

RUTHFRED LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

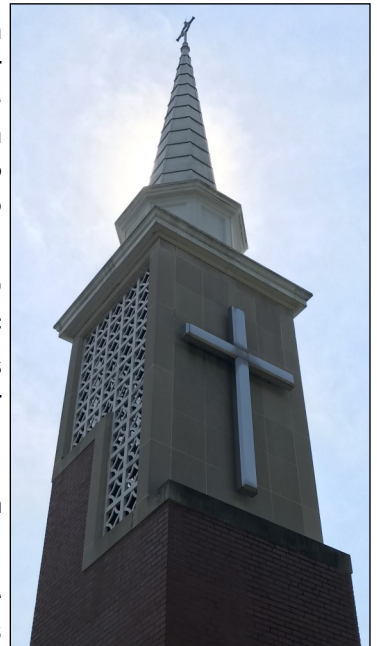
Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (www.aflc.org)

We are delighted to have you with us this morning 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 pew, 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 organist plays 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 local artist Kathryn Carr. The artwork reflects liturgical and Ruthfred-specific themes that occur throughout the year.

The Divine Service of the Word

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 1, 2023

Prelude:

"Voluntary"

(J. Blewitt)

"Canzona"

(G. Grescobaldi)

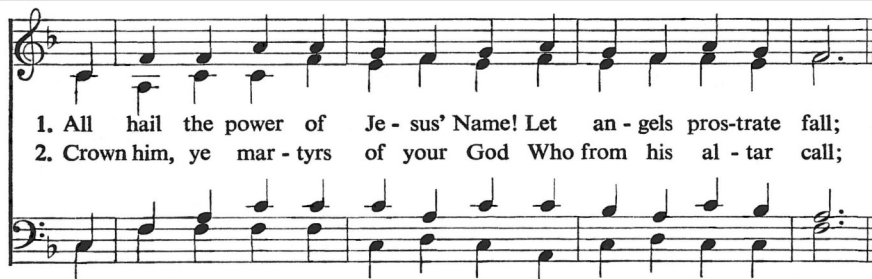
The Opening

Hymn:

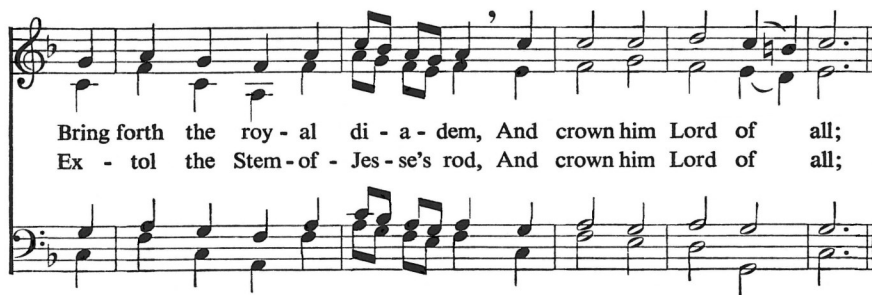
"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

(SBH #426, 2nd tune)

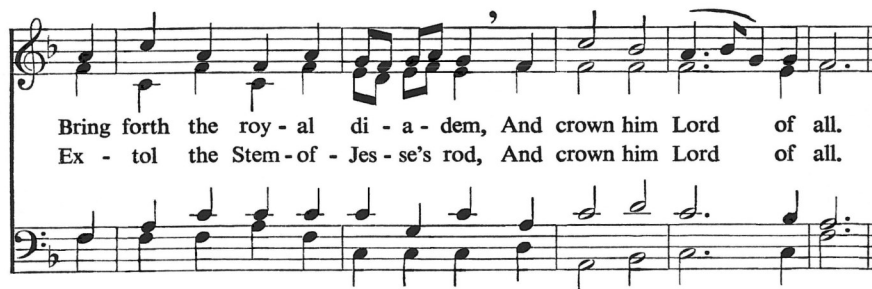
(Please stand as we join our hearts in song)



1. All hail the power of Je - sus' Name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
2. Crown him, ye mar - tyrs of your God Who from his al - tar call;



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, And crown him Lord of all;
Ex - tol the Stem-of - Jes - se's rod, And crown him Lord of all;



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, And crown him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the Stem-of - Jes - se's rod, And crown him Lord of all.

3 Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,
Ye ransomed of the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
And crown him Lord of all.

4 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at his feet,
And crown him Lord of all.

5 Let every kindred, every tribe,
On this terrestrial ball,
To him all majesty ascribe,
And crown him Lord of all.

6 O that with yonder sacred throng
We at his feet may fall;
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown him Lord of all.

*Edward Perronet, 1726-92
John Rippon, 1751-1836*

The “invocation” is Latin for “call upon.” In the Invocation we remember our baptism and acknowledge God as our Father. We are reminded that through Christ’s name we have access to the Father’s throne by the Holy Spirit. Because we are children of God, we have the privilege to invite (invoke) God’s presence and blessing upon this service of “divine liturgy” in which we receive the Work of God through His Word and Spirit, and also in which we offer up to God our praise as an act of worship. *Hebrews 10:19-25; 13:15; Ephesians 2:18*

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 Call to Worship and Invocation (SBH, p. 1)

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

Congregation (C): Amen

The Order for Public Confession (SBH, p. 247)

Unison: (U): Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son our Lord, Amen.

P: Let us humbly kneel, and make confession unto God, imploring His forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

U: O God, our heavenly Father, I confess unto Thee that I have grievously sinned against Thee in many ways; not only by outward transgressions, but also by secret thoughts and desires which I cannot fully understand, but which are all known unto Thee. I do earnestly repent, and am heartily sorry for these my offenses, and I beseech Thee of Thy great goodness to have mercy upon me, and for the sake of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to forgive my sins, and graciously to help my infirmities. Amen.

The Absolution, Admonition & Blessing (SBH, p. 252)

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us, and for the sake of the sufferings, death, and resurrection of His dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, forgiveth us all our sins. As a Minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare unto you who do truly repent and believe in Him, the entire forgiveness of all your sins. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

P: On the other hand, by the same authority, I declare unto the impenitent and unbelieving, that so long as they continue in their impenitence, God hath not forgiven their sins, and will assuredly visit their iniquities upon them, if they turn not from their evil ways, and come to true repentance and faith in Christ, ere the day of grace be ended.

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all.

C: Amen.

The Giving of the Peace

"Introit" means "to enter into," and is a responsive reading meant to lead God's forgiven children into the worship of Him. The words are from Scripture, and relate to the theme of the day in the liturgical calendar.

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 "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 Introit (Read Responsively; Please stand) (SBH p. 101)

P: You are righteous, O Lord, and upright are Your judgements.

C: Deal with Your servant according to Your mercy.

P: Blessed are the undefiled in the way:

C: Who walk in the law of the Lord. (Psalm 119:1, 124, 137)

The Gloria Patri (Sung in Unison; SBH p. 17)

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 Scripture Lesson: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 (NASB)

¹ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ² "What do you mean by using this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying,

'The fathers eat the sour grapes,
But the children's teeth are set on edge'?

³ As I live," declares the Lord GOD, "you are surely not going to use this proverb in Israel anymore. ⁴ Behold, all souls are Mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is Mine. The soul who sins will die."

²⁵ "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not right.' Hear now, O house of Israel! Is My way not right? Is it not your ways that are not right? ²⁶ When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness, commits iniquity and dies because of it, for his iniquity which he has committed he will die. ²⁷ Again, when a wicked man turns away from his wickedness which he has committed and practices justice and righteousness, he will save his life. ²⁸ Because he considered and turned away from all his transgressions which he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹ But the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not right.' Are My ways not right, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are not right?"

³⁰ "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, each according to his conduct," declares the Lord GOD. "Repent and turn away from all your transgressions, so that iniquity may not become a stumbling block to you. ³¹ Cast away from you all your transgressions which you have committed and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! For why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies," declares the Lord GOD. "Therefore, repent and live."

The Gradual (SBH, p. 101)

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord and the people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance. By the word of the Lord were the heavens made and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. Alleluia, alleluia. I love the Lord because He has heard my voice and my supplications. Alleluia. (Psalm 33: 6, 12; 116:1)

The Alleluia (Sung in Unison)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel Lesson: Matthew 21:28-32 (NASB)

The Congregation shall rise and sing, "**Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**"

²⁸ "But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, 'Son, go work today in the vineyard.' ²⁹ And he answered, 'I will not'; but afterward he regretted it and went. ³⁰ The man came to the second and said the same thing; and he answered, 'I will, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him; but the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him; and you, seeing *this*, did not even feel remorse afterward so as to believe him."

The Congregation shall sing, "**Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**"

The Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed (Confessed in Unison) (p. 4)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

During the Service of Holy Communion, we confess our faith using the Words of the Nicene Creed. Though officially adopted a few hundred years after Christ's earthly ministry, the Creed emphasizes the truths that had been taught since the time of the Apostles, namely, that Christ is both fully God and fully man. As such, we are assured that in the person of Jesus Christ, God Himself became like us in every way, yet perfect and without sin; and shed His own Blood and gave His own Body in death so that we could find in Him forgiveness of sin and life eternal.

This creed has been used in worship across denominational lines.

The Anthem

11:00: Senior Choir—" *Bread of the World*" (A. Bodycombe)

Bread of the world in mercy broken,
Wine of the soul in mercy shed,
By whom the words of life were spoken
And in whose death our sins are dead.

Look on the heart by sorrow broken,
Look on the tears by sinners shed,
And be Thy feast to us the token
That by Thy grace our souls are fed.

Bread of the world in mercy broken,
Wine of the soul in mercy shed,
By whom the words of life were spoken
And in whose death our sins are dead. Amen.

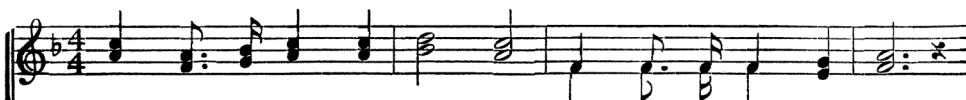
The Announcements

The Sermon Hymn: "Work, for the Night Is Coming" (ALH #647)


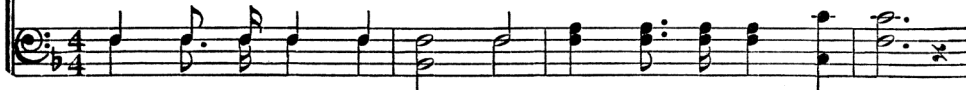
Lowell 7 6 7 5 D.

Anna L. Walker



Lowell Mason



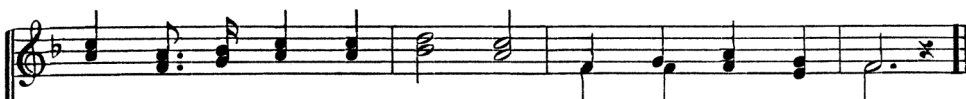
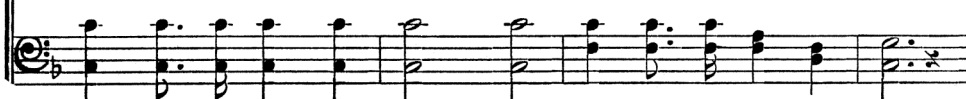
1. Work, for the night is com - ing, Work thro' the morn - ing hours;
2. Work, for the night is com - ing, Work thro' the sun - ny noon;
3. Work, for the night is com - ing, Un - der the sun - set skies;



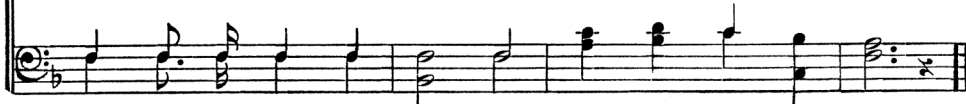
Work while the dew is spar - kling, Work 'mid spring - ing flow'rs;
Fill bright-est hours with la - bor, Rest comes sure and soon.
While their bright tints are glow - ing, Work, for day - light flies.



Work when the day grows bright - er, Work in the glow - ing sun;
Give ev - 'ry fly - ing min - ute Some-thing to keep in store:
Work till the last beam fad - eth, Fad - eth to shine no more;



Work, for the night is com - ing, When man's work is done.
Work, for the night is com - ing, When man works no more.
Work, for the night is dark - 'ning, When man's work is o'er.



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.

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 Sermon:

"God Saves Repentant Sinners. Not 'Holy' Hypocrites." | Matthew 21:28-32

Sermon Notes:

The Offertory Response (Sung in Unison; Please Stand) (SBH, p. 6/27)

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

The Service for Communion (SBH, p. 9)

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.

(continued on next page)

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 believers to prepare their hearts for Communion. We include a selection of those questions on the following page for the purpose of aiding you in the same way.

The Service for Communion (cont'd)

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 (SBH, p. 12)

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 (SBH, p. 12)

P: 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;

C: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And with thy spirit.

The Agnus Dei (SBH, p. 12)

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

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."

Why ought we to remember and proclaim His death?

That we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins but Christ, true God and man; and that we may learn to look with terror at our sins, and to regard them as great indeed, and to find joy and comfort in Him alone, and thus be saved through such faith.

Finally, why do you wish to go to receive Holy Communion?

That I may learn to believe that Christ died for my sin out of great love, as before said; and that I may also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.

During Communion:
"Let Us Break Bread Together" (AMB #285)

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;

— Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
— Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, With my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

3. Let us praise God together on our knees;
Let us praise God together on our knees.

*Text: African-American spiritual
Tune: African-American spiritual*

BREAK BREAD TOGETHER
10 10 w/refrain

The Nunc Dimittis (SBH, p. 13)

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 (SBH, p. 13)

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

C: And His mercy endures forever

The Closing Prayer *(after which the congregation shall sing "Amen.")*

P: The Lord be with you.

C. And with thy spirit.

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Benediction (SBH, p. 14)

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)

The Closing Hymn: "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones" (SBH #437)

1. Ye watch-ers and ye ho - ly ones, Bright ser - aphs, cher - u -
 2. O high - er than the cher - u - bim, More glo - rious than the

bim, and thrones, Raise the glad strain, Al - le - lu - ia!
 ser - a - phim, Lead their prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia!

Cry out, do - min - ions, prince-doms, powers, Vir - tues, arch - an -
 Thou bear - er of the e - ter - nal Word, Most gra - cious, mag -

(continued on next page)

The Closing Hymn: "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones" (SBH #437) (cont'd)

gels, an - gels' choirs,
ni - fy the Lord,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

3 Respond, ye souls in endless rest,
Ye patriarchs and prophets blest,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong,
All saints triumphant, raise the song,
Alleluia!

4 O friends, in gladness let us sing,
Supernal anthems echoing,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Alleluia!

John Athelstan Riley, 1858–1945

From THE ENGLISH HYMNAL by permission of the Oxford University Press

The Silent Prayer & Chimes

The Postlude: "Te Deum" (D. Buxtehude)

Announcements

The altar flowers are presented by John and Lynn Sperandio in honor of God's blessings on our 23rd wedding anniversary today.

Special thanks to Al Macugoski, Eric Wente, and Steve Cox. They are reading Scriptures and serving as Communion Assistants at 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 6 p.m., respectively.

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

Welcome Today!: We are so blessed to have everyone, visitors and regular attendees alike, in worship today! Please take the time to greet one another in His Name!

Known to be hospitalized: Mark Sheatsley —UPMC Presbyterian. Christine Ziegler—St. Clair Hospital. Lorraine Graham—St. Clair Hospital.

Prayers for Recovery and Healing: Norma Vogel—upcoming shoulder surgery on Tuesday. Paul Mikulan—upcoming knee replacement surgery on October 10. Michelle Hopkins and her family as she continues to battle another illness. Dot Corbett. Dan Gill—broken hip. Dan is now back at Country Meadows, in Building 1, Room 141. Gene Hershberger—treatment for lung cancer. Amy Jones (Al Malone's daughter)—broken pelvis. Abby Stutzman—autoimmune disorders. Gladys Constant—back home. Marian Meyer—back surgery. Please keep them in your prayers, as well as all those members of the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

In hospice care: John Coldsmith.

Condolences: Our pastor and congregation extend Christian love and sympathy to Joan Morton and her family on the passing of her husband, Cliff, on September 28th, 2023. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Visitation will be at the Paul Henney Funeral Home on Sunday, October 1, from 2-4 p.m., and on Monday, October 2, from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. The funeral will be at Ruthfred on Tuesday, October 3, at 11 a.m. A luncheon will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

Current Fund: Given by Clyde and Jean Harris in memory of Donna Neil.

Craft & Sew Request: The crafters are back at work making their tray favors for the Cabot and Halcyon nursing homes. They need your help to replenish their candy box with snack sizes of Hershey bars, Twix bars, Milky Way bars, M & M's, Kit Kat bars, and peppermint patties. Thank you for all you do to support this ministry! Please place your donations in the marked box in the Fellowship Hall.

Save the Date for the Fall Festival/Harvest Party at the Cox Farm: Get ready for some fall fun with your Ruthfred family on Saturday, October 21, from 3—8 p.m. We are going to have a chili/mac and cheese cook-off, as well as a bonfire and hayrides. Stay tuned for updates!

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.

Fellowship Breakfast: Please join us today during the Sunday School hour in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast and a time to share with one another and mingle with members who attend both services. Coltin Cox will share briefly about our youth ministries.

Announcements (cont'd)

PA March for Life: This event will be Monday, October 16, at the State Capitol in Harrisburg. Events begin at 10 a.m. A one-mile march around the Capitol starts at noon. "This is an excellent opportunity for anyone to learn about the principles of effective lobbying, the specific and current issues PA is facing, and what you can do right now to champion pro-life policies to your PA elevated representatives. This rally and march are suited for all levels of experience and comfort with advocacy." For more information, visit: <https://marchforlife.org/pennsylvania-march-for-life/>.

Lutherans for Life National Conference: This annual event will be at the Holiday Inn, Cincinnati Airport in Erlanger, KY, October 11th-13th. For more information, visit: <https://lutheransforlife.org/conference>.

Calling Those with a Heart to Serve: It is time to start the nomination process for open Council positions. The nominating committee is asking you to pray for our current Council and for our future leadership. Think about the spiritual gifts and participation of members in our fellowship. Consider nominating someone who you believe would be a good Council member.

This year has been difficult for Ruthfred, but we believe in the power of the Holy Spirit to move us forward. Perhaps you are here at Ruthfred because the Lord put you here for "such at time as this" (Esther 4:14). If you hear the Lord calling you as Isaiah did, please consider responding "here I am Lord, send me" (Isaiah 6:8). Being on Council requires more than just attending a meeting once a month. But, being on Council also offers an opportunity to grow spiritually, serve our Lord, and, hopefully, form lasting relationships for prayer and fellowship.

Open council positions we are seeking to fill: President, Vice President, three Elders, one 11:00 Deacon, two Trustees, and Secretary. It is the goal of the nominating committee to have at least two names on the ballot for each open position. Job descriptions for positions are available to help you consider your participation or someone else's.

Please contact anyone on the nominating committee if you have any questions or you wish to nominate someone.

Chris Stout, chairperson

chaunschild@me.com

Gary Fischer

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Alan Hinkelman

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Sue Hughes

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Paula Mikulan

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Mick Nowicki

wicksters@comcast.net

Jeanine Szalinski

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Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection: It's hard to believe that it's time to be thinking of Christmas gifts, but Samaritan's Purse, run by Franklin Graham, will begin collecting filled shoeboxes and shipping them to children in need all over the world, including Native Americans living on reservations, before Thanksgiving. These shoeboxes are filled with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items. For many of these children, this shoebox gift is the only gift that they will receive. Starting next Sunday, you will be able to take a shoebox from a special table near the elevator on the sanctuary level. The collection will run October 8th through November 19th. Please contact Carol Ward with any questions: (412) 559-2592 or wardmailbox1@gmail.com.

For The Month of October

Acolytes:

8:30 a.m. (10/1)
(10/8)
(10/15)
(10/22)
(10/29)

Asher Manzo
Asher Manzo
TBD
Asher Manzo
Asher Manzo

11:00 a.m. (10/1)
(10/8)
(10/15)
(10/22)
(10/29)

Evan Gusky
Evan Gusky
TBD
Evan Gusky
Evan Gusky

Crucifers:

11:00 a.m. (10/1)
8:30 a.m. (10/8)
11:00 a.m. (10/15)
8:30 a.m. (10/22)
8:30 a.m. (10/29)

Holly Miller
Morgan Dolence
Courtney Felicetti
TBD
TBD

Altar Guild:

Eileen Bernish

Counters:

8:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.

Neil Wagner, Pete Huwe (not 10/29)
Nathan Donolo, Eric Wente

Ushers:

8:30 a.m.

Chris Wellinger, John Ruzicka

1 1:00 a.m.

Jim Libell, Richard Lindner

Coffee Hour:

Tom & Peggy Glasser

[illegible]

OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE: Today, we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. Today, by means of bread and wine, Jesus Christ gives Himself to each communicant. This is His Word and promise. We accept His Word. If you are not a member of a Lutheran church, we ask you to speak to our pastors at any time about the meaning of Holy Communion and a person's desire to receive it. When we come to the altar.. we must come with believing and repentant hearts. As we return.. we always bow or kneel in prayer in thanksgiving to God for what Jesus Christ has given unto us. We do not practice the communion of children who are not instructed and confirmed, but the children are encouraged to come to the altar rail for a family blessing.



Adult Sunday School Class In the Large Classroom

Please join us next week when we continue the adult Sunday School series called "*The Gospel in The Congregation*," written in part by Pastor James Molstre, a former pastor at Ruthfred.

Next Sunday we will complete **Lesson 9—The Mission Duty of the Congregation**.



Adult Sunday School Class In the Upper Room

Please join us again next week as we resume our upstairs Sunday School series, entitled "**Relate (able)**," led by one of our Elders, Eric Wenthe.



YOUTH NEWS

SWAP (6-8 Grade)

There is **SWAP** tonight at Ruthfred, 6-7:30 p.m.

Save the date: SWAP Retreat at Seneca Hills, October 13-15. Information has been mailed.

TNT (9-12 Grade)

TNT will meet on Tuesday, October 3rd, at Ruthfred, 7—9 p.m.

Questions/concerns?

Contact: Coltin Cox at ColtinCox@ruthfred.org, or
(c) (724)-825-9790

This Week At Ruthfred

Today (10/1) CITY MISSION FOOD SUNDAY

8:30 a.m.—Communion Service
9:45 a.m.—Fellowship Breakfast
11:00 a.m.—Communion Service
6:00 p.m.—Communion Service

Monday (10/2)

9:30 a.m.—JTTW Leaders
9:30 a.m.—Craft & Sew
7:00 p.m.—Elders' Meeting

Tuesday (10/3)

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

Wednesday (10/4)

5:45 p.m.—Children's Choir
6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir
6:45 p.m.—Confirmation & Kids' Time
7:30 p.m.—Senior Choir

Thursday (10/5)

7:00 p.m.—Direction Committee Meeting
(Fellowship Hall)

Happy 95th Birthday, Patricia Lindauer!

Friday (10/6)

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

Sunday (10/8) Pastor Appreciation Sunday

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Worship Service (Kowalski baptism)

Welcome! God says: "Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth" (Psalm 78:1). Let us listen for God's voice as we worship.

Attendance for Last Week:

Church...231 Sunday School...73
8:30 Live Stream...44
JTTW...40 JTTW Online...3
Kids' Time...7
SWAP...15 TNT...15

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

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Robert Vogel
Senior & Bell Choirs

Essi Efthimiou | Organist
EssiEfthimiou@ruthfred.org

Melissa Manzo
Children's Choir

Mason Mitchell | Kids' Time Director
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Annie Buzon | Preschool Director
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