

**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:** “Trustworthy, and Trusting Our Father”.. Rev. Giffone

**Sermon Text:** Matthew 5:33-42

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Remembrance · Communion · Hope*

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

**Offering:** *Come, Thou Fount* ..... arr. Carter

Come, thou fount of ev’ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I’m fixed upon it, mount of God’s unchanging love.

*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*..... 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. 676:**

*Day by Day and with Each Passing Moment.... BLOTT EN DAG*

**\*Benediction** ..... Rev. Giffone

**Postlude:** *How Firm a Foundation*..... arr. Hayes

**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](mailto:info@rpcerie.org)

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# REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



<https://www.rpcerie.org>

## Sunday Morning Worship Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

Worship Theme: “*God’s people should be known as trustworthy  
in our words and our commitments. Like Jesus Himself, we  
can endure suffering and unjust treatment in this life without  
lashing out or resisting—confident that our Heavenly Father  
sees our plight and rewards those who trust Him.*”

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

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

**Prelude:** *I Surrender All*..... arr. Berry

All to Jesus I surrender; All to him I freely give.  
I will ever love and trust him, in his presence daily live.  
I surrender all. I surrender all.  
All to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender, make me, Savior, wholly thine.  
May thy Holy Spirit fill me, may I know thy pow’r divine.  
I surrender all. I surrender all.  
All to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

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

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### Connection/Request for Prayer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Liturgist: Awake my soul! Awake, O harp and lyre!  
I will wake the dawn.

**Congregation:** **I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples, I will sing to you among the nations.**

Liturgist: For your steadfast love is as high as the heavens; Your faithfulness extends to the clouds.

**Congregation:** **Be exalted, O God, above the heavens. Let your glory be over all the earth.**

—Psalm 57:8-11

**\*Hymn No. 4:**

*All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above..... MIT FREUDEN ZART  
(Verses 1, 2, 5, and 6)*

**Psalter Reading:** Psalm 22:14-28 .....Matthew Steinkirchner

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** .....Shirley Wilson

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



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*(...continued from other side...)*

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**Hymn of Reflection:**

*O Breath of Life, Come Sweeping Through Us....Head/Hammond*

O Breath of Life, come sweeping through us,  
revive your church with life and pow'r;  
O Breath of Life, come, cleanse, renew us,  
and fit your church to meet this hour.

Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating  
while harvest fields are vast and white?  
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting,  
equip your church to spread the light.

**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.

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

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

**Thanks be to God, for His life changing gift of forgiveness!**

**\*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!

**\*Apostles' Creed** ..... Thomas Brooks

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*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."*

**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.

**Epistle Reading:** James 5:7-12 .....Matthew Steinkirchner

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation:** **Thanks be to God!**

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

## **After the Worship Service**

We invite you to join us for a time of fellowship at a potluck supper 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**

This month we will pray for *EduNations* and its mission in Sierra Leone, West Africa. For many years, Redeemer has supported this mission to educate children in Christian schools and spread the Gospel. Construction is underway for the Mayatta Teachers' Quarters to provide housing for teachers. *EduNations* "inherited" this neglected Primary School from the Mayatta Village leadership and has been working hard to upgrade and improve the quality of education in this very poor village. Other things to specifically pray for include:

- Praise that an 11-year-old student, Alhaji Kamara, recovered after a snake bite, thanks to anti-venom at Caring Hands Clinic.
- Praise that student, Mabinty Kamara, has recovered from typhoid, after receiving treatment in Makeni.
- Pray for Esther, a 5th grade student now in a safe home, after abuse. Pray for healing and for justice to be pursued.
- Pray for the family of Fatu Kamara, a 5th grade student, who recently passed away due to an unknown illness.
- Pray for the team in Sierra Leone, including the new Country Director, Kandeh Koroma, and Educational Secretary, Michael Turay, along with other staff, as they travel to each of the communities over the coming weeks. Pray for safety, wisdom, and encouragement in their work.

## **Invitation for the Men's Breakfast**

We invite all Redeemer men to join us in the Christ Center on Saturday, May 9, 2026, at 8:30 a.m., for a Men's Breakfast. This will be a great time to share with one another, pray for each other, and build each other up as faithful disciples of Christ.