

RUTHFRED LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (www.aflc.org)

We are delighted to have you with us this evening as we gather to worship the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you are visiting today, we are glad you are here! Whether you are visiting from out of town, seeking a new church home, or for any other reason, thank you for choosing to worship with us. We would love to get in touch with you. Please fill out your contact information in the red folder at the end of your row, or fill out the information on the back cover of this bulletin and place it in one of the offering baskets.

About Us:

- ◆ Since her opening service on Christmas Eve in 1948 and her charter the following year, Ruthfred Lutheran Church has been a congregation rooted in the conviction that the Bible is inspired by God, living and active, capable to produce faith in its hearers, and true and faithful in all its parts. As such, our preaching and teaching aim to be faithful to its correct interpretation and is central to our worship of God.
- ◆ Our Divine Service, called the “Common Service,” possesses a rich history that stems from the early days of the Lutheran Reformation. It is centered upon God’s Word, and proclaims the realities of God’s abundant grace in Jesus Christ from its start to its close. If this is a new form of worship for you, this bulletin will serve as a welcome companion. The order of service begins on page 3
- ◆ The Divine Service begins as our musicians begin the Prelude. When the music starts, please quiet your hearts as you prayerfully prepare for worship.



Our cover is a paper cut, or *scherenschnitte*, created specially for our church by our very own Kathryn Carr. The artwork will reflect liturgical and Ruthfred-specific themes that occur throughout the year.

Contemporary Liturgical Worship Service

Saturday, February 18, 2023—6:00 p.m.

PRELUDE

Be Thou My Vision (8th c. Irish; arr. T. Leech)
Great Things (Phil Wickham & Jonas Myrin) (CCLI #7111321)

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## The Call to Worship / Opening Prayer

Pastor (P): We open this service in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation (C): Amen**

Opening Song of Praise: Lord, I Lift Your Name on High (Rick Founds) (CCLI Song #117947)

### Verse 1

Lord, I lift Your name on high\_\_\_\_  
Lord, I love to sing Your praises\_\_\_\_  
I'm so glad You're in my life\_\_\_\_  
I'm so glad You came to save us.

### Chorus 1

You came from heaven to earth to show the way  
From the earth to the cross my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave  
From the grave to the sky  
Lord, I lift Your name on high.

### Verse 2

Lord, I lift Your name on high\_\_\_\_  
Lord, I love to sing Your praises\_\_\_\_  
I'm so glad You're in my life\_\_\_\_  
I'm so glad You came to save us.

### Chorus 2

You came from heaven to earth to show the way  
From the earth to the cross my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave  
From the grave to the sky  
Lord, I lift Your name on high\_\_\_\_.

### Closing Chorus

You came from heaven to earth to show the way  
From the earth to the cross my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave  
From the grave to the sky  
Lord, I lift Your name on high.  
You came from heaven to earth to show the way  
From the earth to the cross my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave  
From the grave to the sky  
Lord, I lift Your name on high

We confess our sins at the beginning of each service, because we are coming into the presence of a holy God. Though we are sinners who daily struggle with sin, we are invited to come to Him to receive the forgiveness of sin earned for us by Jesus. Through this forgiveness, we are given a right standing before a holy God.

Because sin is both corporate and personal, we confess our sins together, and privately in the silence of our hearts.

The Absolution is based upon God's instruction in Luke 24:47 that repentance and the forgiveness of sins should be widely proclaimed in the name of Jesus. (See also 1 John. 1:9).

### **The Confession of Sins** (SBH, p. 15)

Pastor (P): Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord

**Congregation (C): Who made heaven and earth.** (Psalm 124:8)

P: I said, "I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**C: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** (Psalm 32:5)

P: Let us bow or kneel for the confession of our sin.

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You, that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace, for the sake of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

(Silent Prayer of Personal Confession)

### **Together:**

**O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **The Absolution**

P: The Almighty and merciful God grant to you, being penitent, pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of His Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

**Song: Way Maker** (Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu/Michael W. Smith & Vanessa Campagna) (CCLI Song #7115744)

**Verse 1**

You are here ... moving in our ... midst  
I worship You ... I worship You ...  
You are here ... working in this ... place  
I worship You ... I worship You ...

**Chorus 1**

(You are) ... Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,  
Light in the darkness ... my God, that is who You are.  
(You are) ... Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,  
Light in the darkness ... my God, that is who You are.

**Verse 2**

You are here touching ev'ry ... heart  
I worship You ... I worship You ...  
You are here turning lives a – round  
I worship You ... Oh I worship You ....

**Chorus 2**

Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,  
Light in the darkness ... my God, that is who You are.  
Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,  
Light in the darkness ... my God, that is who You are.

**Tag 1**

That is who You are. That is who You are.  
That is who You are. That is who You are.

**Bridge**

Even when I can't see it, You're working.  
Even when I don't feel it, You're working.  
You never stop, You never stop working.  
You never stop, You never stop working.  
Even when I can't see it, You're working.  
Even when I don't feel it, You're working.  
You never stop, You never stop working.  
You never stop, You never stop working.  
Even when I can't see it, You're working.  
Even when I don't feel it, You're working.  
You never stop, You never stop working.  
You never stop, You never stop.

**Chorus 3**

Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,  
Light in the darkness ... my God, that is who You are.  
Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,  
Light in the darkness ... my God, that is who You are.

**Tag 2**

That is who You are. That is who You are.  
That is who You are. That is who You are.

**[softly]**

That is who You are. That is who You are.  
That is who You are. That is who You are.

## **The Collect**

P: The Lord be with you:

**C: And with thy spirit.**

P: Let us pray: O God, who, in the glorious Transfiguration of Your only-begotten Son, has confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of the Fathers, and who, in the voice that came from the bright cloud did in a wonderful manner foreshow the adoption of sons. In your mercy, make us, by your grace, to be co-heirs with the King of His glory, and bring us into the joy of eternal life; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

**C: Amen**

## **The Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 24:8-18** (NASB)

<sup>8</sup> So Moses took the blood and sprinkled *it* on the people, and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words." <sup>9</sup> Then Moses went up with Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, <sup>10</sup> and they saw the God of Israel; and under His feet there appeared to be a pavement of sapphire, as clear as the sky itself. <sup>11</sup> Yet He did not stretch out His hand against the nobles of the sons of Israel; and they saw God, and they ate and drank. <sup>12</sup> Now the LORD said to Moses, "Come up to Me on the mountain and remain there, and I will give you the stone tablets with the law and the commandment which I have written for their instruction." <sup>13</sup> So Moses arose with Joshua his servant, and Moses went up to the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> But to the elders he said, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a legal matter, let him approach them." <sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up to the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the LORD rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses from the midst of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> And to the eyes of the sons of Israel the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on the mountain top. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the midst of the cloud as he went up to the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

God's chief means of extending His grace to His children is through His Word. Hearing it and learning it are central to His proper worship.

**The Psalm: Psalm 2:6-12** (Read Responsively)

P: "But as for Me, I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain."

**C: "I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You.'**

P: 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, and the *very* ends of the earth as Your possession.'

**C: 'You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware.'"**

P: Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; take warning, O judges of the earth. Worship the LORD with reverence and rejoice with trembling.

**C: Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish *in* the way, for His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!**

**The Epistle Lesson: 2 Peter 1:16-21** (NASB)

<sup>16</sup> For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. <sup>17</sup> For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased"—<sup>18</sup> and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup> So we have the prophetic word *made* more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

**The Gradual**

You are fairer than the children of men. Grace is poured into your lips. The LORD said unto my Lord, sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies Your footstool. Alleluia, alleluia. Sing unto the LORD, bless His Name; show forth His salvation from day to day. Declare His glory among the heathen, His wonders among all people. Alleluia. (Psalm 45:2; 110:1; 96:2-3)

**The Alleluia** (Sung in Unison)

**Allelu**, By Tom Leech (Lyrics based on Psalm 148)

Al-He-lu, Al-He-lu, Al-He-lu-u-ia Al-He-lu-u- ia, Al-He-lu-u-ia.  
Al-He-lu.

The "Gradual" (Latin for *step*) is a liturgical reading bridging the readings of the epistle and the Gospel. It is comprised of Scripture, mostly the Psalms.

"Alleluia" is Hebrew for "Praise the Lord."



## **The Holy Gospel Lesson: Matthew 17:1-9** (NASB)

The Congregation rises and sings, "**Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**"

<sup>1</sup> Six days later Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up on a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light. <sup>3</sup> And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. <sup>4</sup> Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!" <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard *this*, they fell face down to the ground and were terrified. <sup>7</sup> And Jesus came to *them* and touched them and said, "Get up, and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup> And lifting up their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus Himself alone. <sup>9</sup> As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man has risen from the dead."

The Congregation rises and sings, "**Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**"

**The Confession of Faith:** The Apostles' Creed (Confessed in Unison)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and Earth

And In Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

## **The Announcements**

The Apostles' Creed is a statement of Christian belief used since the early Church. It's not specific to any one Christian denomination, but used by the Church as a whole. We choose to confess it together as a unified reminder of what we believe to be true about God, and His caring service to us.



**Sermon Song: Open the Eyes of My Heart** (Paul Baloche) (CCLI Song #2298355)

**[Intro]**

**Chorus**      Open the eyes of my heart, Lord ... Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You ... I want to see ... You.  
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord ... Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You ... I want to see ... You.

**Verse**      To see You high and lifted up ... shi-ning in the light of Your glo-ry  
Pour out Your power and love ... as we sing holy, holy, ho-ly.

**Chorus**      Open the eyes of my heart, Lord ... Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You ... I want to see ... You.  
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord ... Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You ... I want to see ... You.

**Verse**      To see You high and lifted up ... shi-ning in the light of Your glo-ry  
Pour out Your power and love ... as we sing holy, holy, ho-ly.  
To see You high and lifted up ... shi-ning in the light of Your glo-ry  
Pour out Your power and love ... as we sing holy, holy, ho-ly.

**Ending**                      Holy, holy, ho-ly ... holy, holy, ho-ly  
Holy, holy, ho-ly ... I want to see ... you.  
Holy, holy, ho-ly ... holy, holy, ho-ly  
Holy, holy, ho-ly ... I want to see ... you.  
**[Acapella]**                      Holy, holy, ho-ly ... holy, holy, ho-ly  
Holy, holy, ho-ly ... I want to see ... you.

The Sermon is the central component of our Worship. In it, we hear God's Word taught and explained. We hear His Law, convicting of sin and guiding the believer. We also hear the promises of His Gospel, the Good News of Christ's work for us—His redemption, forgiveness, and provision of life eternal.

**The Sermon:** "Listen to God's Beloved Son!" | Matthew 17:1-9

**The Offertory Response** (Sung in Unison; Please Stand)

**Create in me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation: and uphold me with Your free Spirit.** (Psalm 51:10-12)

## The Closing & Silent Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

(Please bow or kneel in prayer)

### The Lord's Prayer

Leech/Traditional ABCP 1662

♩ = 100

D2 D D2 Asus4 A Asus4 G G D2 D2

REFRAIN Our Fa-ther, Who art in heav'n, Hal-low-ed be, thy name.

Bm Asus4 Bm Asus4 Cmaj7 Em A A

PETITION: Thy king-dom come. Thy will be done, On earth, As it is in heav'n.

Bm Asus4 Bm Asus4 Cmaj7 Em

PETITION: Give us this day, Our dai-ly bread. And for-give us our sins, As we for-

Am7 Em A A D2

give those who tres-pass a- gainst us. And

Dsus4 D D D A A Dsus4 D D G G

PETITION: Lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion. But de-liv-er us from e-vil. For

F#m G F#m G F#m G A

thine is the king-dom, And the pow-er, and the glo-ry, for- ev'r.

D2 D D2 Asus4 A Asus4 G G D2 D2

REFRAIN: Our Fa-ther, Who art in heav'n, Hal-low-ed be, thy name.

*rit.*  
G D Em D G D A D

CLOSING: A- men, A- men, A- men, A- men.

## **The Benediction**

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May He make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
May He lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.  
In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
(Numbers 6:24-26)

**C: Amen**

**Closing Song: The Blessing** (Chris Brown/Cody Carnes/Kari Jobe/  
Steven Furtick) (CCLI Song #7147007)

### **Verse 1**

**...The Lord bless you ... and keep you  
...Make His face shine up – on ... you and be gracious to you  
...The Lord turn His ... face toward you  
...And give ... you peace.**

### **Chorus**

**A – men  
A – men ... a –men  
A – men  
A – men ... a –men.**

**[Instrumental Interlude]**

### **Bridge 1**

**May His favor be upon you  
And a thousand generations  
And your family and your children  
And their children and their children.**

### **Bridge 1**

**May His favor be upon you  
And a thousand generations  
And your family and your children  
And their children and their children.**

### **Bridge 2**

**May His presence go before you  
And be – hind ... you and beside you  
All a – round you and within you  
He is with ... you He is with you.**

### **Bridge 3**

**In the morning in the evening  
In your coming ... and your going  
In your weeping and rejoicing  
He is for ... you He is for you.**

### **Tag**

**He is for ... you He is for you  
He is for ... you He is for you  
He is for you He is for you  
He is for ... you.**

(continued on next page)

**Closing Song: The Blessing** (Chris Brown/Cody Carnes/Kari Jobe/  
Steven Furtick) (CCLI Song #7147007) (cont'd)

**Chorus**

A – men  
A – men ... a –men  
A – men  
A – men ... a –men.

**Bridge 2**

May His presence go before you  
And be – hind ... you and beside you  
All a – round you and within you  
He is with ... you He is with you.

**Bridge 3**

In the morning in the evening  
In your coming ... and your going  
In your weeping and rejoicing  
He is for ... you He is for you.

**Tag**

He is for ... you He is for you  
He is for ... you He is for you  
He is for you He is for you  
He is for ... you.

**Postlude: Wonderful, Merciful Savior** (Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse;  
as sung by Selah) (CCLI Song #106879)

**Verse 1**

Wonderful, merciful Savior  
Precious Redeemer and Friend  
Who would have thought that a Lamb  
Could rescue the souls of men  
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

**Verse 2**

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper  
Spirit we long to embrace  
You offer hope when our hearts have  
Hopelessly lost our way  
Oh, we've hopelessly lost the way.

**Chorus**

You are the One that we praise  
You are the One we a-dore  
You give the healing and grace  
Our hearts always hunger for  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for....

[Instrumental chorus]

**Verse 3**

Almighty, infinite Father  
Faithfully loving Your own  
Here in our weakness You find us  
Falling before Your throne  
Oh, we're falling before Your throne.

**Chorus**

You are the One that we praise  
You are the One we a-dore  
You give the healing and grace  
Our hearts always hunger for  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for....

**Closing Chorus**

(1st two lines  
acapella)

You are the One that we praise  
You are the One we a-dore  
You give the healing and grace  
Our hearts always hunger for  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for....

# Announcements

**The altar flowers** are presented by Katie Recaldini in gratitude for God's grace that we receive from Him.

**Guest Organist:** Please welcome Peggy Arelt as our guest organist tomorrow! How blessed we are to have such talented musicians in our congregation!

**Nursery Tomorrow:** 8:30 & Sunday School—Jenna Schwartz; 11:00—Claudia Patalong.

**Known to be hospitalized:** Fred Schell—Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Sewickley. Fred's home address is: 103 South Grandview Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15205. Joanne Salvetti—Magee-Women's Hospital. Lundy Castro—Shadyside Hospital. Please support them with your prayers and cards.

**Prayers for Recovery and Healing:** Becky Lindner. Dee Coldsmith, who is home after a brief hospital stay. Also, please keep in your prayers all those in the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

**VBS Fund:** Given by Linda Friedel, Keith Boucher, and Sandy Pellegrino in loving memory of our brother, Dennis Boucher, on the anniversary of his birth, February 24.

**A Sincere Thank You** from Becky and Rich Lindner for your prayers, cards, and kind words! God is with us!

**Family Easter Festival Informational and Volunteer Recruitment Meeting:** Please join us Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup> during the Sunday School hour in the Fireside Lounge if you can help. This fun fellowship event for young families will be held on Sunday, April 2, from 4-6 p.m. and MANY helpers are needed. It's been said the volunteers have just as much fun as the kids! To see how you can serve, please attend the meeting or contact Barb Harrold, [brharrold@comcast.net](mailto:brharrold@comcast.net).

**A New Member Class** continues. Meetings are in the Conference Room during Sunday School.

**Preschool Registration** is now open for the 2023-2024 school year. Register online at [Ruthfred.org](http://Ruthfred.org). Contact: [preschool@ruthfred.org](mailto:preschool@ruthfred.org) with any questions or to schedule a tour.

**Attention all XYZers:** The sign-up sheets are available on the bulletin board outside the Library for the next meeting, which will be Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Come enjoy a musical program provided by Kurt Radke! Peggy Cox will once again prepare a not-to-be-missed lunch.

**Journey Through the Word:** Morning JTTW began a new study in January—Nancy Guthrie's The Promised One (Jesus in Genesis). Contact Sue Swan if you would like information about this study: 412-708-3535 or [writingcygnet@gmail.com](mailto:writingcygnet@gmail.com). The evening group has concluded for this school year. They will resume next fall on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars!

**Lenten Soup and Salad Suppers:** Please join us for soup and salad suppers on Wednesday evenings from 6—7 p.m. starting Ash Wednesday. An evening service will follow at 7:30 p.m. Peggy Cox will be organizing the food. Arlene Ball will be coordinating volunteers for setting up, serving, and cleaning up. Please contact Arlene at 412-977-8013 or [Arlene1952@gmail.com](mailto:Arlene1952@gmail.com) if you are able to help. Thank you in advance

**Flower Chart:** There are a few open Sundays for altar flowers for 2023, including March 12, April 16, and April 30. Please sign up if you are able. These flowers add beauty to our worship each week and then bless others following worship. Thank you for your generosity!



# Announcements (cont'd)

**Address Update:** Fritz and Betta Heilman moved last weekend. Their new address is: 2960 Bethel Church Rd., Apt. 127, Bethel Park, PA 15102. Their phone number is: 614-499-9356. Please reach out with housewarming cards and calls.

**Craft & Sew Candy Collection:** As of February, the women at Craft & Sew have sent nearly 2000 favors to local nursing homes since September. Because of this, our candy supply is almost depleted. Please help to refill our supply with snack-size Milky Way bars, M & M's, Hershey's Kisses, KitKats, or Twix bars. These candy favors put smiles on many faces. Thank you so much for doing your part! There is a collection box in the Fellowship Hall.

**Lutheran Ambassador:** The February issue is now available on the tables near all church entrances. Pick one up today!

**VBS Save the Date:** Mark your calendars for July 24-28 for VBS 2023!

**Stained Glass Window Panel Book:** Part of the beauty of the Ruthfred sanctuary is the stained glass window panels. Each panel is unique and designed by artist Jane Buckley based on requests from church members who wish to honor or memorialize loved ones. Have you ever wondered about the history behind a panel? Thanks to the work of Bob Reith (who compiled a list years ago) and Debbie Skundrich, Elaine Widich, Jane Buckley, and Felicia Rieck (who more recently worked on the project), there is a complete identification guide, with photos, available. Two copies are available for your perusal—in the Church Library and in the Chapel. Thank you to all who helped to compile this resource!

**New DVDs Available in Our Church Library:** In addition to all of the wonderful print resources we have in our library for adults and children, we also have DVDs available for borrowing. Our newest additions are from The Torchlighters Heroes of Faith series for children. Among others, these heroes include Corrie Ten Boom, Harriet Tubman, St. Augustine, and Eric Lidell. Borrow one today for a movie night at home!

**Bible Reading 2023:** Please join us in reading through the entire Bible in 2023, starting on January 1, 2023. We will be using the YouVersion Bible app, which provides a reading guide for each day (including a daily Psalm), over 150 videos to engage readers throughout the year, and a talk-it-over feature. The daily reading schedule will also be available on the Ruthfred website, as well as being printed in each month's Herald. The theme for 2023 will be "One Story That Leads to JESUS." For questions, or to sign up, please email Don Roose at donroose@yahoo.com.





Please plan on joining us

**Sunday, MARCH 5**

for our next

**Fellowship Breakfast**

**During the Sunday School Hour**

**9:40a.m – 10:45a.m.**

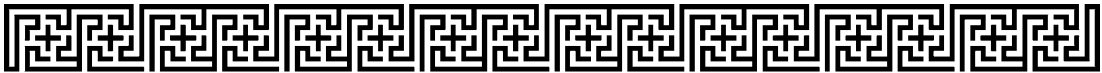
**in the Fellowship Hall**

|                                                    |               | Expenses Compared to Receipts |                                     |                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES<br/>OF BUDGETED FUNDS</b> |               | <b>Member<br/>Donations</b>   | <b>Transfers to<br/>Other Funds</b> | <b>Less: Actual<br/>Expenses</b> | <b>Surplus/<br/>(Shortfall)</b> |
| <b>Year to Date January 31, 2023</b>               |               |                               |                                     |                                  |                                 |
|                                                    | Current       | 69,122                        | —                                   | 79,255                           | (10,133)                        |
|                                                    | Building      | 2,662                         | —                                   | —                                | 2,662                           |
|                                                    | Benevolence   | 15,572                        | —                                   | 14,798                           | 774                             |
|                                                    | <b>Totals</b> | <b>87,356</b>                 | <b>—</b>                            | <b>94,053</b>                    | <b>(6,697)</b>                  |

## **Adult Sunday School Class in Large Classroom\***

Pastor Carlson continues teaching a series on the book of I Thessalonians for the Adult Sunday School Class. The little book of I Thessalonians is perhaps the earliest canonical writing of St. Paul. It's focus is "**The Life of the Christian Congregation.**" It is a gem of a book, filled with "an unmingled sweetness" of Christian love. In it we will be learning about sharing our faith, serving one another, living godly lives, understanding the end times, and how to live out the Gospel in the community of the congregation. You are invited!!! It will be wonderful to study and discuss this book together.

**\*Audio recordings of the class are available on the Ruthfred website.**



## **YOUTH NEWS**

### **SWAP (6-8 Grade)**

There is a **SWAP** meeting tomorrow night at the church, 6-7:30 p.m.

### **Save the dates:**

**7 p.m. February 24 to 2 p.m. February 25: 30-Hour Famine:** Youth in Grades 6-12 are invited to join us for this annual, nationwide event. The kids go without food to better understand the lives of kids who this event was created to help—those who face hunger on a daily basis. In addition to learning about world hunger and what they can do to help, the youth will be participating in themed games and volunteering at the World Vision Center. Forms and sign-up sheets are available outside the Youth Office. Contact Kris Wentz or Jill Huwe with questions.

**Friday, March 17: Parents' Night Out Dinner.** Youth in Grades 6-12 will help prepare and serve a delicious meal for their parents!

### **TNT (9-12 Grade)**

TNT will meet at Ruthfred on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 7-9 p.m.

### **Save the date:**

**March 24-26: Seneca Hills Retreat** for Grades 9-12.

### **Questions/concerns?**

**Contact: Any member of the Youth Committee**

# This Week At Ruthfred

## Tomorrow (2/19) TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service  
 9:45 a.m.—Sunday School & New Member Class  
 11:00 a.m.—Worship Service

## Monday (2/20) President’s Day

9:30 a.m.—JTTW Leaders Meeting  
 9:30 a.m.—Craft & Sew

## Tuesday (2/21)

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team



## Wednesday (2/22) ASH WEDNESDAY

ASH WEDNESDAY

9:15 a.m.—Journey Through the Word (JTTW)  
 2:00 p.m.—Lenten Service with Holy Communion  
 5:45 p.m.—Children’s Choir  
 6:00 p.m.—Lenten Soup & Sandwich Supper  
 6:15 p.m.—Confirmation  
 6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir  
 7:00 p.m.—Senior Choir (continues after Service)  
 7:30 p.m.—Lenten Service with Holy Communion

## Thursday (2/23)

10:00 a.m.—Knit Wits

## Friday (2/24) St. Matthias, Apostle

7:00 a.m.—Men’s Prayer Group (Fireside Lounge)  
 Noon—XYZ

**Herald deadline**

## Sunday (2/26) 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service  
 9:45 a.m.—Sunday School; New Member Class;  
 Family Easter Festival Volunteer Meeting  
 11:00 a.m.—Worship Service  
 6:30 p.m.—GIFT Bible Study (Arelts’ House)  
 6:30 p.m.—Young Adult Bible Study (A.&C. Vogels’)

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Welcome to worship as we celebrate the Transfiguration and catch a glimpse of Jesus’ divine glory.

### Attendance for Last Week:

Church...259 Sunday School...75  
 8:30 Live Stream...43  
 JTTW (morning)...50 Online...3

## Prayer Requests

Please use this space to let the pastors, elders and/or church know of your prayer needs.

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Please keep this request Private (to be kept amongst the pastors only).

Please make this request known to the Ruthfred prayer team and announce it to the congregation when appropriate.

## Visiting with us?

Please use this tear-off section to help us get to know a little bit about you and how we may best serve you.

If you have a specific concern or prayer request, please use the space on the other side of this fold.

Date:

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Name:

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Children:

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Address:

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Phone (indicate home, cell, etc.)

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Email:

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I am a/an:

- 1st-Time Visitor
- 2nd-Time Visitor
- Out-of-Town Visitor
- Regular Attendee

I would like to learn more about:

- What It Means To Be a Christian
- Church Membership
- Ruthfred's Ministries or Groups
- Ways To Share My Gifts

## Ruthfred Staff

**Rev. Steven P. Carlson** | Senior Pastor  
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**Robert Vogel**  
Senior & Bell Choirs

**Frederick Schell**  
Organist

**Essi Efthimiou**  
Interim Organist

**Melissa Manzo**  
Children's Choir

**Erin McMinn** | Interim Preschool Head Teacher  
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