benediction Rev. Giffone

Postlude: *Lift High the Cross**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.



Monthly Prayer Focus

During the Season of Lent, we are given the opportunity to focus our daily attention on the examination of our personal spiritual condition. Such an examination will properly lead us to a comparison of where we are in our walk with God, and where we should be, as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Once we engage in this examination and comparison, we will very likely find ourselves seeking repentance for our failings as sin-bent human beings. And such repentance will then lead us to a consecration of our lives to devote ourselves to becoming more and more like Jesus.

This month, as you pray, please consider the following:

- Your personal spiritual condition. Ask yourself:
 - Do I show the love of Jesus Christ to others around me?
 - Am I committed to attending Worship services once a week?
 - Do I have a daily devotional time to read the Bible and pray?
 - Are my prayers routine, or do I pray from the heart with sincerity and passion?
 - Did I neglect a friend or neighbor who needed my help, because it was not convenient or the right time for me?
- More than likely, you know what you should be doing. How does your examination of yourself measure up to what you know you should be doing?
- Repentance means to admit you are wrong and ask forgiveness, but it is just as important to turn 180 degrees and go in the proper direction, following the examples shown to us by Jesus.
- With a contrite heart and renewed dedication, ask God for strength and commit to doing whatever your heart has shown you that you need to do.

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>

To contact the church: info@rpcerie.org

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REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



<https://www.rpcerie.org>

Sunday Morning Worship
Palm Sunday
March 29, 2026

Worship Theme: *“Those who celebrated Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday wanted God’s Messiah to solve their circumstantial problems. But God knew better, and addressed their true need. He has made a way for all peoples, of all races and nations, to be reconciled to Him and to one another.”*

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

Welcome, Announcements, and
Introduction to Worship Thomas Brooks

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

“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the King of Israel!” —*John 12:13*

Call to Worship: *(responsively)* Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: O Lord, as You once entered Jerusalem, enter our hearts this day.

Congregation: As You once set Your face toward death on a cross, help us this day to walk with You to victory.

(...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...)

Liturgist: As the children once cried “Hosanna” to
bless You, enable us to confess You openly
as Lord and Savior.

**Congregation: Grant us Your presence by the power of
Your Holy Spirit, so that our worship and
our lives may truly honor You. Amen.**

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

Psalter Reading: Psalm 24..... Martha Ruggiero

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 Children Rev. Giffone

Hymn of Reflection: *Make Way* *Graham Kendrick*

Make way, make way, for Christ the King in splendor arrives.
Fling wide the gates and welcome him into your lives.
Make way, make way, for the King of Kings,
Make way, make way and let his kingdom in.

And those who mourn with heavy hearts, who weep and sigh;
With laughter, joy and royal crown he’ll beautify.
Make way, make way, for the King of Kings,
Make way, make way and let his kingdom in.

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

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, we come to You confessing our many
sins. Like the people who greeted Jesus, as He entered
Jerusalem, and later shouted “Crucify him!” we are
fickle people who often deny Christ in our thoughts,
words, and deeds. As we remember the events of Jesus’
final week, please help us to see ourselves for what we
are: sinners in need of a Savior. We thank You that
You are willing to hear us as we confess our many sins
honestly before You. With hope of Your mercy, we now
confess our sins silently and individually 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!

***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.

***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 reply: “And, also with you.”*

Installation of a Ruling Elder Rev. Giffone

Ruling Elder: Robert LeSuer

(...continued over...)

**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.

Epistle Reading: Philippians 2:5-11 Martha Ruggiero

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

Sermon: “He Came to His Own” Rev. Giffone

Sermon Text: Matthew 21:1-11

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Remembrance • Communion • Hope

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

Offering: *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* *arr. Tornquist*

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them close folded to his breast,
The children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

*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

(...continued over...)

Speak, O Lord

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to re - ceive the food of Your
 2. Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence, true hu -
 3. Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your

ho - ly word. Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fash - ion us
 -mil - i - ty; test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes in the ra - di - ance
 plans for us: truths un - changed from the dawn of time that will ech - o down

in Your like - ness; that the light of Christ might be seen to - day
 of Your pu - ri - ty. Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
 through e - ter - ni - ty. And by grace we'll stand on Your prom - is - es,

in our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
 Your ma - jes - tic love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
 and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till Your

-fill in us all Your pur - pos - es for Your glo - ry.
 nev - er fail: let their truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.
 church is built and the earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

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