

# REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



<https://www.rpcerie.org>

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## Sunday Morning Worship Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

Worship Theme: *"God uses suffering to transform us, and to prepare us to receive even greater blessings than those we had hoped for."*

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

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

**Prelude:** *It is Well with My Soul* ..... arr. Helvey

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows, like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
"It is well, it is well with my soul."  
It is well, with my soul, It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
And has shed his own blood for my soul.  
It is well, with my soul, It is well, it is well, with my soul.

*(...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...)*

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

Liturgist: Trust the Lord at all times; God is a refuge  
for us.

**Congregation: God is our Rock and our salvation; we  
shall not be shaken.**

Liturgist: God is good and in God's work we find our  
strength.

**Congregation: We sing of all God's wonderful works! We  
give thanks and praise to the Lord!**

**\*Hymn No. 345:**

*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*..... *AUSTRIAN HYMN*

**Psalter Reading:** Psalm 131.....Emily Kern

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

**A Moment for Children** ..... Rev. Giffone

**Hymn of Reflection:** *Speak, O Lord*..... *Getty/Townend*

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us:  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time  
That will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on your promises,  
And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built  
And the earth is filled with your glory.

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

-----*(please tear off here)*-----

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

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**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.

**Almighty God, as we come to You confessing our many sins, we acknowledge that You know our hearts. You know that we struggle to be faithful to You. From moment to moment and from decision to decision, we are inconsistent and fickle.**

**Please forgive us for our unfaithfulness. Please forgive us even more when we justify our unfaithfulness with formulas for our lives that serve us and not You. We pray in the name of Your Son, our Redeemer and King, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

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

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

**Liturgist:** He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

**Congregation:** **in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.** —Colossians 1:13 and 14

**Because of Jesus sacrifice and resurrection we are forgiven. Thanks be to our 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!

**\*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.

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

**Epistle Reading:** Hebrews 5:7-14.....Bill Kern

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation:** Thanks be to God!

**Sermon:**

“The Lord Takes Away, and the Lord Gives”... Rev. Giffone

**Sermon Text:** Ruth 1:1-13, 19-21; 3:1-4; 4:13-22

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Remembrance · Communion · Hope*

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

**Offering:** *Like a River Glorious*..... arr. Curry

Every joy or trial falleth from above,  
Traced upon our dial by the Sun of Love.  
We may trust him fully all for us to do;  
They who trust him wholly find him wholly true.  
Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blessed,  
Finding, as he promised, perfect peace and rest.

*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 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.

(...continued over...)

## **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.

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Please use the baskets we have provided in alternate  
rows for disposal of the used communion cups

**Prayer following Communion** ..... Rev. Giffone

**\*Hymn No. 679:** *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus... TRUST IN JESUS*  
*(Verses 1 and 4)*

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

**Postlude:** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* ..... arr. Patterson

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## **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.

## **A Time of Personal Prayer**

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.

## **Call for two Meetings of the Congregation**

The Session has issued a call for a Meeting of the  
Congregation immediately following the 10:45 a.m. regular  
Worship Service on Sunday, July 26, 2026, and again on  
Sunday, August 16, 2026, for the purpose of conducting  
such business as recommended by the Session.

(...continued over...)

## Monthly Prayer Focus

During July, our Monthly Prayer Focus will center on the act of praying. A recent magazine article likened every scroll on our smartphones to a prayer—not a religious prayer, but an act seeking truth. A scroll on our smartphones offers this plea: “Please show me what is real. Please show me what I should care about.”

As we pray this month:

- Ask, do we concentrate on our prayer lives with the same intensity that we concentrate on our smartphones?
- To make our prayer lives more meaningful, what changes do we need to make?
- If on our smartphones we pay attention to dozens of things that have nothing to do with the quality of our actual daily lives, shouldn't we pay more attention to things, such as prayer, that will affect our eternal lives?
- As we pray throughout the month of July, let's focus on giving concentrated attention to the nature and quality of our prayers.



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**Pastor:** .....Rev. Benjamin D. Giffone, PhD

[pastor@rpcerie.org](mailto:pastor@rpcerie.org)/724-221-2595

**Minister of Music and Worship:** ..... Thomas Brooks

**Accompanist:** ..... Shirley Wilson

**Ruling Elders:** ..... Robert LeSuer, Amy Stearns, Zachary Harvey

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**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>



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**To contact the church:** [info@rpcerie.org](mailto:info@rpcerie.org)

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