

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



<https://www.rpcerie.org>

Sunday Morning Worship Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost *Celebrating the Transfiguration of Our Lord* August 9, 2026

Worship Theme: "God allows our weaknesses to humble us,
so that His power is displayed in our reliance on Him."

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

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

Prelude: *His Eye is On the Sparrow* arr. Patterson

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to him, from care he sets me free;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he cares for me.
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he cares for me.

Call to Worship: *(responsively)* Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: I will extol the Lord at all times;

Congregation: His praise will always be on my lips.

(...continued over...)

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Connection/Request for Prayer

Name: _____

Phone/Email: _____

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

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

Liturgist: My soul will boast in the Lord;
Congregation: Let the afflicted hear and rejoice.
Liturgist: Glorify the Lord with me;
Congregation: Let us exalt his name together.

—Psalm 34:1-3

***Hymn No. 164:** *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing..... AZMON*

Psalter Reading: Psalm 30..... Will Crosby

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

A Moment for Children Shirley Wilson

Hymn of Reflection: *What a Wonderful Savior!* Hoffman

Christ has for sin atonement made, what a wonderful Savior!
We are redeemed! The price is paid! What a wonderful Savior!
What a wonderful Savior is Jesus, my Jesus!
What a wonderful Savior is Jesus, my Lord!

He gives me overcoming pow'r, what a wonderful Savior!
And triumph in each trying hour; what a wonderful Savior!
What a wonderful Savior is Jesus, my Jesus!
What a wonderful Savior is Jesus, my Lord!

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.

**Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and
confess before You our sinful nature that is prone to evil**

(...continued over...)

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

and slothful in good, along with all our shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, and in forgetting Your love. O Lord, please have mercy upon us—we who are ashamed and sorry for everything in which we have displeased You.

Please teach us to hate our errors. Please cleanse us from our secret faults and forgive our many sins, for the sake of Your dear Son.

And, O most holy and loving Father, please help us, we beseech You, to live in Your light and walk in Your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Savior, Lord, and King. Amen.

—adapted from The Book of Common Worship, First Order

Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.

Assurance of Pardon *(responsively)* Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;

Congregation: He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed out transgressions from us. —Psalm 103:8-12

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."*

(...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.

***Gospel Reading:** Matthew 11:25-30..... Will Crosby

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: "How Blessed is Weakness"Rev. Ethan Magness

Sermon Text: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Remembrance · Communion · Hope

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

Offering: *All the Way My Savior Leads Me*..... arr. Funderburk

All the way my Savior leads me, cheers each winding path I tread,

Gives me grace for ev'ry trial, feeds me with the living bread.

Though my weary steps may falter, and my soul athirst may be,

Gushing from the rock before me, lo, a spring of joy I see;

Gushing from the rock before me, lo, a spring of joy I see.

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** (*unison*)..... Thomas Brooks

**Heavenly Father, we thank You for the abundance
of Your provision. Please grant us the wisdom to**

(...continued over...)

use these offerings for the glory of Your name and
for the furthering of Your kingdom, through Christ
our Lord. Amen.

Communion Opening Prayer

and Words of Institution Rev. Magness

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. Magness

***Hymn No. 642:** *Be Thou My Vision*.....SLANE

***Benediction** Rev. Magness

Postlude: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* arr. Helvey

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 one
of our Ruling Elders—Zachary Harvey, Robert LeSuer, or
Amy Stearns.

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Call for a Special Meeting of the Congregation

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

Monthly Prayer Focus

During August, we request each one in our congregation to pray, asking for God's wisdom and leading for Redeemer Church. Significant changes are coming to Redeemer, and we will need God's guidance. As Pastor Benj ends his transitional ministry with us, we are searching for a new pastor. We also have an opportunity to purchase a building, as a permanent location and home for our congregation. Both circumstances will require significant commitments by the congregation. Please pray for:

- God's leading, as we seek to be faithful disciples and exhibit His Kingdom here in Erie.
- Courage, discernment, and faith to follow that leading.
- The appropriate pastoral candidate to lead Redeemer, and that God will place that call on his or her heart.
- Open or closed doors, as Redeemer considers this current opportunity to purchase a building.
- Pastor Benj, giving thanks for his ministry among us, and asking God to give Pastor Benj a fruitful ministry in his next endeavor and calling.



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

CCLI License #11138332

Church Picnic

Redeemer Presbyterian Church will hold a Church Fellowship Picnic at Glenwood Park on **Thursday, August 13, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**

Please bring a dish to share as follows:

- Last name beginning with A-M—please bring fruit or desserts.
- Last name beginning with N-Z—please bring salads or vegetables.

The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, and cold drinks.

Each individual or family should also bring their own tablecloth, plates, silverware, and cups.

If you have questions, please see Jamie Stahl or telephone him at 814-602-7244.

Also, if you want to participate in the Annual Corn Hole Tournament, please sign up with Jamie before hand. Winners get bragging rights for the next year!

Sermon Notes

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