

*We  
have come  
to worship Him*

*Ruthfred Lutheran Church*

# Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations ([www.aflc.org](http://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 the offering plate as it passes before you.

## 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 begins 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.

# The Divine Service of the Word

The Epiphany of our Lord, January 9, 2022

## Prelude:

### **"The March of the Wise Men"**

(Harvey Gaul)

## The Opening Hymn:

### **"The First Noel"**

(SBH40)

(Please stand as we  
join our hearts in  
song)

1. The first No-el the an-gel did say Was to cer-tain poor  
2. They look-ed up and saw a star Shin-ing in the  
shep-herds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay,  
east be-yond them far, And to the earth it  
keep-ing their sheep, On a cold win-ter's night that  
gave great light, And so it con-tin-ued both  
was so deep. No-el, No-el, No-el, No-el,  
Born is the King of Is-ra-el.

3 And by the light of that same star  
Three wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.

4 This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

5 Then entered in those wise men three  
Full reverently upon their knee,  
And offered there in his presence  
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

6 Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
That hath made heaven and earth of  
naught,  
And with his Blood mankind hath bought.

*Traditional English Carol*

## **The Call to Worship**

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

**Congregation (C): Amen**

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 Sin** (SBH, p. 41)

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 Thou forgavest 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 thee, that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring thy grace, for the sake of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

(Silent Prayer of Personal Confession)

## **Together:**

**O most merciful God, who hast given thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us, and for his sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of thee and of thy will, and true obedience to thy Word, that by thy 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-begotten son to die for us, and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on his name, He gives the power to become children of God, and bestows upon them His Holy Spirit. The one who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this O Lord, unto us all.

**C: Amen**

"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.

"Kyrie" is Latin for *Lord*, which is the first word of the prayer. Distinct from the confession of sin, it is a prayer for God to grant His mercy in every aspect of our lives and to supply us with all our needs, personally, corporately and for the whole world.

**The Introit** (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: I saw also the Lord, sitting upon a throne high and lifted up.

**C: And I heard the voice of a great multitude, saying  
"Alleluia, for the Lord God omnipotent reigns.**

P: Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all you lands.

**C: Serve the Lord with gladness."**

(Revelation 19:6; Psalm 100:1)

**The Gloria Patri** (Sung in Unison; SBH p. 41)

**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 Kyrie** (Sung in Unison; SBH p. 48)

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

**C: Lord, have mercy upon us.**

P: Christ, have mercy upon us.

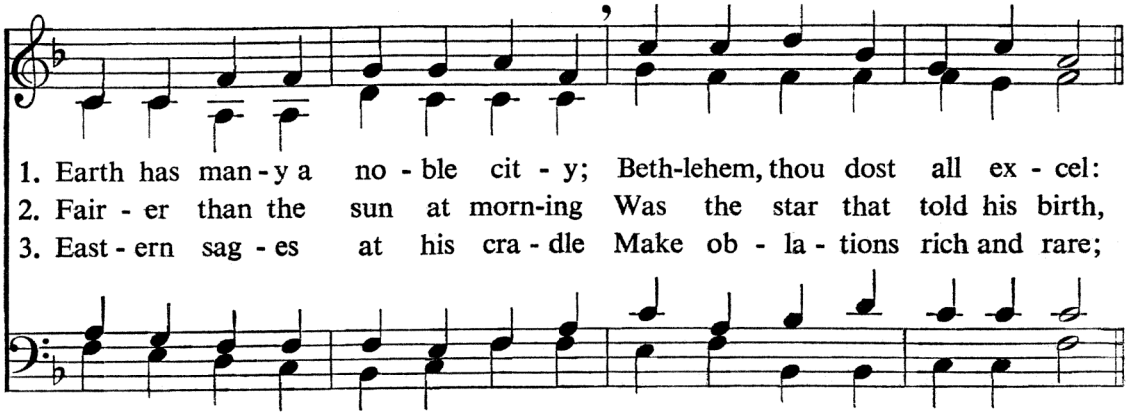
**C: Christ, have mercy upon us.**

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

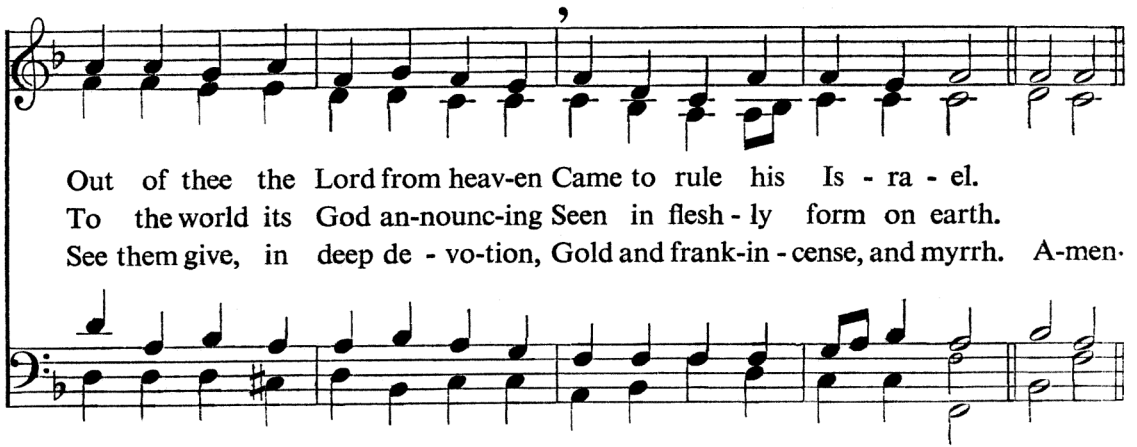
**C: Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## The Hymn of Praise:

"Earth Has Many a Noble City" (SBH51)



1. Earth has man - y a no - ble cit - y; Beth-lehem, thou dost all ex - cel:  
2. Fair - er than the sun at morn-ing Was the star that told his birth,  
3. East - ern sag - es at his cra - dle Make ob - la - tions rich and rare;



Out of thee the Lord from heav-en Came to rule his Is - ra - el.  
To the world its God an-nounc-ing Seen in flesh - ly form on earth.  
See them give, in deep de - vo-tion, Gold and frank-in - cense, and myrrh. A-men.

4 Sacred gifts of mystic meaning:  
Incense doth their God disclose,  
Gold the King of kings proclaimeth,  
Myrrh his sepulchre foreshows.

5 Jesu, whom the Gentiles worshipped  
At thy glad Epiphany,  
Unto thee, with God the Father  
And the Spirit, glory be. Amen.

*Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413*  
*Tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-78*

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 pray: O Lord, we beseech You mercifully to receive the prayers of Your people who call upon You; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; 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: Isaiah 43: 1-7** (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> But now, thus says the Lord, your Creator, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel, “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine! <sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, nor will the flame burn you. <sup>3</sup> For I am the Lord your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I have given Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in your place. <sup>4</sup> Since you are precious in My sight, since you are honored and I love you, I will give other men in your place and other peoples in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup> Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east and gather you from the west. <sup>6</sup> I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ And to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’ Bring My sons from afar and My daughters from the ends of the earth, <sup>7</sup> Everyone who is called by My name, and whom I have created for My glory, whom I have formed, even whom I have made.”

**The Psalm: Psalm 29** (NASB, Read Responsively)

P: Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of the mighty, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**C: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to His name; worship the Lord in holy array.**

P: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord is over many waters.

**C: The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is majestic.**

P: The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; yes, the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

**C: He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

P: The voice of the Lord hews out flames of fire. The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

**C: The voice of the Lord makes the deer to calve and strips the forests bare; and in His temple everything says, "Glory!"**

P: The Lord sat as King at the flood; yes, the Lord sits as King forever.

**C: The Lord will give strength to His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace.**

**The Epistle Lesson: Romans 6:1-11** (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup> May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup> Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup> For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, <sup>6</sup> knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; <sup>7</sup> for he who has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup> Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, <sup>9</sup> knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. <sup>10</sup> For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. <sup>11</sup> Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.



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 Gradual**

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only does wondrous things; and blessed be His glorious Name forever. The mountains will bring peace to the people, and the little hills, by righteousness. Alleluia, alleluia. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness. Alleluia. (Psalm 72:3, 18, 19; 100:1)

**The Alleluia** (Sung in Unison)

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **The Holy Gospel Lesson: Luke 3:15-22** (NASB)

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

<sup>15</sup> Now while the people were in a state of expectation and all were wondering in their hearts about John, as to whether he was the Christ, <sup>16</sup> John answered and said to them all, "As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in His hand to thoroughly clear His threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into His barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." <sup>18</sup> So with many other exhortations he preached the gospel to the people. <sup>19</sup> But when Herod the tetrarch was reprimanded by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the wicked things which Herod had done, <sup>20</sup> Herod also added this to them all: he locked John up in prison. <sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus was also baptized, and while He was praying, heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased."

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

Today we are privileged to witness the sacrament of Holy Baptism. We believe that Baptism is God's work. It is not merely a symbolic application of water, but water used according to God's command and in connection with His Word (see Matt. 28:19-20). In Baptism God causes us to be born again through the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit (see Titus 3:5 and 1 Peter 3:21). For little Clara Frances, Baptism marks the beginning of a new life in Christ that is nourished through a lifetime of continually hearing and learning God's Word.

**The Baptismal Hymn:** 11:00 Kurt Radke "Borning Cry" (John Ylvisaker)

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child,  
with a faith to suit you well;  
in a blaze of light you wandered off  
to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word  
I was there to cheer you on;  
you were raised to praise the living Lord,  
to whom you now belong.  
If you find someone to share your time  
and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,  
not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
complete what I've begun.  
When the evening gently closes in  
and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been,  
with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
to see your life unfold.

**The Baptism of** *Clara Frances Handshue*

**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 Special Music**

8:30 Senior Choir—"Return of the Wise Men" (Posegate)

Going home by another way, Going home by another way;  
We have seen the newborn Baby King; We are not the same today.

How strange to see a King there; In a lonely place He lay,  
No royal pomp about Him there, No monarch's crown displayed.

Our gifts which seemed so fair, When from our home conveyed,  
Seemed so small to give to the King of Heaven. We are not the same  
today.

And the shepherds' story told, As beside their sheep they lay,  
Of angels singing the Baby's birth, In shining robes arrayed.

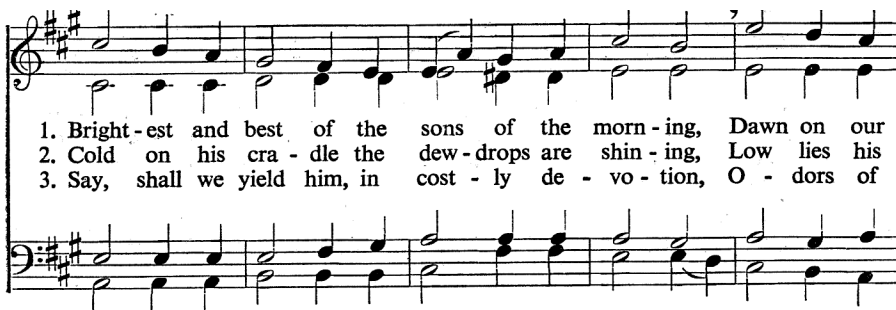
"Glory be to God, Glory be to God on high,  
And peace on earth, good will to men, And peace on earth to men."

**The Announcements**

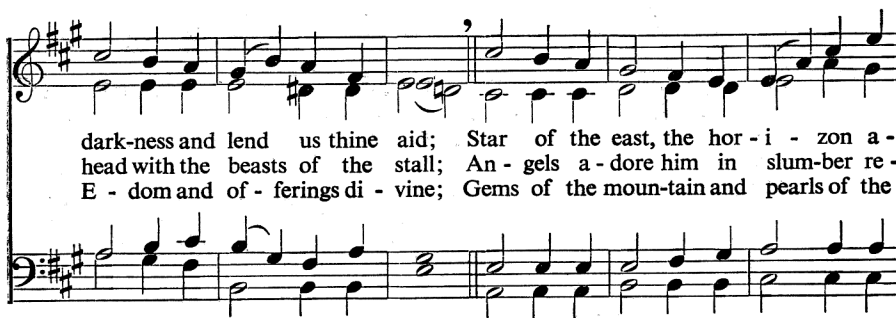
**The Children's Object Lesson**

## The Sermon Hymn:

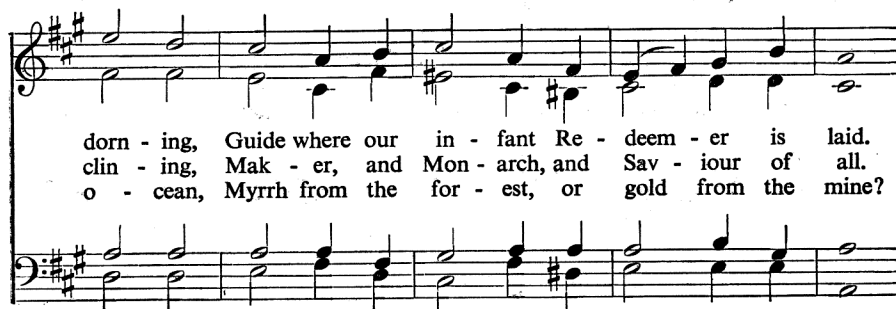
**"Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning"** (SBH53, 1st tune)



1. Bright - est and best of the sons of the morn - ing, Dawn on our  
 2. Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing, Low lies his  
 3. Say, shall we yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion, O - dors of



dark-ness and lend us thine aid; Star of the east, the hor - i - zon a -  
 head with the beasts of the stall; An - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re -  
 E - dom and of - ferings di - vine; Gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the



dorn - ing, Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.  
 clin - ing, Mak - er, and Mon - arch, and Sav - iour of all.  
 o - cean, Myrrh from the for - est, or gold from the mine?

4 Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
 Vainly with gifts would his favor secure;  
 Richer by far is the heart's adoration,  
 Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

5 Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
 Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;  
 Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
 Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

*Reginald Heber, 1783-1826*

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:

"He Opens Heaven for Us in Baptism" | Luke 3:15-22

### Sermon Notes:

### 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 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 Closing & Silent Prayer** (Please bow or kneel in prayer)

**The Lord's Prayer** (Prayed in Unison)

**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; For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**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)

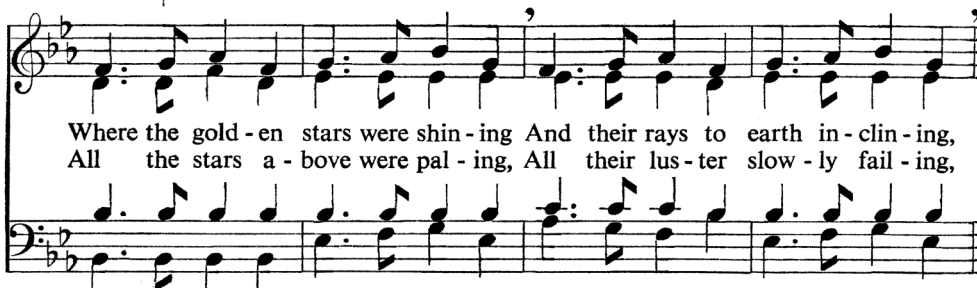
**C: Amen.**

## The Closing Hymn:

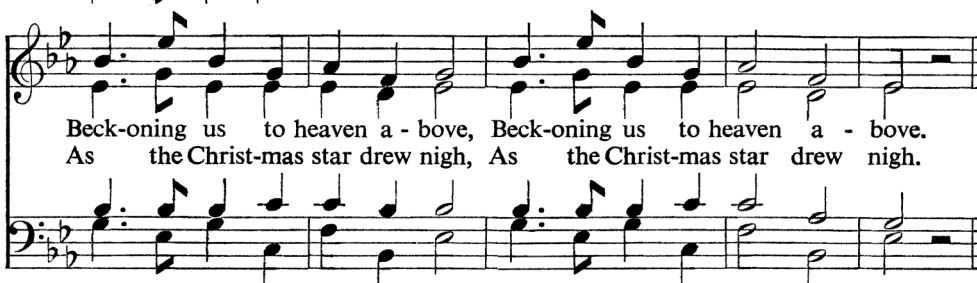
### "Bright and Glorious is the Sky" (SBH57)



1. Bright and glo - rious is the sky, Ra - dant are the heav - ens high  
2. On that ho - ly Christ - mas night Through the dark - ness beamed a light;



Where the gold - en stars were shin - ing And their rays to earth in - clin - ing,  
All the stars a - bove were pal - ing, All their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing,



Beck - oning us to heaven a - bove, Beck - oning us to heaven a - bove.  
As the Christ - mas star drew nigh, As the Christ - mas star drew nigh.

3 Sages from the East afar,  
When they saw this wondrous star,  
Went to find the King of nations  
And to offer their oblations  
Unto him as Lord and King.

4 Him they found in Bethlehem,  
Yet he wore no diadem;  
They but saw a maiden lowly  
With an infant pure and holy,  
Resting in her loving arms.

5 Guided by the star they found  
Him whose praise the ages sound.  
We too have a star to guide us  
Which forever will provide us  
With the light to find our Lord.

6 As a star God's holy word  
Leads us to our King and Lord;  
Brightly from its sacred pages  
Shall this light throughout the ages  
Shine upon our path of life.

*Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872  
Hymnal Version, 1955*

## The Silent Prayer & Chimes

### The Postlude:

"Fugue on 'How Brightly Shines the Morning Star'" (Buxtehude)

# Announcements

**The altar flowers** are presented by Chris and Ron Stout to the glory of God.

**Nursery Today:** 8:30—Greta Kelly; Sunday School—Jenna Schwartz; 11:00—Claudia Patalong.

**Known to be hospitalized:** Alma Vogel—St. Clair Hospital; Terry Alwine—Canonsburg Hospital. Please support them with your prayers and cards.

**Prayers for Recovery and Healing:** Dan Gill is at Townview Health & Rehabilitation Center in Canonsburg recovering from surgery for a broken hip. John Coldsmith is at home following his heart procedure. Please also keep Pat Lutz, Larry Holt, Ray Feller, and Elaine Grant in your prayers, as well as all those in the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

**Sincere thanks** from John and Dee Coldsmith for the prayers for John's health and recovery.

**Condolences:** Our pastors and congregation extend Christian love and sympathy to the family of Will Vogel (wife Alma and children Robert and Norma and families), who passed away on Thursday, January 6, 2022. Arrangements are pending at this time. Please support the family in this difficult time with your prayers.

**Wednesday Morning Journey Through the Word:** Our spring session will begin on Wednesday, January 12. As Christians, we tend to spend more time in the New Testament. Yet there is much to learn about Jesus in the Old Testament. Join us for this exciting and insightful study, The Lamb of God: Seeing Jesus in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers & Deuteronomy. We have small groups for both women and men and an online Zoom group, so all are welcome! If you did not attend in the fall and would like to participate in this session, please contact Pat Moore (412-833-3034; [patmoore9@msn.com](mailto:patmoore9@msn.com)). Due to retirements and health issues, we are in great need of a co-leader to partner with Sue Swan, as well as small group leaders and backups. Please pray about these opportunities for service. If you feel the Lord calling you to help fill the gap, contact Sue Swan (412-708-3535; [writingcygnet@gmail.com](mailto:writingcygnet@gmail.com)).

**Annual Congregational Meeting:** Your attendance is requested at the Annual Congregational Meeting to be held immediately following the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services on Sunday, January 16, 2022. The agenda includes the presentation of 2021 financial reports and the election of members of Church Council.

**Respect Life Month Stewardship Project:** We have added New Life Options Pregnancy Center in Monongahela to our list of benevolences in this year's budget. As January is Respect Life Month, we will be collecting baby items for them. Any of the items listed below would be greatly appreciated. They can be placed in the marked bin in the Fireside Lounge through January 30. Thank you! Contact Jill Kurtz with any questions. Here are the items being requested: wipes, baby wash, shampoo (unscented), blankets, diaper cream, crib sheets, disposable diapers (sizes newborn, 3, 4 & 5), comb & brush sets, baby bottles, sippy cups, hooded baby towels & washcloths, pacifiers, nail clippers, teething rings, nasal aspirators, onesies (sizes newborn to 24 months - new).

**A New Member Class** begins today. Meetings will be in the Fireside Lounge during Sunday School.



**2022 VBS Director Needed:** Please let one of the pastors know if you are interested in leading this vibrant, week-long summer program for kids.

**2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES** have been moved to the Library. Please pick yours up even if you give online. Thank you!

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**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

On Sunday, January 16, 2022, the Annual Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services. The agenda includes the presentation of 2021 financial reports and the election of members to Church Council. The members who have agreed to be put on the ballot as nominees are detailed below.

- |                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| <u>President:</u>      | Mark Riley    |
| <u>Vice President:</u> | Kevin Boehme  |
| <u>Elders:</u>         | Tom Glasser   |
| (elect 3)              | Tom Sanders*  |
|                        | Kurt Ziegler* |

- |                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| <u>11:00 Deacons:</u> | Marty Rieck |
| (elect 1)             |             |

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| <u>Trustees:</u> | Mark Killinger    |
| (elect 2)        | Jonathan Stutzman |
|                  | Neil Wagner       |

\*Indicates Incumbent

2022 Nominating Committee Members: Barb Harrold (Chair), Mark Arelt, Steve Cox, Connie Munn, Paula Mikulan, and Caleb Cox. Thank you to all!

Ex Officio: Pastor Carlson and Pastor McMinn

## **Adult Sunday School Class Today In Large Classroom**

Pastor Carlson is teaching the Adult Sunday School Class on the book of Romans. This book contains the most complete and comprehensive explanations of the teachings of the Christian faith. Each week we will be doing a chapter overview while also doing a deep dive to discover particular gems. Whether you have never read the book, or have it memorized, this will be a great opportunity for you to grow in your understanding of your Christian faith! Today we are studying Chapter 12.

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## **Today in the Upper Room**

**Forgiving What You Can't Forget**—Join us for the conclusion of our DVD Bible study in which author Lysa TerKeurst shares her personal journey with forgiveness and what the Bible has to say about letting go of resentment and finding peace. In each individual session, we will explore a step-by-step plan to free ourselves from hurt, disempower triggers that hijack our emotions, deal with difficult relationships, and discover the life-giving freedom that our souls desperately need. All are welcome!!!

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## **YOUTH NEWS**

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

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

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

TNT will be at the Church on Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 7-9 p.m.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

**January 22 – TNT Game Night, 5-10 p.m.**

Questions/concerns?

Contact: Regan Johnson at [ReganJohnson@ruthfred.org](mailto:ReganJohnson@ruthfred.org), or

(c) (218)-230-5800

## This Week At Ruthfred

**Today (1/9) EPIPHANY SUNDAY**

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School

11:00 a.m.—Worship Service

## Monday (1/10)

9:30 a.m.—JTTW Leaders' Meeting

### 6:30 p.m.—Elders' Prayer Time and Meeting

7:30 p.m.—Council Meeting

**Tuesday (1/11)**

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

### Wednesday (1/12)

9:15 a.m.—JTTW

Noon—Esther

5:45 p.m.—Children's Choir

6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir

6:45 p.m.—Confirmation; JTTW; Kids' Time

7:30 p.m.—Senior Choir

**Thursday (1/13)**

10:00 a.m.—Knit Wits

**Friday (1/14)**

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

### Saturday (1/15)

5:00 p.m.—Contemporary Liturgical Worship  
Service

## Sunday (1/16)

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School

11:00 a.m.—Worship Service

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER BOTH SERVICES

Welcome to worship—each and every one of you, a  
chosen and beloved child of God. May we follow  
Jesus into the work of ministry.

**Attendance for Last Week:**

Sunday Worship...281    Sunday School...89


8:30 Live Stream...43

## Prayer Requests

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

[illegible]

☐ Please keep this request Private (to be kept amongst the pastors and vicar 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

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**Robert Vogel**  
Senior & Bell Choirs

**Frederick Schell**  
Organist

**Melissa Manzo**  
Children's Choir

**Denise Stutzman** | Preschool Head Teacher  
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**Lauren Compel & Denise Stutzman**  
Kid's Time Leaders

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