

RUTHFRED LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

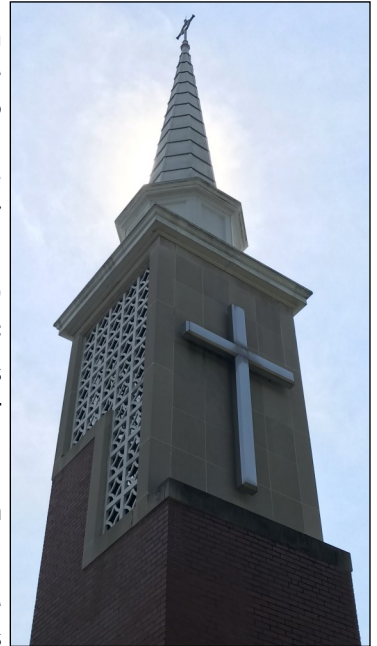
Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (www.aflc.org)

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 an offering basket.

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 *scherschnitte*, created specially for our church by artist Kathryn Carr. The artwork will reflect liturgical and Ruthfred-specific themes that occur throughout the year.

Contemporary Liturgical Worship Service

Saturday, June 17, 2023—6:00 p.m.

PRELUDE

Roses (Andrew Ripp/Ethan G. Hulse) (CCLI #7209488)
Truth Be Told (Matthew West/A. J. Pruis) (CCLI #7138590)

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Pastor (P): All Rise

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: Make Room (Rebekah White...et al.) (CCLI #7122057)

[Intro]

Verse

Here is where I lay it down—every burden, every crown.
This is my surrender; this is my surrender.
Here is where I lay it down—every lie and every doubt.
This is my surrender.

Chorus

And I will make room for you
To do whatever you want to, to do whatever you want to.
And I will make room for you
To do whatever you want to, to do whatever you want to.

Verse

Here is where I lay it down—every burden, every crown.
This is my surrender; this is my surrender.
Here is where I lay it down—every lie and every doubt.
This is my surrender.

Chorus

And I will make room for you
To do whatever you want to, to do whatever you want to.
And I will make room for you
To do whatever you want to, to do whatever you want to.

[Instrumental interlude]

Bridge

Shake up the ground of all my tradition.
Break down the walls of all my religion.
Your way is better; Your way is better.
Shake up the ground of all my tradition.
Break down the walls of all my religion.
Your way is better; Your way is better.
Shake up the ground of all my tradition.
Break down the walls of all my religion.
Your way is better; Your way is better.

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Opening Song of Praise: Make Room (Rebekah White...et al.) (cont'd)

Chorus

**And I will make room for you
To do whatever you want to, to do whatever you want to.
And I will make room for you
To do whatever you want to, to do whatever you want to.**

Ending

**Here is where I lay it down; You are all I'm chasing now.
This is my surrender.**

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. For this reason 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: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His Name, He gives power to become the sons of God, and bestows upon them His Holy Spirit. He that believes, and is baptized, shall be saved. Grant this, O Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

The “collect” is a prayer of the day for each day in the liturgical calendar. It is meant to “collect” the prayers of God’s people.

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 Collect

P: The Lord be with you:

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Let us continue to pray: O Lord, who never fails to help and govern those whom You bring up in Your steadfast fear and love. Make us to have a perpetual fear and love of Your holy Name; 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 First Lesson: Exodus 19:2-8 (NASB)

² When they set out from Rephidim, they came to the wilderness of Sinai and camped in the wilderness; and there Israel camped in front of the mountain. ³ Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel: ⁴ ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and *how* I bore you on eagles’ wings, and brought you to Myself. ⁵ Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; ⁶ and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.”

⁷ So Moses came and called the elders of the people, and set before them all these words which the LORD had commanded him. ⁸ All the people answered together and said, “All that the LORD has spoken we will do!” And Moses brought back the words of the people to the LORD.

The Psalm: Psalm 100 (NASB)

P: Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth. Serve the LORD with gladness; come before Him with joyful singing.

C: Know that the LORD Himself is God; it is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; *we are* His people and the sheep of His pasture.

P: Enter His gates with thanksgiving *and* His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name.

C: For the LORD is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting and His faithfulness to all generations.

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 5:6-15 (NASB)

⁶ For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, having now been

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The Epistle Lesson: Romans 5:6-15 (NASB) (cont'd)

justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. ¹¹ And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

¹² Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned— ¹³ for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. ¹⁴ Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

The Gradual

In my distress I cried to the Lord and He heard me. Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips and from a deceitful tongue. Alleluia, alleluia. I will praise the Lord according to His righteousness and will sing praise to the Name of the Lord most High. Alleluia.

(Psalm 120:1-2; 7:17)

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 Holy Gospel Lesson: Matthew 9:35-10:8 (NASB)

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

³⁵ Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. ³⁶ Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. ³⁸ Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

¹ Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. ² Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot,

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.

The Holy Gospel Lesson: Matthew 9:35-10:8 (NASB) (cont'd)

the one who betrayed Him. ⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them: "Do not go in *the* way of *the* Gentiles, and do not enter *any* city of the Samaritans; ⁶ but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷ And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' ⁸ Heal *the* sick, raise *the* dead, cleanse *the* lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give."

The Congregation sings, "Praise be to You, O Christ."

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.

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 sitteth 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

Sermon Song: The Father's House (Cory Asbury) (CCLI #7135153)

[Intro]

Verse 1

Sometimes on this journey I get lost in my mistakes.
What looks to me like weakness is a canvas for Your strength.
My story isn't over, my story's just begun.
Failure won't define me, 'cause that's what my Father does.
Failure won't define me, 'cause that's what my Father does.

Chorus 1

Oo Oo Oo Oo lay your burdens down.
Oo Oo Oo Oo here in the Father's house.
Check your shame at the door 'cause it ain't welcome anymore.
Oo Oo Oo Oo you're in the Father's house.

[Turnaround]

Verse 2

Arrival's not the endgame; the journey's where You are.
You never wanted perfect, You just wanted my heart,
And the story isn't over if the story isn't good.
Failure's never final when the Father's in the room.
Failure's never final when the Father's in the room.

Chorus 2

Oo Oo Oo Oo lay your burdens down.
Oo Oo Oo Oo here in the Father's house.
Check your shame at the door 'cause it ain't welcome anymore.
Oo Oo Oo Oo you're in the Father's house.
Yeah the Father's house .

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Sermon Song: The Father's House (Cory Asbury) (CCLI #7135153) (cont'd)

Bridge

Prodigals come home, the helpless find hope.
Love is on the move when the Father's in the room.
Prison doors fling wide, the dead come to life.
Love is on the move when the Father's in the room.
Miracles take place, the cynical find faith.
Love is breaking through when the Father's in the room.
Jericho walls are quaking, strongholds now are shaking.
Love is breaking through when the Father's in the room.
Love is breaking through when the Father's in the room.

Closing Chorus

Oo Oo Oo Oo lay your burdens down.
Oo Oo Oo Oo here in the Father's house.
Check your shame at the door 'cause it ain't welcome anymore.
Oo Oo Oo Oo you're in the Father's house.

Closing Chorus

(Acapella)

Oo Oo Oo Oo lay your burdens down.
Oo Oo Oo Oo here in the Father's house.
Check your shame at the door 'cause it ain't welcome anymore.
Oo Oo Oo Oo you're in the Father's house.

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: "God's People Do As He Speaks" | Exodus 19:2-8

Sermon Notes

The Offertory Response: *Create in Me (Tom Leech; based on Psalm 51)*
(©2023)

(Sung in Unison; Please Stand)

**Create in me, a clean and pure heart, O Lord.
Renew in me, a faithful spirit.
Cast me not away, from Your presence, O Lord.
Do not take away, Your Spirit from me.
Restore to me, the joy of Your salvation.
And lift me up, with Your free Spirit.
Create in me, a clean and pure heart, O Lord.
Wash me and I shall be, whiter than snow.**

Offering

On the first Sunday of each month, as well as on other special occasions, we have the privilege of receiving Holy Communion together. We do not require membership to participate in this. However, we do ask that those coming to receive Communion would be baptized believers in the saving work of Jesus Christ, who are of confirmation age (completed 8th grade), and who are in agreement with the biblical teaching of Christ concerning it.

The Service for Communion

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy Spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C: It is meet and right so to do.

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God...Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious Name; ever more praising Thee, and saying:

C: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory; Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Words of Institution

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night in which He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you; This do in remembrance of Me.

After the same manner also, He took the cup, when He had supped, and, when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in my Blood, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; this do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Leech/Traditional ABCP 1662

♩ = 100

D2 D D2 Asus4 A Asus4 G ... 3 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 ... 3 G D2 D2

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

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

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

We believe and teach that Holy Communion is a Sacrament in which we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine, that it was instituted by Christ himself, and that it is given to us Christians to eat and to drink.

We believe and teach that the benefit for Christians receiving Communion is expressed in the words "given" and "shed for you for the forgiveness of sins" (See Matthew 26:26-29). As described by Martin Luther in his *Small Catechism*, these words show us that "forgiveness of sin, life and salvation" are given to us in Communion.

Luther formulated a list of 20 questions with appropriate responses to guide the believer to prepare their hearts for Communion. We include a selection of those questions below for the purpose of aiding you in the same way.

Do you believe that you are a sinner?

Yes, I believe that I am a sinner.

Are you sorry for your sins?

Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.

Do you desire to be saved?

Yes, such is my desire.

In Whom do you trust?

In my dear Lord, Jesus Christ.

What has Christ done for you that you trust in him?

He died for me and shed his blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

Do you believe that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?

Yes, I believe it.

What induces you to believe this?

The Word of Christ, "Take, eat this is My body; This is My blood, drink of it all of you.

The Agnus Dei

**C: O Christ thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us;
O Christ thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us;
O Christ thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace. Amen.**

The Distribution

During Communion we will sing:

Communion Song: O Come to the Altar (Elevation Worship) (CCLI #7051511)

[Intro]

**Are you hurting and broken within?
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?**

Jesus is calling

**Have you come to the end of yourself?
Do you thirst for a drink from the well?**

Jesus is calling.

O come to the altar;

The Father's arms are open wide.

Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

**Leave behind your regrets and mistakes;
Come today there's no reason to wait.**

Jesus is calling.

**Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy;
From the ashes a new life is born.**

Jesus is calling.

O come to the altar;

The Father's arms are open wide.

Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

O come to the altar;

The Father's arms are open wide.

Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

**Oh what a Savior—
Isn't He wonderful?**

Sing hallelujah, Christ is risen.

Bow down before Him

For He is Lord of all.

Sing hallelujah, Christ is risen.

**Oh what a Savior—
Isn't He wonderful?**

Sing hallelujah, Christ is risen.

Bow down before Him

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Communion Song: O Come to the Altar (Elevation Worship) (CCLI #7051511) (cont'd)

Final Chorus

For He is Lord of all.
Sing hallelujah, Christ is risen.
O come to the altar;
The Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.
O come to the altar;
The Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.
The Father's arms are open wide.

Verse 3
(Softly)

Bear the cross as you wait for the crown;
Tell the world of the treasure you found.

The Nunc Dimittis

U: Lord now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the Glory of Thy people Israel. 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.

The Prayer

The Closing & Silent Prayers

The Benediction

Closing Song: My Feet Are on the Rock (Josh Bronleewe ... et al.) (CCLI #7106247)

Verse 1

I can see the clouds roll in.
I can feel the winds, they try to shake me.
I will not be moved. My feet are on the Rock, Oo....

Verse 2

I can feel the waters rise.
I can hear the howling lies that haunt me.
Fear won't hold me now. My feet are on the Rock .

Chorus 1A

When I feel my hope about to break,
I will cling to Your unchanging grace.
Let the waters come and the earth give way.
I'll be dancing in the rain.
My feet are on the Rock, Oo, Oo.

Verse 3

I can see the morning light.
I can feel the joy on the horizon.
Here my faith is found. I stand on solid ground.

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Closing Song: My Feet Are on the Rock (Josh Bronleewe ... et al.) (CCLI #7106247)

Chorus 1A

When I feel my hope about to break,
I will cling to Your unchanging grace.
Let the waters come and the earth give way.
I'll be dancing in the rain.
My feet are on the Rock, Oo, Oo.

Bridge (softly)

On Christ the solid Rock I stand. All other ground is sinking sand.
So stomp your feet and clap your hands. Our feet are on the Rock.

Bridge (louder)

On Christ the solid Rock I stand. All other ground is sinking sand.
So stomp your feet and clap your hands. Our feet are on the Rock.

Bridge (loud)

On Christ the solid Rock I stand. All other ground is sinking sand.
So stomp your feet and clap your hands. Our feet are on the Rock.

Chorus 1B

When I feel my hope about to break,
I will cling to Your unchanging grace.
Let the waters come and the earth give way.
I'll be dancing in the rain.
My feet are on the Rock.
When I feel my hope about to break,
I will cling to Your unchanging grace.
Let the waters come and the earth give way.
I'll be dancing in the rain.
My feet are on the Rock.

Ending

Oo, my feet are on the Rock.
Oo, my feet are on the Rock.

Postlude: Good Good Father (Anthony Brown/Pat Barrett) (CCLI #7036612)

[Intro]

Verse 1

Oh, I've heard a thousand stories of what they think You're like,
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night,
And You tell me that You're pleased and that I'm never alone.

Chorus

You're a good, good Father. It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who
You are;
And I'm loved by You. It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am.

Verse 2

Oh, and I've seen many searching for answers far and wide,
But I know we're all searching for answers only You provide,
'Cause You know just what we need before we say a word.

Chorus

You're a good, good Father. It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who
You are;
And I'm loved by You. It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am.

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Postlude: Good Good Father (Chris Tomlin) (CCLI #7036612) (cont'd)

Bridge

Because You are perfect in all of Your ways;
You are perfect in all of Your ways.
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us.
You are perfect in all of Your ways.
Oh, You are perfect in all of Your ways.
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us.

Verse 3

Oh, it's love so undeniable I, I can hardly speak;
Peace so unexplainable I, I can hardly think.
As You call me deeper still, as You call me deeper still,
As You call me deeper still into love, love, love.

Chorus

You're a good, good Father. It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are;
.And I'm loved by You. It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am.
You're a good, good Father. It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are;
And I'm loved by You. It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am.

Soft

Chorus

You're a good, good Father. It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are;
And I'm loved by You. It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am.

Closing

Chorus

You're a good, good Father. It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are;
(You are perfect in all of Your ways)
And I'm loved by You. It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am.
(You are perfect in all of Your ways)

[Instrumental Closing]

Announcements

The altar flowers are presented by Jason and Donna Weighley in honor of all fathers.

The chancel rail flowers are presented by the Psihas Family (Janelle, Peter, and Andrew) in loving memory of Cornell Ghise on this Father's Day.

Special thanks to Eric Wente and Rory Smith. They are reading Scripture tomorrow at the 8:30 and 11:00 services, respectively.

Nursery Today: 8:30—Donna Weighley; 11:00—Claudia Patalong.

Known to be hospitalized: None known.

Prayers for Recovery and Healing: Joanne Salvetti is home but struggling with some blood pressure issues. Susan Boehme—ankle surgery. Gene Hershberger—treatment for lung cancer. Sylvia Fitzgerald—broken leg. Amy Jones (Al Malone's daughter)—broken pelvis. Her address is 1216 Valley St., McKees Rocks, PA 15136. Abby Stutzman—autoimmune disorders. Virginia DiSalvo is at a rehab facility for PT, but she has developed a blood clot which is requiring bed rest. Please keep them in your prayers, as well as all those members of the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

On Hospice Care: John Coldsmith, Cliff Morton, and Claudia Goldsmith. Please support them with your prayers and cards.

Music Fund: Given by Mary Habovick in memory of Erna Jochum. Given by Dorothy Kratz in loving memory of Conrad Kratz in celebration of his June 14th birthday.

Pastor's Fund: Given by Gladys Constant in memory of loved ones.

Portals of Prayer: The new edition of Portals of Prayer (for July-September) is available. Both regular print and large print are on the shelves outside the Sanctuary doors.

Youth Bible Camperships: \$100 Bible Camperships are available to our youth attending a Christian camp. All camperships must be approved by Church Council. Deadline to submit an application is July 9 for approval at the July Council meeting. Application forms are available on the table at the bottom of the stairs near the Fellowship Hall or by calling the church office. Please place completed applications in the Council Secretary mail slot in the Conference Room.

Post-Secondary Graduates: It is that time of year when we want to recognize our graduates. Please let us know (via email to sallyondrejko@ruthfred.org) of any college or graduate school students who will be graduating this Spring. Please include name of student, name of college, date of graduation, and degree. We will be highlighting these students in future bulletins.

Craft & Sew: In June, the **Crafters only** will meet. Our next meeting will be Monday, June 19. Please join us at 9:30. We will take a break for July and August.

2023-2024 Preschool Registration is now open online at ruthfred.org. Contact AnnieBuzon@ruthfred.org with any questions or to schedule a tour. Spaces are available.

For the summer months, the double oak doors leading to the back parking lot will be unlocked for scheduled events, but they will be locked at all other times for security purposes. Please use the South Park entrance (across from Ruthfred Market) when entering the church Monday through Friday.

Announcements (cont'd)

Council News: Pete Huwe and Barb Roose have graciously agreed to fill the open Elder and Secretary positions on Council. At their June meeting, Council approved both appointments. Thank you to Pete and Barb for giving of their time and talent to serve Ruthfred in this way.

Volunteer Guidelines: Please note that **all volunteers age 18 and older must have current clearances** in order to serve with children and youth at VBS, Sunday School, and youth events. Clearances are good for 5 years. Contact Felicia Rieck in the church office for more information.

VBS 2023: Dates are July 24-28. The theme this year will be "Twists and Turns." Come and learn how following Jesus will help you through life's twists and turns. Registration is open at: <https://www.myvbs.org/RuthfredLutheran/>. This link allows parents to register their children for this fun event and also allows volunteers to sign up to help make VBS a success! Volunteer sign-up sheets are also available on the interior window outside the Fellowship Hall entrance. Please note that all volunteers age 18 and older must have current clearances.

VBS Decorating 2023: This year decorating will be an in-house project. We meet each Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. These meetings will continue until the decorations are completed. Please consider supporting this important ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Jason or Donna Weighley.

Attention All Summer Special Music Providers: Please let the Office know what you will be doing for the Special Music by Tuesday of each week. An email would be great—sallyondrejko@ruthfred.org. If we don't hear from you, we will only be able to list your name in the bulletin under the Special Music.

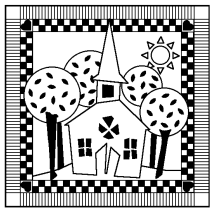
Employment Opportunity at Ruthfred:

Nursery Attendant: Do you have a heart for the youngest in our Church family? We have a need for nursery workers. Please contact Shane Cox if you can help.

Meals on Wheels Thank You: On behalf of the South Park Meals on Wheels program, I want to thank our generous congregation for donating over 88 bottles of salad dressing to help with their needs. They were so very grateful to receive the donation! Thank you! *Carol Ward*

New Member Class: Many people have expressed interest in joining Ruthfred lately, so we have scheduled a New Member class to begin next Sunday. If you have previously expressed interest in this class, you should have received a letter from Ruthfred with details. If you have not previously expressed interest, or if you did not receive a letter and are interested, please contact Melissa Bostaph (contact information on back of bulletin) to let her know. Current members are welcome as well, but please let Melissa know, so that we have sufficient class materials.

CHURCH FAMILY



PICNIC

Calling All Picnic Planners: We need YOU! Our annual Church Picnic has always been a wonderful way for us to enjoy food, fellowship, games, and entertainment on our beautiful church grounds. We'd like to keep the annual tradition going, but in order to make it happen, we need people with a heart for planning fun and engaging events. Our tentative date is Sunday, August 20th. This is truly an event where many hands make light work. If you'd like to participate in the planning, have questions, or have ideas and suggestions you'd like to share, please reach out to Felicia Rieck (FeliciaRieck@ruthfred.org) or Erin McMinn (ErinMcMinn@hotmail.com) as soon as possible.

Announcements (cont'd)

Ruthfred 75th Anniversary Committee Request: Next April, Ruthfred will celebrate the 75th anniversary of its incorporation. Planning has begun for celebrating this milestone. If you would like to join the planning committee, please contact Becky Evans. In the meantime, please be thinking about your happiest memories of Ruthfred. If you are willing to share a memory or memories, there is a collection box on the table near the elevator on the lower level. Or, feel free to send an email to ruthfred@ruthfred.org. Thank you for blessing us with your memories!

Prayer Chain Ministry: Are you aware that there is a Prayer Chain Ministry at Ruthfred? We have an email list of people to whom prayer requests are sent when they are received at the church and the requestor notes that they would like the request to be forwarded to this list of dedicated prayer warriors. We are updating the list, so all those who are on the list have received emails asking them to let Melissa Bostaph know if they wish to stay on the list. If you have not yet responded, please do so as soon as possible. If you have **not** been on the list and **would like** to be, please reach out to Melissa at MelissaBostaph@ruthfred.org.

"Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly... Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer..."—Romans 6:6, 10-12.



Lutherans for Life Quote: "Have confidence in God. Jesus Christ died for you, and Jesus Christ lives for you ... By faith in Christ, enjoy real life without that constant covetousness which makes life a living hell for so many people. By faith in Christ, know once and for all what this means: A man's real life in no way depends upon the number of his possessions. A man's life does not consist of the abundance of the things he possesses."—*Rev. Dr. Oswald Hoffman, Guest Speaker on "The Lutheran Hour"*

Journey Through the Word Summer Session

Wednesdays, June 14–August 9 (except July 26)

10:00-11:30 a.m.

"The Great Journey Through the Word Summer Film Festival"

Many excellent Christian movies have been released through the years. A variety of old and new, fiction and documentary, will be shown for your viewing pleasure! See the complete list of movies and brief summaries in the May issue of *The Herald*. Come for one; come for all! No registration is necessary, and **all** are welcome!

Adult Sunday School Class Tomorrow in Large Classroom

Why is Ruthfred part of a national church body called the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (AFLC)? What's the AFLC, what's a congregation, and why does that matter to me? Pastor McMinn and others will guide the adult Sunday School class through a series called "*The Gospel in The Congregation*," written in part by Pastor James Molstre, a former pastor at Ruthfred. Join us for this series, which includes great videos and a short, helpful workbook. Don't assume you already understand the Biblical role of a congregation and your part in it. Come and see for yourself what it's all about. This Sunday we will continue **Lesson 2—Members and purpose of the congregation.**

Summer Sunday School for Kids

Miss Bunny (Barger) and Miss Susan (Wholey) will continue their wonderful Sunday School class for 4- & 5-year-olds through the summer. Jason Weighley & Friends will offer a special Sunday School series for kids ages 6—5th grade featuring the Torchlighters' animated films about heroes of the Faith. Students in grade 6 and up will join Mason for youth Sunday School classes. If you can help with the nursery this summer, please contact Shane Cox.



YOUTH NEWS

SWAP (6-8 Grade)

There is **NO SWAP** meeting tomorrow night.

TNT (9-12 Grade)

TNT will meet on Tuesday, June 20th at the Wente's house (208 Walnut Dr., Venetia, PA 15367), 7-9 p.m.

Questions/concerns?

Contact: Mason Mitchell at MasonMitchell@ruthfred.org, or
(c) (412)-926-8698

Next Week At Ruthfred

Tomorrow (6/18) Father's Day

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School

11:00 a.m.—Worship Service

Happy 90th Birthday, Gladys Reith!

Monday (6/19) Juneteenth

9:30 a.m.—Craft & Sew (crafters only)

Tuesday (6/20)

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

Wednesday (6/21) First Day of Summer

10:00 a.m.—JTTW Summer Films—“Risen”

Noon—Esther

Friday (6/23)

7:00 a.m.—Men's Prayer Group (Fireside Lounge)

Saturday (6/24) Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Sunday (6/25) Anniversary—Presentation,

Augsburg Confession, 1530

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School & New Member Class

11:00 a.m.—Worship Service

6:30 p.m.—GIFT Bible Study @ Ruthfred

A blessed third Sunday after Pentecost to all, and
Happy Father's Day to dads and father-figures.
Welcome to worship!

Attendance for Last Week:

Sunday Worship...323 Sunday School...80

8:30 Live Stream...36

JTTW...25

Prayer Requests

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

Please keep this request private (for the pastor 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:

Name:

Children:

Address:

Phone (indicate home, cell, etc.)

Email:

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. Bryce C. McMinn | Pastor
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 226)
PastorMcMinn@ruthfred.org

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(412) 835-7140 (ext. 225)
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Andrew Vogel | Multi-Media Coordinator
(412) 568-3215
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John Sperandio | Live Stream & Social Media Asst.
JohnSperandio@ruthfred.org

Robert Vogel
Senior & Bell Choirs

Essi Efthimiou
Interim Organist

Melissa Manzo
Children's Choir

Annie Buzon | Preschool Director
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 234)
AnnieBuzon@ruthfred.org

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