

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



<https://www.rpcerie.org>

Sunday Morning Worship Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 27, 2026

Worship Theme: *"For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of preaching to save those who believe."*

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

Welcome, Announcements, and

Introduction to Worship Thomas Brooks

Prelude: *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* arr. Berry

Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God;
Will you pray with all your power, while we try to preach the Word?
All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down;
Brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Call to Worship: *(responsively)* Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: Bless the Lord at all times.

Congregation: **May God's praise be continually in our mouths.**

(...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...)

Liturgist: Magnify the Lord with us.

Congregation: Let us exalt the name of the Lord together.

Liturgist: Seek the Lord and be filled.

Congregation: For those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Liturgist: Happy are those who take refuge in God.

Congregation: Taste and see that the Lord is good!

—from Psalm 34

***Hymn No. 16:** *Come, Let Us Sing unto the Lord....DUKE STREET*

Psalter Reading: Psalm 126:5-6Marykay Stahl

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

A Moment for ChildrenShirley Wilson

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...)

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, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly Thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us; the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please Thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—from Thomas Cranmer's Order of Communion, 1548.

Note: The Congregation should please silently confess their sins.

Assurance of Pardon (*responsively*) Thomas Brooks

Liturgist: This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

Congregation: **If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.**

Liturgist: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light,

Congregation: **we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his son, purifies us from every sin.**

—1 John 1:5-7

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."*

Note: The children (K through 5th grade) attending Children's Church may go to their classroom.

**Pastoral Prayer, Prayers of the People, and
The Lord's Prayer..... Robert LeSuer**

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.

New Testament Reading: Acts 13:44-46 Marykay Stahl

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: "A Foolish Medium"..... Rev. T. David Gordon, PhD

Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Offering: Arise, My Soul, Arise Wesley/Wilson

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears;

The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears.

Before the throne my Surety stands,

Before the throne my Surety stands,

My name is written on his hands.

***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)..... Tom Brooks**

Our gracious Father, we offer these gifts to You.

Please use these gifts, and our service, to further

Your Kingdom, so that others may experience Your

divine mercy, grace and love. We pray in the name

of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(...continued over...)

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Remembrance · Communion · Hope

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

**Communion Opening Prayer
and Words of Institution** Rev. Gordon

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. Gordon

***Hymn No. 561:**

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak CANONBURY

***Benediction** Rev. Gordon

Postlude: *Our Great Savior* arr. Berry

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.

(...continued over...)

Personal Prayer

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.

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.

2026 Leadership Nomination Form

The 2026 Leadership Nomination Form is available at the table at the entrance to the sanctuary. Please take one, fill it out, and return it no later than Sunday, October 11, 2026.

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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