REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

https://www.rpcerie.org

Sunday Morning Worship

Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Christ the King Sunday

November 22, 2026

Worship Theme: *"In these two parables, each about two lost sons, Jesus reminds His disciples that the cruciform gate is opened wide. It is wide to late-comers and it is open to reckless vagabonds. The self-righteous are invited as well. The love of the Father is beaming through the gate to welcome lost children home."*

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

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

Prelude: *Let All Things Now Living* ..... *arr. Carter*

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God the Creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
who guides us and leads to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, his light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
'til shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

(...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:	I lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from?
Congregation:	**My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**
Liturgist:	He will not let your foot slip-he who watches over you will neither slumber nor sleep.
Congregation:	**The Lord watches over you-the Lord is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.**
Liturgist:	The Lord will keep you from all harm—
Congregation:	**He will watch over your life.**

—Psalm 121:1-7

***Hymn No. 30:** *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*.....*St. Anne*

Old Testament Reading: Hosea 11:1-9.....Jaye Moelk

Reader:	This is the Word of the Lord.
Congregation:	**Thanks be to God!**

A Moment for Children .....Shirley Wilson

Hymn of Reflection: *Now Thank We All Our God*.....*Rinkart*

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

(...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.

God of all, You love each of us and You grieve the way we hurt one another. Please forgive us, as we confess our sins to You. Please forgive us for our narrowness and prejudice, our quick tempers and stingy grace, our attention to the faults of others and our blindness to our own faults.

Please help us be the people 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 requests in Christ's name. Amen.

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; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

Congregation: **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 our 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!

(...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..... 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.

***Gospel Reading:** Matthew 21:28-32.....Jaye Moelk

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon:

"Wide Welcome of Grace".....Rev. Donald D. Opitz, PhD

Sermon Text: Luke 15:11-32

Offering: *Come, Ye Thankful People Come*.....*arr. Berry*

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home:
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come,
Raise the song of harvest home.

***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**..... Thomas Brooks

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the abundance of Your provision. Please grant us wisdom to use these offerings to the glory of Your name and for the furthering of Your kingdom, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(...continued over...)

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Remembrance · Communion · Hope

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

Communion Opening Prayer
and Words of Institution ..... Rev. Opitz

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. Opitz

***Hymn No. 457:**

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing.....*Nettleton*

***Benediction** ..... Rev. Opitz

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

(...continued over...)

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.

Monthly Prayer Focus

On October 18th, Pastor Benj announced that an agreement-in-principal had been reached on the sale of Weis Library United Methodist Church to West Erie PCA. When that purchase closes, Redeemer can begin negotiations to purchase the West Erie property at 621 West Second Street. As you pray during November, please ask God:

- To continue to open doors to move the property closing along and facilitate Redeemer's purchase of the West Second Street property.
- To reveal how we can bring glory to His name through Redeemer's purchase and use of this property.
- What special purpose does He have in mind by leading Redeemer to the West Second Street property?

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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