

Hallelujah



RUTHFRED LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

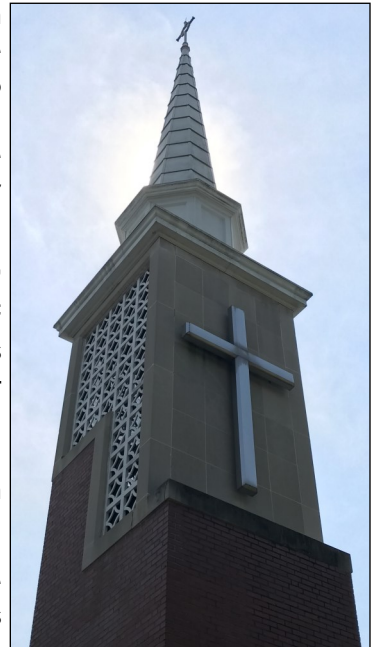
Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (www.aflc.org)

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 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

First Sunday after Easter, April 16, 2023

Prelude:

"This Joyful Eastertide"

(arr. Wood)

"O Sons and Daughters"

(arr. Dandriue)

"Christ Is Alive"

(arr. Kerr)

The Opening Hymn:

"Alleluia! Jesus Lives!"

(SBH #100)

(Please stand as we join our hearts in song)

EASTER GLORY (FRED TIL BOD). 7 7, 7 7, 7 7.

Triumphantly

LUDVIG MATTHIAS LINDEMAN, 1812-87

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus lives! Won the bat - tle glo - ri - ous!

From the gloom-y vault of death He hath come vic - to - ri - ous,

Lead-ing to their heav-en-ly home Count-less mul - ti - tudes to come. A-men.

2 Alleluia! O my soul,
Life eternal waits for thee;
Saved by him, the Living One,
Where he is, thou too shalt be,
Safe within the promised land,
With the Lord at God's right hand.

3 Alleluia! heavenly choirs
Joyfully their voices raise!
Let us mortals here below
Blend with theirs our songs of praise.
Glory to the eternal Son!
Glory to the Risen One! Amen.

Carl B. Garve, 1763-1841
Tr. Lawrence N. Field, 1896-

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. 15)

Pastor (P): Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord

Congregation (C): Who made heaven and earth. (Psalm 124:8)

P: I said, "I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: And 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: Christ is Risen.

C: He is Risen indeed and is coming again.

P: As newborn babes, alleluia:

C: Desire the sincere milk of the Word, alleluia. Hear, O my people, and I will testify to You:

P: O Israel, if You will hearken to me. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

C: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: Sing aloud to God our strength:

C: Make a joyful noise to the God of Jacob.

(1 Pet. 2:2; Ps. 50:7, 81:6)

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 Kyrie (Sung in Unison; SBH p. 18)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace that is from above, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the churches of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for them that in faith, piety, and fear of God offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, pity and defend us, O God, by thy grace.

C: Amen.

The Hymn of Praise:

"Wonderful Words of Life" (AMB #514)

1 Sing them o - ver a - gain to me—
 2 Christ, the bless - ed One, gives to all Won - der - ful words of Life;
 3 Sweet - ly ech - o the gos - pel call—

Let me more of their beau - ty see—
 Sin - ner, list to the lov - ing call— Won - der - ful words of Life.
 Of - fer par - don and peace to all—

Words of life and beau - ty, Teach me faith and du - ty:
 All so free - ly giv - en, Woo - ing us to heav - en:
 Je - sus, on - ly Sav - ior, Sanc - ti - fy for - ev - er:

Refrain
 Beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words, Won - der - ful words of Life;
 Beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words, Won - der - ful words of Life.

Text: Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876
 Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

WONDERFUL WORDS
 86 85 66 w/refrain

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

God’s chief means of extending His grace to His children is through His Word. Hearing it and learning it are central to His proper worship.

The Collect

P: The Lord be with you:

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Let us continue to pray: Grant, we beseech You, Almighty God, that we who have celebrated the solemnities of the Lord’s Resurrection may, by the help of Your grace, bring forth the fruits thereof in our life and conversation; through the same, Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

C: Amen

The First Lesson: Acts 5:29-42 (NASB)

²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰ The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross. ³¹ He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses of these things; and *so is* the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him.” ³³ But when they heard this, they were cut to the quick and intended to kill them. ³⁴ But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the Law, respected by all the people, stood up in the Council and gave orders to put the men outside for a short time. ³⁵ And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you propose to do with these men. ³⁶ For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a group of about four hundred men joined up with him. But he was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷ After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census and drew away *some* people after him; he too perished, and all those who followed him were scattered. ³⁸ So in the present case, I say to you, stay away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or action is of men, it will be overthrown; ³⁹ but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them; or else you may even be found fighting against God.” ⁴⁰ They took his advice; and after calling the apostles in, they flogged them and ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and *then* released them. ⁴¹ So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for *His* name. ⁴² And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

The Psalm: Psalm 148 (NASB)

P: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!

C: Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all stars of light!

P: Praise Him, highest heavens, and the waters that are above the heavens!

C: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for He commanded and they were created.

P: He has also established them forever and ever; He has made a decree which will not pass away.

C: Praise the LORD from the earth, sea monsters and all deeps;

P. Fire and hail, snow and clouds; stormy wind, fulfilling His word; Mountains and all hills; fruit trees and all cedars;

C. Beasts and all cattle; creeping things and winged fowl;

P: Kings of the earth and all peoples; princes and all judges of the earth;

C: Both young men and virgins; old men and children.

P. Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven.

C. And He has lifted up a horn for His people, praise for all His godly ones; *even* for the sons of Israel, a people near to Him. Praise the LORD!

The Epistle Lesson: 1 Peter 1:3-9 (NASB)

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials,. ⁷ so that the proof of your faith, *being* more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ⁸ and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

The "Gradual" (Latin for *step*) is a liturgical reading bridging the readings of the epistle and the Gospel. It is comprised of Scripture, mostly the Psalms.

The Gradual:

Alleluia, alleluia. The angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. Alleluia. After eight days Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst of His disciples and said to them, Peace be unto you. Alleluia. (Matthew 28:2; John 20:19)

The Alleluia (Sung in Unison)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

"Alleluia" is Hebrew for "Praise the Lord."

The Holy Gospel Lesson: John 20:19-31 (NASB)

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

¹⁹ So when it was evening on that day, the first *day* of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace *be* with you." ²⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace *be* with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, *their sins* have been forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they have been retained." ²⁴ But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." ²⁶ After eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace *be* with you." ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing." ²⁸ Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed *are* they who did not see, and *yet* believed." ³⁰ Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

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

The Apostles' Creed is a statement of Christian belief used since the early Church. It's not specific to any one Christian denomination, but used by the Church as a whole. We choose to confess it together as a unified reminder of what we believe to be true about God, and His caring service to us.

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

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

And In Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

The Anthems

8:30 Bell Choir—*"Easter Bells"* (arr. M. Ryan)

(All Creatures of Our God and King & Christ the Lord Is Risen Today)

11:00 Senior Choir—*"Easter Song"* (A. Herring/J. Wilson)

Hear the bells ringing, they're singing that we can be born again.

Hear the bells ringing, they're singing "Christ is risen from the dead!"

The angel up on the tombstone said, "He is risen just as He said."

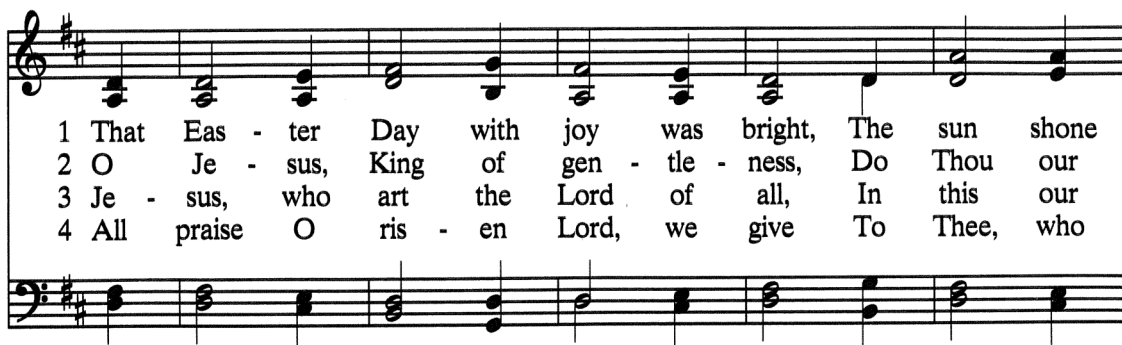
Quickly now, go tell His disciples that Jesus Christ is no longer dead!

Joy to the world, He is risen, Alleluia! Alleluia!

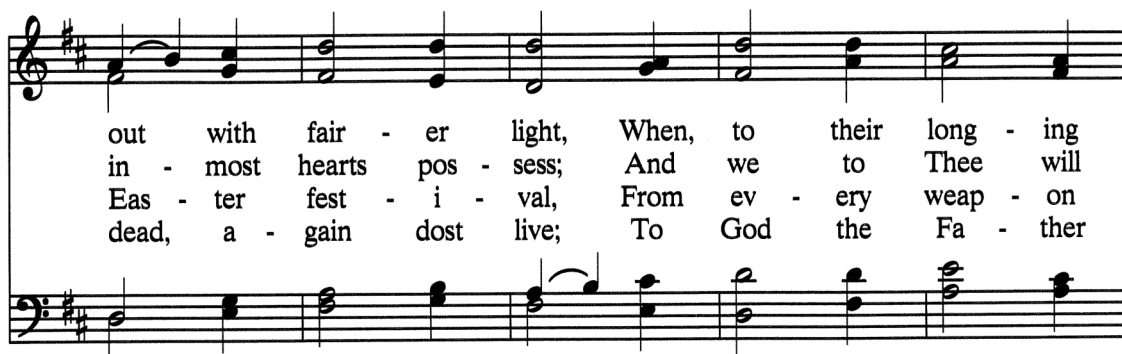
The Announcements

The Children's Object Lesson

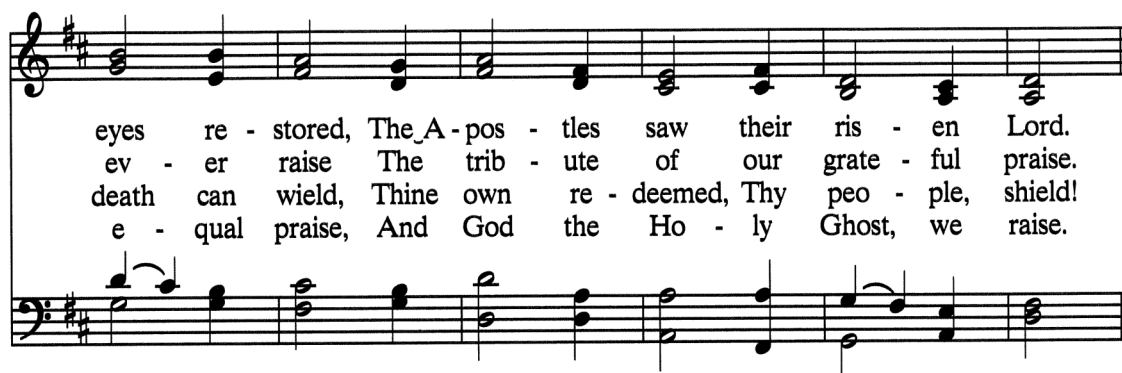
The Sermon Hymn: "That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright" (AMB #109)



1 That Eas - ter Day with joy was bright, The sun shone
 2 O Je - sus, King of gen - tle - ness, Do Thou our
 3 Je - sus, who art the Lord of all, In this our
 4 All praise O ris - en Lord, we give To Thee, who



out with fair - er light, When, to their long - ing
 in - most hearts pos - sess; And we to Thee will
 Eas - ter fest - i - val, From ev - ery weap - on
 dead, a - gain dost live; To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, The A - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.
 ev - er raise The trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
 death can wield, Thine own re - deemed, Thy peo - ple, shield!
 e - qual praise, And God the Ho - ly Ghost, we raise.

Text: Latin hymn, 4th or 5th c.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Tune: composed or adapted by Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621; harm. Martin Shaw, 1875–1958

PUER NOBIS
LM

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: "Blessed Are They Who Did Not See, and Yet Believed!" | John 20:19-31

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 (After which the congregation shall sing “Amen”)

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:

"How Firm a Foundation"

(AMB #262)

The Silent Prayer & Chimes

The Postlude:

"The Strife Is O'er"

(arr. Kerr)

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
3 "When thro' the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4 "When thro' fie - ry tri - als thy path - way shall lie,

Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent word!
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
The riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;

What more can He say than to you He hath said,
I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
For I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
The flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign

To you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
Up - held by My right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand."
And sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress."
Thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine."

Text: "K" in Rippon's Selection, 1787

Tune: early American melody; Funk's Genuine Church Music, 1832

FOUNDATION
11 11 11 11

Announcements

The altar flowers are presented by Dan and Dianne Groves in honor of Pastor McMinn and his family, the entire church staff, all church musicians, and all volunteers who support the beautiful Ruthfred services that glorify God. Thank you for all you do!

Nursery Today: 8:30 and Sunday School—TBD; 11:00—Claudia Patalong.

Known to be hospitalized: Joanne Salvetti—Magee Women's Hospital. Caryl Hansen—now at Paramount Senior Living, Room 328, 240 Cedar Hill Dr., McMurray, PA 15317. Please support them with your prayers and cards.

Prayers for Recovery and Healing: Fred Schell is at home—103 South Grandview Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15205. Linda Donolo (broken leg & hip replacement). Linda is currently in Florida, send cards to: 307 Reynolds Ct., Naples, FL 34112. Pat Lutz—recent surgery. Greg Saul—back surgery. Sylvia Fitzgerald—broken leg. Amy Taylor—upcoming rotator cuff surgery. Lundy Castro (Jen Carlson's father)—cancer. Jen Carlson—gall bladder surgery. Erna Jochum—Concordia Health Center Room 283. Sheran Allsop. Please keep them in your prayers, as well as all those in the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

Sincere Thanks: I am recovering well from my surgery and want to thank our caring, loving, faithful, and simply amazing church family for all the cards and beautiful messages! I never realized how wonderful it feels to have so many people care. I love my church and all of its members, and I am truly grateful! — *Linda Donolo*

Current Fund: Given by TJ and Jamie Christensen in memory of Rebecca Lindner.

Music Fund: Given by Susan Wright in memory of George Kopac (Lynn Vogel's father).

Pastor Andy Olson Visit: Today, we will have a special guest with us for worship and for the adult Sunday School class. Pastor Andy Olson will be visiting from Minnesota. Andy and his family recently served in Tanzania with Lutheran Bible Translators. He now has a ministry he founded to extend a translation of John 3:16 to unreached people groups anywhere in the world. Come and learn about Andy's passion for Jesus, which he is melding with internet technical expertise and networking. Andy is Pastor Kevin Olson's son and Pastor Nathan Olson's brother. Ruthfred has been supporting Andy via your Benevolence giving.

Staff News: A. J. Dolence completed his time as Live Stream & Social Media Assistant last Sunday. Please welcome John Sperandio to this role beginning today. Thank you, A. J. for a job well done! Welcome, John!

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, May 7, 2023, for approval at the May Council meeting. Please place applications in the Council Secretary mail slot in the Conference Room. Please contact the church office if you need a copy of the application.

GIFT Bible Study: Our April study will be at the Arelt's next Sunday at 6:30 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study: This group will meet next Sunday 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.

Open Church Council Position: The position of Secretary is currently open. The primary duty is to record minutes from the monthly meetings. If you have an interest in serving in this capacity, please contact Mark Riley, Council President, at markriley@ruthfred.org.

Announcements (cont'd)

Meals on Wheels Collection: Our neighbors at Meals on Wheels, located at Grace Lutheran Church in South Park, need bottled salad dressings. Donations will be accepted until June 4th. Their preferred purchase places are Aldi's or The Dollar Store. Please place these items in the appropriate bin outside the kitchen. They are grateful for any donation! If you have any questions, please contact Carol Ward. Thank you!

Preschool Registration is now open for the 2023-2024 school year. Register online at Ruthfred.org. Contact: 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.

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.

Ruthfred Reflections Newsletter: This new publication will be a weekly email. If you subscribed to Two on Tuesday, you should have received an issue in your inbox on Wednesday. If you did not receive a copy and would like to, please call or send an email to the church office to have your email address added. If you would like to be removed from the list, please call or email to let the church office know that. If you have items to be added to the newsletter, please send them either to Melissa Bostaph, Parish Assistant, or Sally Ondrejko, Office Manager. Contact information for both is on the back of this bulletin.

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 began last Tuesday, 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, or bring the boxes to the stage. If you have any questions, please contact Jason or Donna Weighley.

XYZers: The next meeting will be Friday, April 28th. The program will be presented by Susan Kimmel Wright, author and Ruthfred member. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the Library. Please join us for a wonderful lunch catered by Peggy Cox and a thought-provoking program! This will be the last meeting until September.

Bible Reading 2023: Please join us in reading through the entire Bible in 2023, starting on January 1, 2023. We will be using the YouVersion Bible app, which provides a reading guide for each day (including a daily Psalm), over 150 videos to engage readers throughout the year, and a talk-it-over feature. The daily reading schedule will also be available on the Ruthfred website, as well as being printed in each month's Herald. The theme for 2023 will be "One Story That Leads to JESUS." For questions, or to sign up, please email Don Roose at donroose@yahoo.com.

Adult Sunday School Class Today In Large Classroom

Pastor Andy Olson will be our special guest today. Please join us as we learn about Andy's passion for Jesus, which he is melding with internet technical expertise and networking.



YOUTH NEWS

SWAP (6-8 Grade)

There is a **SWAP** meeting tonight at Ruthfred, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

TNT (9-12 Grade)

TNT will meet at Ruthfred on April 18th, 7-9 p.m.

Questions/concerns?

Contact: Any member of the Youth Committee



Thank You for the Easter Baskets...

Gladys Constant: Thank you to my church family for the wonderful Easter basket! Also, thank you to Kristin Cimarolli and her daughter, Alaina, for delivering the basket. They were very nice to talk to!

Carol Holt: Thank you for the blessing of receiving an Easter basket!

Marian Meyer: Thank you so much for the lovely Easter basket! I especially like the handmade Easter card!



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

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Organist

Essi Efthimiou
Interim Organist

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