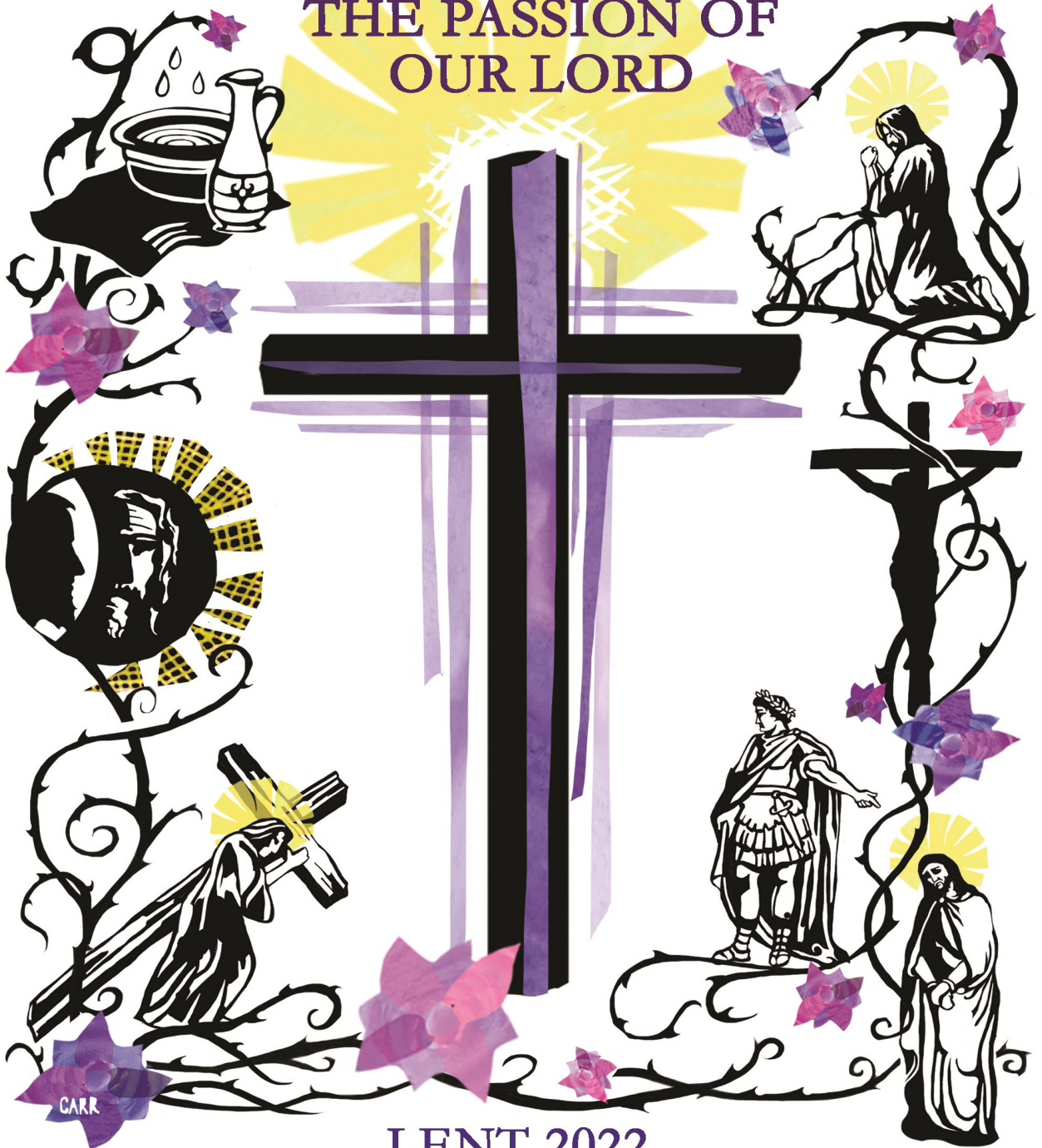


THE PASSION OF OUR LORD



LENT 2022

RUTHFRED LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

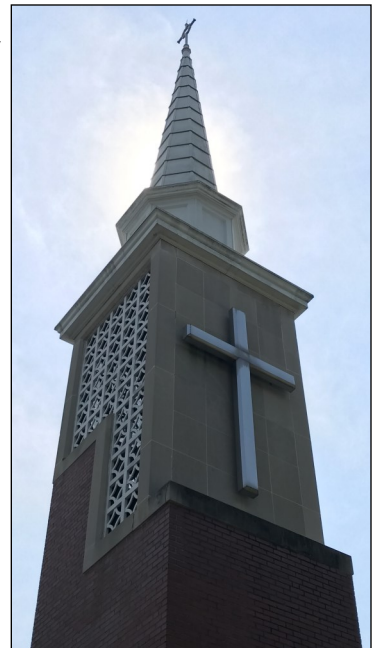
Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (www.aflc.org)

**We are delighted to have you with us today 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 on the back cover of this bulletin, and place it in the 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 *scherschnitte* 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 Wednesday in Lent, March 30, 2022

"Our Lord is Condemned to Death"

Prelude:

**"Chorale Prelude
on 'Ah, Holy
Jesus'"**

(Helmut Walcha)

The Opening Hymn:

**"Glory Be to
Jesus"**

(SBH76)

(Please stand as we
join our hearts in
song)

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*

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 Sin

Pastor (P): Let us continue by confessing our sin.

Together:

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy and ask You for Christ's sake, grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution:

The Introit (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: Plead my cause, O Lord, with them that strive with me.

C: Fight against them that fight against me. Take hold of shield and buckler.

P: And stand up for my help. Draw out also the spear, and stop the way against them that persecute me.

C: Say to my soul, I am your salvation.

(Psalm 35:1-3)

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 Reading of the Passion History V (Page 20)

"Jesus Condemned To Death"

The Holy Gospel Lessons: Matthew 27:15-32 (NASB)

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

¹⁵ Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the people any one prisoner whom they wanted. ¹⁶ At that time they were holding a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas. ¹⁷ So when the people gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?"

¹⁸ For he knew that because of envy they had handed Him over.

¹⁹ While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent him a message, saying, "Have nothing to do with that righteous Man; for last night I suffered greatly in a dream because of Him." ²⁰ But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to put Jesus to death. ²¹ But the governor said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." ²² Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Crucify Him!" ²³ And he said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they kept shouting all the more, saying, "Crucify Him!" ²⁴ When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing, but rather that a riot was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this Man's blood; see to that yourselves." ²⁵ And all the people said, "His blood shall be on us and on our children!" ²⁶ Then he released Barabbas for them; but after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over to be crucified. ²⁷ Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole Roman cohort around Him. ²⁸ They stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. ²⁹ And after twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand; and they knelt down before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰ They spat on Him, and took the reed and began to beat Him on the head. ³¹ After they had mocked Him, they took the scarlet robe off Him and put His own garments back on Him, and led Him away to crucify Him. ³² As they were coming out, they found a man of Cyrene named Simon, whom they pressed into service to bear His cross.

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

During different seasons of the year, we confess our faith using Luther's explanation of the 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed, which concerns the person and work of Jesus. In it we confess who Christ is, and what we believe about Him. This serves as a public witness of our faith, as well as personal and corporate affirmation of the salvation that is ours in Him.

The Confession of Faith: (Confessed in Unison)

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord: who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, bought me and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with silver and gold, but with His holy and precious blood, and with His innocent sufferings and death, in order that I might be His own, live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness; even as He is risen from the dead, and lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

The Special Music

2:00 Tom & Peggy Glasser/April Blackston/John Morden—*"Lonesome Valley"* (arr. Tyler Mabry)

7:30 Senior Choir—*"What Wondrous Love Is This"* (arr. Hayes)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the heavy cross for my soul!

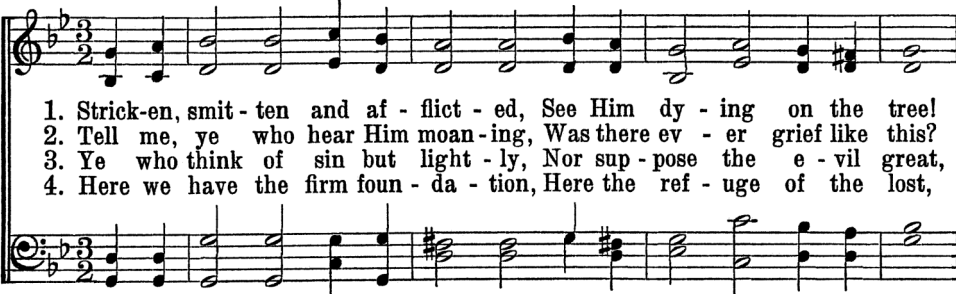
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb who is the great "I Am,"
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on!

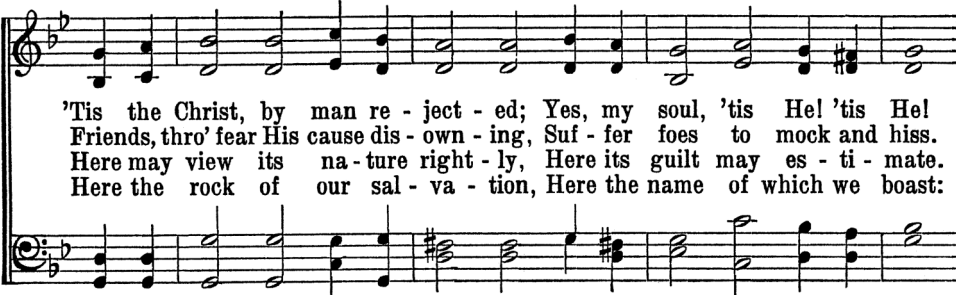
The Announcements

The Sermon Hymn:

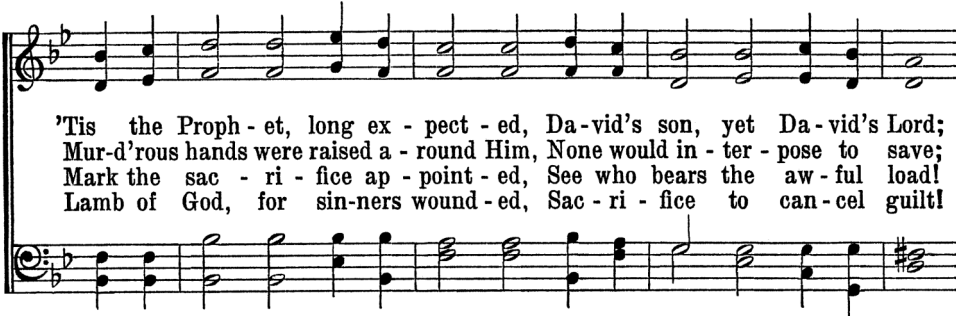
"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" (LCMS)



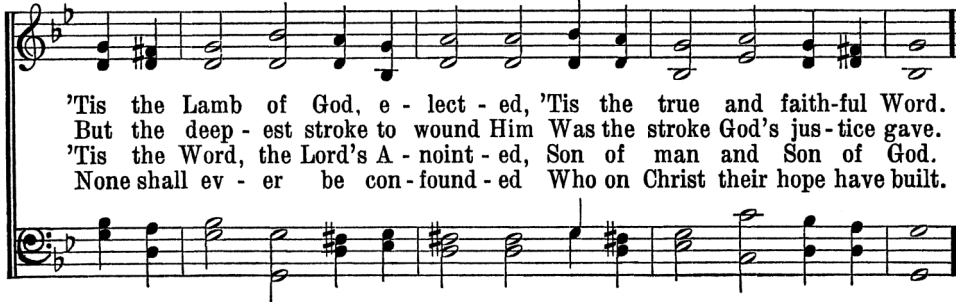
1. Strick-en, smit - ten and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the tree!
2. Tell me, ye who hear Him moan - ing, Was there ev - er grief like this?
3. Ye who think of sin but light - ly, Nor sup - pose the e - vil great,
4. Here we have the firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the lost,



'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my soul, 'tis He! 'tis He!
Friends, thro' fear His cause dis - own - ing, Suf - fer foes to mock and hiss.
Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its guilt may es - ti - mate.
Here the rock of our sal - va - tion, Here the name of which we boast:



'Tis the Proph - et, long ex - spect - ed, Da - vid's son, yet Da - vid's Lord;
Mur - d'rous hands were raised a - round Him, None would in - ter - pose to save;
Mark the sac - ri - fice ap - point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load!
Lamb of God, for sin - ners wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt!



'Tis the Lamb of God, e - lect - ed, 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
But the deep - est stroke to wound Him Was the stroke God's jus - tice gave.
'Tis the Word, the Lord's A - noint - ed, Son of man and Son of God.
None shall ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Christ their hope have built.

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:

"Our Lord is Condemned to Death" | Matthew 27:15-32

1. The setting: The Feast of Passover.
2. The son of the father or the Son of the Father?
3. The wishing or washing of water?
4. The scourging whip.
5. The clothing of the robe.
6. The pain and promise of the crown.
7. The use of the staff.
8. The choice in our hands.

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:

"And Can It Be That I Should Gain"

(AMB404)

The Silent Prayer & Chimes

The Postlude:



1 And can it be that I should gain An in-t'rest in the
2 He left His Fa-ther's throne a-bove, So free, so in-fi-
3 No con-dem-na-tion now I dread, I am my Lord's and

Sav-ior's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who
nite His grace! Emp-tied Him-self of all but love, And bled for
He is mine; A-live in Him, my liv-ing Head, And clothed in

Refrain

Him to death pur-sued?
Ad-am's help-less race. A-maz-ing love! How can it be
right-eous-ness di-vine.

That Thou, my God shouldst die for me? A-maz-ing love!
(A-maz-ing love!)

How can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
(How can it be) (That Thou, my God,)

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
Tune: Thomas Campbell, 1777-1844

SAGINA
LM w/refrain

We welcome you to our service. This is a time of deep reflection and commitment. Let us make every effort to attend all Lenten services and spend time in fellowship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus. Christ.



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:

Name:

Children:

Address:

Phone (indicate home, cell, etc.)

Email:

I am a/an:

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

I would like to learn more about:

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

Ruthfred Staff

Rev. Steven P. Carlson | Senior Pastor
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 229)
PastorCarlson@ruthfred.org

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

Sally Ondrejko | Office Manager
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 222)
SallyOndrejko@ruthfred.org

John Morden | Accounting Manager
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 224)
JohnMorden@ruthfred.org

Regan Johnson | Director of Youth Ministry
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 240)
ReganJohnson@ruthfred.org

Brian Lyskava | Custodian

Andrew Vogel | Multi-Media Coordinator
(412) 568-3215
AndrewVogel@ruthfred.org

A. J. Dolence | Social Media & Live Stream Assistant
AJDolence@ruthfred.org

Robert Vogel
Senior & Bell Choirs

Frederick Schell
Organist

Melissa Manzo
Children's Choir

Denise Stutzman | Preschool Head Teacher
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 234)
DeniseStutzman@ruthfred.org

Lauren Compel & Denise Stutzman
Kid's Time Leaders

Ruthfred Lutheran Church

3401 South Park Road
Bethel Park, Pennsylvania 15102
Phone: (412) 835-7140
Email: ruthfred@ruthfred.org
www.ruthfred.org