



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 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 begins the Prelude. When the music starts, please quiet your hearts as you prayerfully prepare for worship.



Our cover is a paper cut, or *schერenschnitte*, 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 Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 26, 2023  
Judica Sunday

## Prelude:

**"Cantabile"**

(F. Ashdown)

**"Grosser Gott"**

(J. Wilson)

**"A Lamb Bears All  
Its Guilt"**

(R. Hobby)

## The Opening Hymn:

**"Holy God, We  
Praise Thy Name"**

(SBH #167)

(Please stand as we  
join our hearts in  
song)

*Boldly, with movement*

1. Ho - ly God, we praise thy Name; Lord of  
All on earth thy scep - tre claim, All in

all, we bow be - fore thee!  
heaven a - bove a - dore thee; In - fi - nite thy

vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is thy reign. A - men.

2 Hark! the loud celestial hymn  
Angel choirs above are raising,  
Cherubim and seraphim,  
In unceasing chorus praising;  
Fill the heavens with sweet accord:  
Holy, holy, holy, Lord.

3 Lo! the Apostolic train  
Join the sacred Name to hallow;  
Prophets swell the loud refrain,  
And the white-robed martyrs follow;  
And from morn to set of sun,  
Through the Church the song goes on.

4 Holy Father, Holy Son,  
Holy Spirit, Three we name thee;  
While in essence only One,  
Undivided God we claim thee;  
And adoring bend the knee,  
While we own the mystery. Amen.

*German, XVIII cent.  
Tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820-1900*

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**

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

**C: Amen**

"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.

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

P: Judge me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation.

**C: O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man.**

P: For You are the God of my strength.

**C: O send out Your light and Your truth.**

P: Let them lead me.

**C: Let them bring me to Your holy hill.**

(Psalm 43:1-3)

**The Gloria Patri** (Sung in Unison; SBH p. 43)

**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.**

"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 Hymn of Praise: "The Gloria" (SBH p. 49-51 )

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

*Minister*



Glo - - ry be to God on high!

*Congregation. Unison*



And on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise thee, we bless thee, we wor-ship thee, we glo - ri - fy thee,



we give thanks to thee for thy great glo - ry, O Lord God,



heaven - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - might - y.

(continued on next page)

**The Hymn of Praise: "The Gloria"** (SBH p. 602 ) (cont'd)

O Lord, the on - ly be - got - ten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord\_ God.

Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, that tak - est a - way the

sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. Thou that tak - est a -

way the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer. Thou that sit - test at the

right hand of God the Fa - ther, have mer - cy up - on us.

For thou on - ly art ho - ly; thou on - ly art the Lord;

thou on - ly, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most

high . . . . in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A-men.

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: We beseech You, Almighty God, mercifully to look upon Your people, that by Your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore, both in body and soul; 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: Ezekiel 37:1-14** (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> The hand of the LORD was upon me, and He brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; and it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He caused me to pass among them round about, and behold, *there were* very many on the surface of the valley; and lo, *they were* very dry. <sup>3</sup> He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, You know." <sup>4</sup> Again He said to me, "Prophecy over these bones and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.' <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones, 'Behold, I will cause breath to enter you that you may come to life. <sup>6</sup> I will put sinews on you, make flesh grow back on you, cover you with skin and put breath in you that you may come alive; and you will know that I am the LORD.'"

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold, a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup> And I looked, and behold, sinews were on them, and flesh grew and skin covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup> Then He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they come to life.'"<sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they came to life and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup> Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel; behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope has perished. We are completely cut off.' <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophecy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I will open your graves and cause you to come up out of your graves, My people; and I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> Then you will know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves and caused you to come up out of your graves, My people. <sup>14</sup> I will put My Spirit within you and you will come to life, and I will place you on your own land. Then you will know that I, the LORD, have spoken and done it," declares the LORD.'"



### **The Psalm: Psalm 130** (NASB)

P: Out of the depths I have cried to You, O LORD.

**C: Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.**

P: If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

**C: But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared.**

P: I wait for the LORD, my soul does wait, and in His word do I hope.

**C: My soul *waits* for the Lord more than the watchmen for the morning; *indeed, more than* the watchmen for the morning.**

P: O Israel, hope in the LORD; for with the LORD there is lovingkindness, and with Him is abundant redemption.

**C: And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.**

### **The Epistle Lesson: Romans 8:1-11** (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup> For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God *did*: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and *as an offering* for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup> so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup> For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, <sup>7</sup> because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so*, <sup>8</sup> and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup> However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. <sup>10</sup> If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

### **The Gradual**

Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies. Teach me to do Your will. He delivers me from my enemies. Yea, You lift me up above those that rise up against me. You have delivered me from the violent man. Many a time have they afflicted me from my youth. May Israel now say, many a time have they afflicted me from my youth. Yet they have not prevailed against me. (Psalm 143:9, 7; 125:1)

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.

*Following the Gradual reading, the congregation shall sing.*

**The Sentence for Lent**

***Christ hath humbled himself, and become obedient  
unto death: even the death of the Cross.***

**The Holy Gospel Lesson: John 3:1-17** (NASB)

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

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews; <sup>2</sup> this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You have come from God *as* a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him."  
<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."  
<sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to Him, "How can these things be?"  
<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know and testify of what we have seen, and you do not accept our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?  
<sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven: the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; <sup>15</sup> so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."

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

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

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

And In Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And 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 Anthem**

8:30 Senior Choir and Children's Choir—*I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light* (K. Thomerson/B. Harlan)

I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus.

In Him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

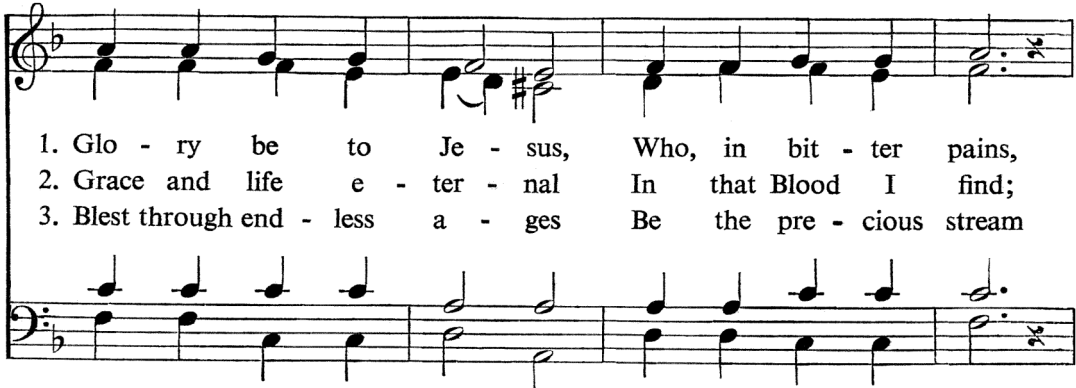
**The Special Music**

11:00 Kurt Radke—*Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross* (Crosby/Doane)

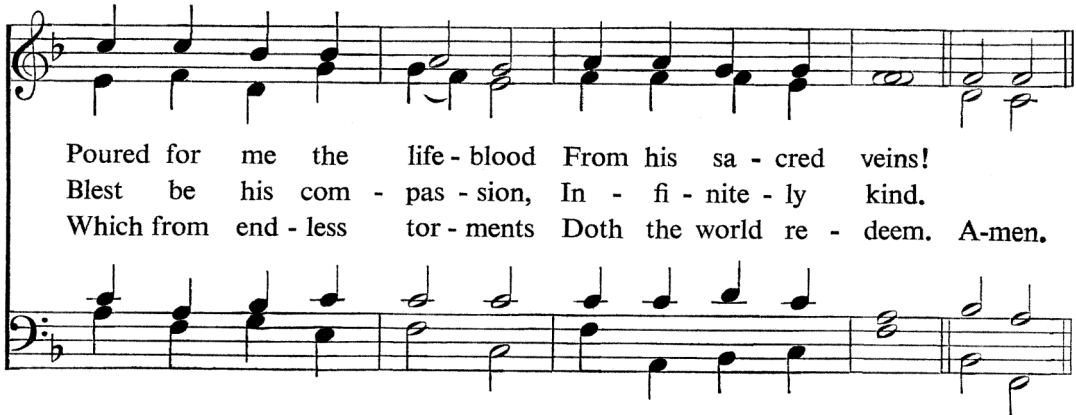
**The Announcements**

**The Children's Object Lesson**

The Sermon Hymn: "Glory Be to Jesus" (SBH #76)



1. Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who, in bit - ter pains,  
2. Grace and life e - ter - nal In that Blood I find;  
3. Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream



Poured for me the life - blood From his sa - cred veins!  
Blest be his com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind.  
Which from end - less tor - ments Doth the world re - deem. A-men.

4 Abel's blood for vengeance  
Pleaded to the skies;  
But the Blood of Jesus  
For our pardon cries.

5 Oft as earth exulting  
Wafts its praise on high,  
Angel-hosts, rejoicing,  
Make their glad reply.

6 Lift we then our voices,  
Swell the mighty flood;  
Louder still and louder  
Praise the precious Blood! Amen.

*Italian, XVIII cent.  
Tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-78*

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:** "What You Can't Do, He Did for You!" | Romans 8:1-11

**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.

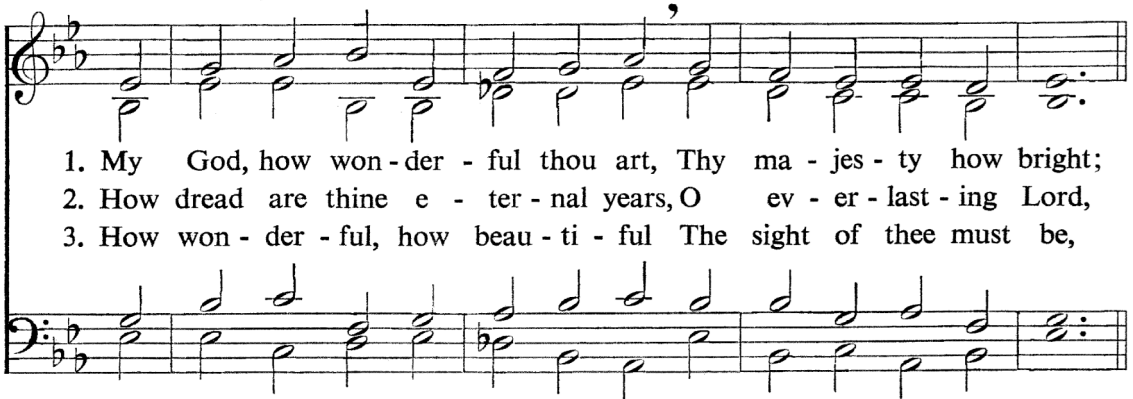
May He lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

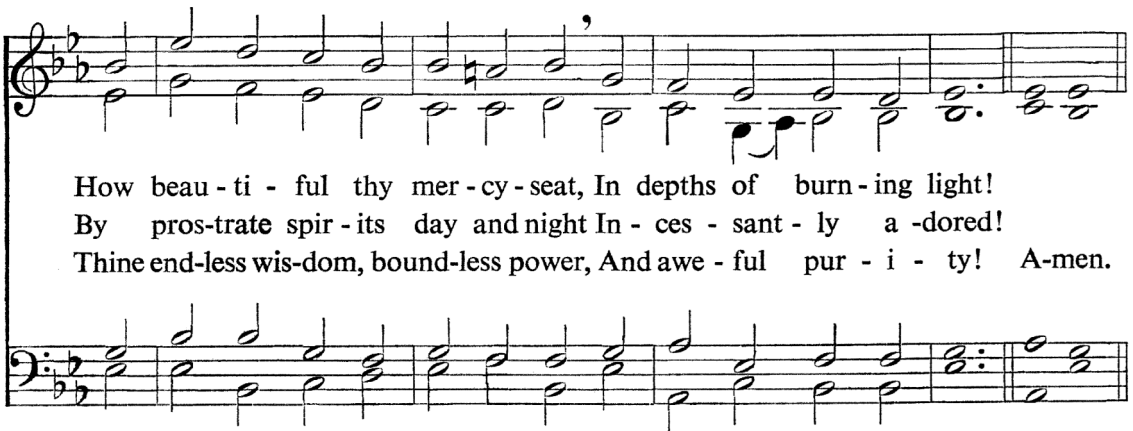
(Numbers 6:24-26)

**C: Amen.**

**The Closing Hymn: "My God, How Wonderful Thou Art"** (SBH #181)



1. My God, how won - der - ful thou art, Thy ma - jes - ty how bright;  
2. How dread are thine e - ter - nal years, O ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3. How won - der - ful, how beau - ti - ful The sight of thee must be,



How beau - ti - ful thy mer - cy - seat, In depths of burn - ing light!  
By pros - trate spir - its day and night In - ces - sant - ly a - dored!  
Thine end - less wis - dom, bound - less power, And awe - ful pur - i - ty! A - men.

4 O how I fear thee, living God,  
With deepest, tenderest fears,  
And worship thee with trembling hope  
And penitential tears!

5 Yet I may love thee, too, O Lord,  
Almighty as thou art,  
For thou hast stooped to ask of me  
The love of my poor heart.

6 No earthly father loves like thee;  
No mother, e'er so mild,  
Bears and forbears as thou hast done  
With me, thy sinful child.

7 Father of Jesus, love's reward,  
What rapture will it be  
Prostrate before thy throne to lie,  
And gaze and gaze on thee! Amen.

*Frederick William Faber, 1814-63*

**The Silent Prayer & Chimes**

**The Postlude: "Postlude in F"** (L. Boellmann)

# Announcements

**The altar flowers** are presented by the Klick family in loving memory and remembrance of Stacie Klick for the anniversary of her March 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.

**The chancel rail flowers** are presented by Bunny Barger in celebration of the birthday of the best sister and friend.

**Scripture Readers Today:** 8:30—Kurt Ziegler; 11:00—Kurt Ziegler

**Nursery Today:** 8:30 & Sunday School—TBD; 11:00—Claudia Patalong

**Known to be hospitalized:** Joanne Salvetti—Magee Women's Hospital. Bill VanKirk—St. Clair Hospital (moving soon to Arden Courts, 380 Wray Large Rd., Jefferson Hills, PA 15025). Caryl Hansen—Presbyterian SeniorCare Network in Washington, PA for rehab after a fall (Room 344). Her direct room phone number is 724-250-5780. Today is her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday. Cards can be sent to her home address (103 Sherwood Dr., McMurray, PA 15317). Please support them with your prayers and cards

**Prayers for Recovery and Healing:** Fred Schell is now home—103 South Grandview Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15205. Lundy Castro is now back at the Carlsons' house. Linda Donolo (broken leg & hip replacement). Linda is currently in Florida, so cards can be sent to: 307 Reynolds Ct., Naples, FL 34112. Pat Lutz (recent surgery). Nancy Jane Weighley (Jason's mother) is out of the hospital but continuing to be monitored. Greg Saul—upcoming back surgery. Please keep them in your prayers, as well as all those in the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

**Easter Flower Orders:** Please consider ordering a tulip or a lily in memory of or in honor of a loved one to decorate our beautiful sanctuary for Easter. **Today** is the deadline for placing orders. **The cost for a tulip or a lily is \$13.00.** Place your cash or check in the envelope and write your dedication, name, and type of flower you prefer on the outside of the envelope. Envelopes may be placed in the collection baskets or in the box in the office.



**Thank You to Congregation:** Thank you so much for all the cards and expressions of your love for us! We reflect with joy on our years together. We are so thankful for you and are unable to fully express the depth of our thanks and love. Our prayer is that God will bless you on our behalf! Grace & Peace, *Pastor & Jen, Ben, Sadie and Sam Carlson*

**Family Easter Festival:** The 4<sup>th</sup> annual festival for young families is next Sunday, April 2, 4-6 p.m. TODAY is the deadline to sign up. You can do so on the website ([Ruthfred.org/announcements](http://Ruthfred.org/announcements)) OR on the list posted next to the Nursery. Activities are geared to children ages 2-8, but ALL are welcome.

**Volunteer/Donation opportunities for the Family Easter Festival:** Donations of desserts are needed for the Festival. Please sign up on the list at the base of the stairs, or contact Peggy Cox. Also, we could use a few more kitchen helpers and "where needed" helpers. Please sign up on the list if you can serve, or contact Barb Harrold, [brharrold@comcast.net](mailto:brharrold@comcast.net) to volunteer.

**Young Adult Bible Study:** This group will meet **today** at 6:30 p.m. at Andrew and Cassie Vogel's house. All young adults are welcome to join. For questions or further information, please contact Andrew at [andrewvogel@ruthfred.org](mailto:andrewvogel@ruthfred.org).

**Fellowship Breakfast:** Please join us next Sunday at 9:40 in the Fellowship Hall for good food and good friendship! Please bring a non-perishable food item for the City Mission if you are able.

# Announcements (cont'd)

**Lenten Soup and Salad Suppers:** Please join us for soup and salad suppers on Wednesday evenings from 6—7 p.m. An evening service will follow at 7:30 p.m. If you attend the 2:00 p.m. service, you are welcome to attend the supper also. Peggy Cox will be organizing the food. Arlene Ball will be coordinating volunteers for setting up, serving, and cleaning up. Please contact Arlene at 412-977-8013 or Arlene1952@gmail.com if you are able to help. Thank you in advance!

**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!

**VBS Decorating 2023:** This year decorating will be an in-house project. We will begin Tuesday, April 11, 7-9 p.m. on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. These Tuesday meetings will continue until the decorations are completed. Please consider supporting this important ministry. We particularly need cardboard boxes (square 12” x 12” or 24” x 24”). Larger boxes would also be appreciated. Please contact Jason Weighley at [jason.weighley@gmail.com](mailto:jason.weighley@gmail.com), or bring the boxes to the stage. If you have any questions, please contact Jason or Donna Weighley.

**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 Sunday, April 9, 2023, for approval at the April Council meeting. Please place applications in the Council Secretary mail slot in the Conference Room. Call the church office if you need an application.

**City Mission Food Sunday is Next Sunday, April 2:** This is our monthly food collection for the City Mission in Washington, PA. There is a flyer with needed items on the bulletin board across from the downstairs elevator. Donations can be placed in the bin outside the kitchen. Thank you for helping!

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

**Employment Opportunity at Ruthfred:** Do you have a heart for the youngest in our Church family? We have a need for a nursery worker during the 8:30 a.m. service and Sunday School. Please contact Shane Cox if you can help: [coxfarrierservice@gmail.com](mailto:coxfarrierservice@gmail.com).

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

**Adult Sunday School:** Mark Arelt continues his series today. Bible Questions Answered? Anyone who reads the Bible seriously is bound to run across certain passages that leave them thinking, “Hmm. Why is that in there?” or “How does that make sense?” or “What does that really mean?” Join us as we discuss some of the questions YOU have asked about The Bible.

**Benevolence Committee:** We will be meeting tomorrow, Monday, March 27, at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge. All members of the congregation are invited to come with any questions, input, or suggestions. We will be reviewing the ministry of the Schierkolks and Chosen People Ministries (Pastor Kipp).



## Easter Baskets for our Shut-Ins/Homebound Members

This project is back to normal this year. Donations and volunteers are needed. You are encouraged to visit with those receiving a basket depending on your and their comfort level. Some facilities may require that a mask be worn. Sign-up sheets for assembly at 10 a.m. and pickup/delivery beginning at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 1, are on the bulletin board across from the elevator.

Thank you so much for your help.

### SUGGESTED DONATIONS

**HOMEMADE GOODIES - muffins, cookies, etc. in baggies or individually wrapped for easier distribution.**

Soft candies	Small notebooks
Mini candy bars	Pens
Snack crackers	Note cards
100 calorie snacks	Postage stamps
Breakfast bars	Applesauce
Hot/cold cereal	Wrapped tea bags
Mini muffins	Hot chocolate mix
Cookies	Soup packets
Pudding/Jello cups	Tissue packs
Diced fruit	Chapstick

Raisin or Craisin boxes

Please choose store items that are individually wrapped and/or single-serving food items. **NOTHING WITH NUTS. Sugar-free items are welcomed.** Any unused items will be donated to Meals on Wheels.

**Please place items in the Easter basket collection bin outside the kitchen by Thursday, March 30.**

Questions??? Contact Jeanine Szalinski or Jill Kurtz



# YOUTH NEWS

## SWAP (6-8 Grade)

There is NO SWAP tonight.

## TNT (9-12 Grade)

TNT will meet at Ruthfred on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 7-9 p.m.

**Questions/concerns?**

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

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## Gifts to Our Church

### Benevolence Fund

- ◇ Given by Essi Efthimiou in memory of George Kopac (Lynn Vogel's father).
- ◇ Given by Steve and Peggy Cox in memory of George Kopac.
- ◇ Given by Paula and Joseph Phillis in memory of George Kopac.

### Current Fund

- Given by Sue Hughes in memory of Fritz Motzer.
- Given by Shirley and Greg Klimovsky in memory of Becky Lindner.
- Given by Margie and Rich Westerbeck in memory of Becky Lindner.
- Given by Aunt Clara (Scott) in loving memory of Rebecca Lindner.
- Given by John Toperzer in memory of Becky Lindner.
- Given by Rich Lindner in memory of my wife, Becky, my best friend and a precious gift from God.
- Given by Ron and Chris Stout in memory of Fritz Motzer.
- Given by Becky and Steve Evans in memory of Fritz Motzer, Becky Lindner, and George Kopac.

### Craft and Sew Fund

- ◆ Given by Audrey Toft (sister of Judy Boyd) in memory of Judy Boyd.

### Music Fund

- ◇ Given by Steve and Peggy Cox in memory of Fritz Motzer.
- ◇ Given by Chris and Marcia Clark in memory of George Kopac.
- ◇ Given by Don and Carol McDowell in memory of Fritz Motzer and George Kopac.
- ◇ Given by Bunny and Betzi Barger in memory of George Kopac.
- ◇ Given by Nancy Iacomini in memory of Fritz Motzer.
- ◇ Given by Barb Thomas in memory of Fritz Motzer and George Kopac.

### Pastor's Fund

- Given by Mary Lou and Joe McKenna in memory of Fritz Motzer.
- Given by Barb Thomas in memory of Rebecca Lindner.
- Given by Chris and Marcia Clark in honor of Pastor Carlson.
- Given by Steve and Peggy Cox in memory of Becky Lindner.
- Given by Rich Lindner in memory of my beloved wife, Becky.
- Given by Bob and Gladys Reith in memory of Becky Lindner.

## This Week At Ruthfred

### Today (3/26) 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service  
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.—Worship Service  
6:30 p.m.—GIFT Bible Study at the Killingers' house  
6:30 p.m.—Young Adult Bible Study @ A&C Vogels'

*Herald* deadline

**Happy 91<sup>st</sup> Birthday Caryl Hansen!**

### Monday (3/27)

9:30 a.m.—JTTW Leaders Meeting  
7:00 p.m.—Benevolence (Fireside Lounge)

### Tuesday (3/28)

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

### Wednesday (3/29)

9:15 a.m.—JTTW  
2:00 p.m.—Lenten Service  
5:45 p.m.—Children's Choir  
6:00 p.m.—Soup & Sandwich Supper  
6:30 p.m.—Jr. & Sr. Confirmation Classes  
6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir  
7:00 p.m.—Senior Choir (continues after Service)  
7:30 p.m.—Lenten Service

### Friday (3/31)

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

### Saturday (4/1)

10:00 a.m.—Easter basket assembly for shut-ins  
11:00 a.m.—Delivery of easter baskets to shut-ins

### Sunday (4/2) Palm Sunday

#### City Mission Food Sunday

8:30 a.m.—Holy Communion  
9:45 a.m.—Fellowship Breakfast  
11:00 a.m.—Holy Communion  
4:00-6:00 p.m.—Family Easter Festival  
6:00 p.m.—Holy Communion

"Hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love" (Psalm 130:7). Welcome to worship, one and all!

#### Attendance for Last Week:

Contemporary Worship...81  
Sunday Worship...304 Sunday School...87  
8:30 Live Stream...38  
JTTW (morning)...58  
Lenten Services...141

## Prayer Requests

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

☐ Please keep this request Private (to be kept 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:

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Name:

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Children:

---

Address:

---

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

**Essi Efthimiou**  
Interim Organist

**Melissa Manzo**  
Children's Choir

**Erin McMinn** | Interim Preschool Head Teacher  
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