

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



<https://www.rpcerie.org>

Sunday Morning Worship Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 16, 2026

Worship Theme: *"When we experience significant loss, even the loss of a child, God sees. We come to know Him and His compassion deeply through suffering and loss. We can hope in His power to save, to 'restore double,' and to raise the dead."*

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

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

Prelude: *Children of the Heavenly Father*arr. Berry

More secure is no one ever
than the loved ones of the Savior;
Not yon star on high abiding
nor the bird in home-nest hiding.

God his own doth tend and nourish,
in his holy courts they flourish;
From all evil things he spares them,
in his mighty arms he bears them.

(...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: Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous;

Congregation: **it is fitting for the upright to praise him.**

Liturgist: Praise him, with the harp;

Congregation: **make music to him on the ten string lyre.**

Liturgist: Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

Congregation: **For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.**

—Psalm 33:1-4

***Hymn No. 95:** *Though Troubles Assail Us* JOANNA

***Gospel Reading:** John 11:1-4, 32-44 Mark Kmecik

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

A Moment for Children Rev. Giffone

Hymn of Reflection: *Day by Day* St. Richard of Chichester

Day by day, day by day, O, dear Lord, three things I pray:
To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,
Follow thee more nearly, day by day.

Day by day, day by day, O, dear Lord, three things I pray:
To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,
Follow thee more nearly, day by day.

(...continued over...)

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

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

Prayers of Confession..... Thomas Brooks

We will pray a responsive prayer of corporate confession.
Then, we will join in silently, confessing our personal sins.

Liturgist: Desiring to become holy, even as God is holy, we pray:

Congregation: Please forgive us our sins, O Lord:
the sins of our youth and the sins of
our age, the sins of our soul and the
sins of our body, our secret and our
whispering sins, our presumptuous
and our careless sins, the sins we have
done to please ourselves, and the sins
we have done to please others, the
sins that we know, and the sins that
we know not. Please forgive them all
because of Your great mercy, love, and
goodness, through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.

Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.

Assurance of Pardon (unison)..... Thomas Brooks

**Therefore, since we have been justified through
faith, we have peace with God through our Lord
Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access
by faith into this grace in which we now stand.**

—Romans 5:1-2a

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!

***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..... Zachary Harvey

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.

Old Testament Reading: Job 1:13-22 Mark Kmecik

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: "Receiving Double" Rev. Giffone

Sermon Text: Book of Job (various); Isaiah 49:14-23

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Remembrance · Communion · Hope

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

Offering: *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*..... arr. Carter

My Shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name:
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back, when I forsake his ways;
And leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

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...)

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. 128:** *God Moves in a Mysterious Way* DUNDEE

***Benediction** Rev. Giffone

Postlude: *Lead On, O King Eternal* arr. Tornquist

After the Worship Service

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 a Special Meeting of the Congregation

The Session has issued a call for a Special Meeting of the Congregation
immediately following the Worship Service today, for the purpose of
conducting such business as recommended by the Session.

(...continued over...)

Redeemer Women

Redeemer Women will meet at 9:30 on Saturday morning, August 22, 2026, for fellowship and prayer—please come join us! The group meets in various homes. For location details , please see, or please contact Amy Stearns at (412) 973-9843.

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

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