

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



<https://www.rpcerie.org>

Sunday Morning Worship Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

Worship Theme: *“Our resurrected Lord sends His followers out into the world to make disciples. We will be known as His followers by our fruits.”*

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

Welcome, Announcements, and

Introduction to Worship Thomas Brooks

Prelude: *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* arr. Ham

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high:
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name; I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am, thou art full of truth and grace.

Call to Worship: *(responsively)* Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: Ascribe to the Lord, O mighty ones, ascribe
to the Lord glory and strength.

(...continued over...)

(please tear off here)

Connection/Request for Prayer

Name: _____

Phone/Email: _____

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

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

Congregation: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

Liturgist: The Lord gives strength to his people;

Congregation: The Lord blesses his people with peace.

—Psalm 29:1, 2, and 11

***Hymn No. 286:**

Worship Christ, the Risen King!..... REGENT SQUARE

First Old Testament Reading:

Ezekiel 33:1-9 Mark Kmecik

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

Hymn of Reflection: *Alleluia! Alleluia!..... Beethoven/Wordsworth*

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise;
Sing to God a hymn of gladness. Sing to God a hymn of praise.
He who on the cross as Savior for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead.

Now the iron bars are broken, Christ from death to life is born;
Glorious life, and life immortal, on this resurrection morn.
Christ has triumphed, and we conquer by his mighty enterprise;
We with Him to life eternal by his resurrection rise.

(...continued over...)

-----*(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.

God of the Risen Christ, as we approach You in humility, confessing our many sins, we come to You seeking the gift of Your grace. We cling to the promise of the resurrection that is made real to us in the miraculous presence of Your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Though we are eager to share in Christ’s victory, sadly we ignore Your call to walk with Him in His suffering, and Your call to be vulnerable and present to the world like He was. We admit that we desire the privilege of being called “Your children,” but shy away from bearing the costs of being Your faithful servants.

**Please help us to experience the true joy of living our lives as part of Christ’s body—holy and dedicated to Your way. Please make us eager to give ourselves, and all that we have, to You, so that the world around us might know Your love. We pray in the name of Jesus our Redeemer, who challenges us by His example.
Amen.**

Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.

Assurance of Pardon (*responsively*) Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: For Christ died for sins, once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

Congregation: **He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit.** —1 Peter 3:18-19

Thanks be to God!

***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!

(...continued over...)

***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."*

Note: The children attending Children's Church may go to their classroom.

**Pastoral Prayer, Prayers of the People, and
The Lord's Prayer**.....Rev. Giffone

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.

Second Old Testament Reading:

Ezekiel 33:10-20 Mark Kmecik

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Illumination: *Speak, O Lord*..... Getty/Townend

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness;
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory.

Sermon: "Recognize Them By Their Fruits" Rev. Giffone

Sermon Text: Matthew 28:16-20; 7:12-20

The Sacrament of Holy Communion
Remembrance · Communion · Hope

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

Offering: *Hallelujah! What a Savior*.....arr. Berry

Lifted up was he to die, "It is finished," was his cry;
Now in heav'n exalted high: Hallelujah, what a Savior.

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.

(...continued over...)

Offertory Hymn: *Doxology..... *LASST UNS ERFREUEN*
(Sung with an Alternate Tune)

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

***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. 274: *Thine Be the Glory *MACCABAEUS*

***Benediction** Rev. Giffone

Postlude: *I Know That My Redeemer Lives* *arr. Page*

(...continued over...)

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 month of April, Session asks us to pray for each other. A list of members and regular attendees will be available on the center table at the back of the sanctuary. If you don't know some of the people listed, ask someone to introduce you and get to know them. As you consider each individual person, please pray:

- Giving God thanks for placing each of these individuals in your life.
- Asking God to strengthen the bond between the two of you, considering what you can share about yourself that will help build your friendship.
- Considering what you know about them:
 - Do they have problems or troubles where you could come alongside them and give them a friend to lean on?
 - Do you know if they have committed their lives to Jesus Christ? If not, please pray for opportunities to witness to them.
- Asking for God's continued blessing on their lives and families.
- Asking God to strengthen their faith, and to protect them from temptation.

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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