

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



<https://www.rpcerie.org>

Sunday Morning Worship Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 6, 2026

Worship Theme: *"In a sin-hardened world, God softens
the hearts of His people and molds us into the useful
vessels and beautiful images of His Son that He
intends us to be."*

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

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

Prelude: *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*arr. Berry
(A setting of Chopin's Etude, op. 10, #3)

Oh, love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

(...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: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;

Congregation: Make known among the nations what he has done.

Liturgist: Sing to him, sing praise to him;

Congregation: Tell of all his wonderful acts.

Liturgist: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Congregation: Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.

Liturgist: Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced.

Congregation: He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

—Psalm 105:1-7

***Hymn No. 165:**

Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim LYONS

Psalter Reading: Psalm 49 Jaye Moelk

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

A Moment for Children Shirley Wilson

Note: The children (0 through 4 years) may go to the nursery classroom.

(...continued over...)

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

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

Hymn of Reflection: *Change My Heart, O God*Espinosa

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true,
Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.
You are the Potter, I am the clay,
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true,
Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.

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 All, as we come to You confessing our many sins,
we recognize that You love each of us and You grieve the
way we hurt one another. Please forgive us.**

**Please forgive us for our narrowness and prejudice, for
our quick tempers and stingy grace, for our attention to
the faults of others and the blindness to our own faults.**

**Please help us be the people that You created us to be.
Please help us to live together in peace: loving and
caring for one another, even as You love and care for us
all. We ask these things in Christ's name. Amen.**

Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.

Assurance of Pardon (*responsively*) Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins, and purify us
from all unrighteousness. —1 John 1:9

**Congregation: We have one who speaks to the Father in
our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous
One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our
sins, and not only for ours but also for the
sins of the whole world.** —1 John 2:1b-2

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."*

**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.

Epistle Reading: Romans 8:26-30; 12:1-2 Jaye Moelk

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: "Hard-Baked, or Soft Hearts?" Rev. Giffone

Sermon Text: Jeremiah 18 - 19

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Remembrance - Communion - Hope

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

Offering: *Have Thine Own Way, Lord*..... arr. Huggins

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!

Thou art the Potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me after thy will,

While I am waiting, yielded and still.

***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

(...continued over...)

**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. 40:**

God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength..... BETHLEHEM
(Verses 1, and 3 through 5)

***Benediction Rev. Giffone**

Postlude: *Rejoice, the Lord is King..... arr. Shackley*

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.

(...continued over...)

Monthly Prayer Focus

During September, we will continue to pray 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.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

We invite the men of Redeemer to join us for a Men's Prayer Breakfast on Saturday morning, September 12, 2026. Please see Joshua Stearns for information regarding the time and place for this gathering.



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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