



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

The First Sunday in Lent, February 26, 2023

Prelude:

"Pastorale" (V.
Rathgeber);

**"Voluntary and
Variations"** (G.
Guest)

The Opening

**Hymn: "And Can It
Be?"** (AMB #404)

(Please stand as we
join our hearts in
song)



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

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: 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.

The Introit (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: He shall call on Me, and I will answer him.

C: I will deliver him and honor him.

P: With long life will I satisfy him and show him My salvation.

C: He that dwells in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

(Psalm 91:1, 15, 16)

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.**

"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 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:

"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.

The Hymn of Praise: "Gloria" (SBH p. 49-51) (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: O Lord, mercifully hear our prayer, and stretch forth the right hand of Your Majesty to defend us from them that rise up against us; 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: Genesis 3:1-21 (NASB)

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?'" ² The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; ³ but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'" ⁴ The serpent said to the woman, "You surely will not die! ⁵ For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make *one* wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.

⁸ They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ Then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?"

¹⁰ He said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself." ¹¹ And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹² The man said, "The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate."

¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, cursed are you more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; on your belly you will go, and dust you will eat all the days of your life; ¹⁵ And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise you on the head, and you shall Bruise him on the heel." ¹⁶ To the woman He said, "I will greatly multiply your pain in childbirth, in pain you will bring forth

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The Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 3:1-21 (NASB) (cont'd)

children; yet your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

¹⁷ Then to Adam He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it';

Cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. ¹⁸ "Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; and you will eat the plants of the field; ¹⁹ By the sweat of your face you will eat bread, till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

²⁰ Now the man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all the living. ²¹ The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.

The Psalm: Psalms 32:1-7 (NASB, Read Responsively)

P: How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered!

C: How blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit!

P: When I kept silent *about my sin*, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my vitality was drained away *as* with the fever heat of summer. *Selah*.

C: I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"; and You forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah*.

P: Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found; surely in a flood of great waters they will not reach him.

C: You are my hiding place; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with songs of deliverance. *Selah*.

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 5:12-21 (NASB)

¹² Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned— ¹³ for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. ¹⁴ Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. ¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace

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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 Epistle Lesson: Romans 5:12-21 (NASB) (cont'd)

of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many. ¹⁶ The gift is not like *that which came* through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment *arose* from one *transgression* resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift arose from many transgressions resulting in justification. ¹⁷ For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men. ¹⁹ For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous. ²⁰ The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, ²¹ so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Gradual

For His shall give His angels charge over you to keep you in all your ways. They shall bear you up in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone. He that dwells in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. (Psalm 91:1, 11, 12)

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: Matthew 4:1-11 (NASB)

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

¹ Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry. ³ And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." ⁴ But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'" ⁵ Then the devil took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written,

'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU';

and

'ON *THEIR* HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'"

The Holy Gospel Lesson: Matthew 4:1-11 (NASB) (cont'd)

⁷ Jesus said to him, "On the other hand, it is written, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.'"

⁸ Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; ⁹ and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'" ¹¹ Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and *began* to minister to 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 Anthems

8:30 Senior Choir—*Here I Am Lord* (D. Schutte)

Andrew Vogel & Isaiah Manzo, cellists

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save.

I Who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

I have heard You calling in the night.

I will go Lord, if You lead me.

I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.

I have wept for love of them. They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.

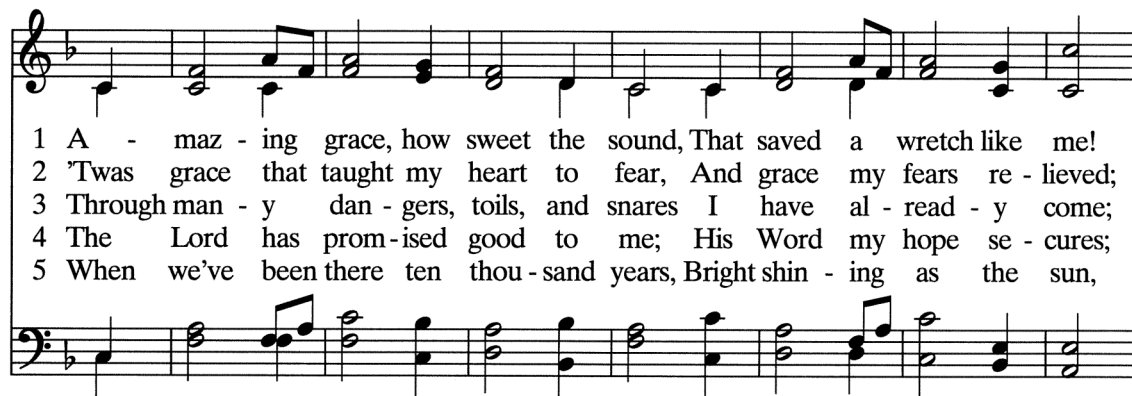
I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?

11:00 Children's Choir—I *Sing the Mighty Power of God* (I. Watts)

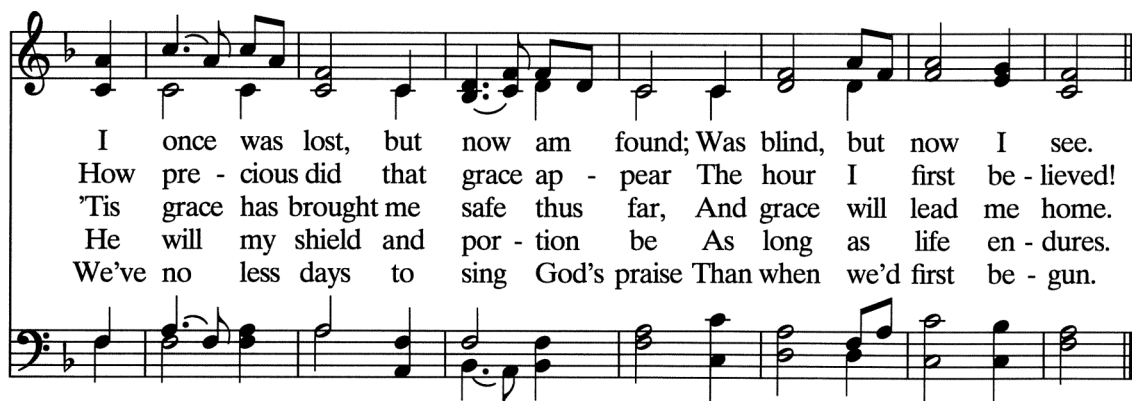
The Announcements

The Children's Object Lesson

The Sermon Hymn: "Amazing Grace" (AMB #578)



1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re - lieved;
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I have al - read - y come;
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; His Word my hope se - cures;
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright shin - ing as the sun,



I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.
How pre - cious did that grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
He will my shield and por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807

Tune: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

NEW BRITAIN
CM

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:

"Grace Reigns! : the man and the mess vs. The MAN and the Mission" | Romans 5:12-21

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:

"All Hail the Power Of Jesus' Name!"

(SBH #426, 2nd tune)

The Silent Prayer & Chimes

The Postlude:

"Chaconne"

(W. Held)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Announcements

The altar flowers are presented by Bev Rowan in thanksgiving for God's mercy and blessings.

The chancel rail flowers are presented by Edda and Mark Sheatsley in loving memory of her mother. We love you, and we miss you! Thanks be to God for my mother!

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

Prayers for Recovery and Healing: Becky Lindner and Dan Gill. Also, please keep in your prayers all those in the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

Known to be hospitalized: Fred Schell—Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Sewickley. Fred's home address is: 103 South Grandview Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15205. Joanne Salvetti—Magee Women's Hospital. Lundy Castro—Shadyside Hospital. Please support them with your prayers and cards.

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.

Family Easter Festival Informational and Volunteer Recruitment Meeting: Please join us TODAY, February 26th, during the Sunday School hour in the Fireside Lounge if you can help. This fun fellowship event for young families will be held on Sunday, April 2, from 4-6 p.m. and MANY helpers are needed. It's been said the volunteers have just as much fun as the kids! To see how you can serve, please attend the meeting or contact Barb Harrold, brharrold@comcast.net.

A New Member Class continues. Meetings are in the Conference Room during Sunday School.

Young Adults: This group will meet today, February 26th, 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.

Journey Through the Word: Morning JTTW began a new study in January—Nancy Guthrie's The Promised One (Jesus in Genesis). Contact Sue Swan if you would like information about this study: 412-708-3535 or writingcygnet@gmail.com. The evening group has concluded for this school year. They will resume next fall on Wednesday, October 11th. Mark your calendars!

Lenten Soup and Salad Suppers: Please join us for soup and salad suppers on Wednesday evenings from 6—7 p.m. starting Ash Wednesday. An evening service will follow at 7:30 p.m. 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!

Flower Chart: There are a few open Sundays for altar flowers for 2023, including April 30 and May 14. Please sign up if you are able. These flowers add beauty to our worship each week and then bless others following worship. Thank you for your generosity!

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.

Announcements (cont'd)

Coffee Hour: The months of March and April are calling for volunteers to set up the coffee and doughnuts during the Sunday School hour. Please sign up if you are able.

Stained Glass Window Panel Book: Part of the beauty of the Ruthfred sanctuary is the stained glass window panels. Each panel is unique and designed by artist Jane Buckley based on requests from church members who wish to honor or memorialize loved ones. Have you ever wondered about the history behind a panel? Thanks to the work of Bob Reith (who compiled a list years ago) and Debbie Skundrich, Elaine Widich, Jane Buckley, and Felicia Rieck (who more recently worked on the project), there is a complete identification guide, with photos, available. Two copies are available for your perusal—in the Church Library and in the Chapel. Thank you to all who helped to compile this resource!

City Mission Food Collection: Please remember that next Sunday is our monthly food collection for the City Mission. As you think about partaking in the Fellowship Breakfast next Sunday, consider bringing a non-perishable food item to share with those who are food insecure.

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.

Special Concert: Please join us on Tuesday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the adult Sunday School classroom for a concert by the vocal quintet CONVIVIUM. The group, formed in the fall of 2022, comprises five singers who met at Wheaton College, a Christian college in Illinois. The ensemble takes its name from the Latin word for "feast" or "banquet." Their repertoire spans a wide range, including Renaissance polyphony, jazz standards, contemporary choral works, and hymnody.

Lutherans for Life Quote: "Christians are to love their neighbors, including the unborn ... (*Proverbs 24:11, 29:8-9*) ... This means we can and ought to pray for the unborn, for women who have the choice of preserving or ending the life of their unborn child, for women who have had abortions and who need forgiveness in Christ—freely given through faith, for abortion doctors who are directly responsible for killing these children, and for our governing officials." — *Pastor David Thompson, St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Lombard, IL.*





Please plan on joining us

Sunday, MARCH 5

for our next

Fellowship Breakfast

During the Sunday School Hour

9:40a.m. – 10:45a.m.

in the Fellowship Hall

Adult Sunday School Class in Large Classroom*

Pastor Carlson concludes his series on the book of I Thessalonians for the Adult Sunday School Class. The little book of I Thessalonians is perhaps the earliest canonical writing of St. Paul. It's focus is **"The Life of the Christian Congregation."** It is a gem of a book, filled with "an unmingled sweetness" of Christian love. In it we will be learning about sharing our faith, serving one another, living godly lives, understanding the end times, and how to live out the Gospel in the community of the congregation. You are invited!!! It will be wonderful to study and discuss this book together.

***Audio recordings of the class are available on the Ruthfred website**



YOUTH NEWS

SWAP (6-8 Grade)

There is no **SWAP** meeting tonight.

Save the date:

Friday, March 17: Parents' Night Out Dinner. Youth in Grades 6-12 will help prepare and serve a delicious meal for their parents!

TNT (9-12 Grade)

TNT will meet at Ruthfred on February 28th, 7-9 p.m.

Save the date:

March 24-26: Seneca Hills Retreat for Grades 9-12.

Questions/concerns?

Contact: Any member of the Youth Committee

This Week At Ruthfred

Today (2/26) 1st SUNDAY IN LENT

8:30 a.m.— Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School; New Member Class;

Family Easter Festival volunteer meeting

11:00 a.m.—Worship Service

6:30 p.m.—GIFT Bible Study (Arelts' House)

6:30 p.m.—Young Adult Bible Study (A.&C. Vogels')

Monday (2/27)

9:30 a.m.—JTTW Leaders' Meeting

Happy 91st Birthday, Kenneth Ebell

Tuesday (2/28)

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

Wednesday (3/1)

9:15 a.m.—JTTW

2:00 p.m.—Lenten Service

5:45 p.m.—Children's Choir

6:00-7:00 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

Thursday (3/2)

Happy 93rd Birthday, Sue Kovac

Friday (3/3)

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

Sunday (3/5) 2nd SUNDAY IN LENT

8:30 a.m.—Communion Service

9:45 a.m.—Fellowship Breakfast

1 1:00 a.m.—Communion Service

6:00 p.m.—Communion Service

CITY MISSION FOOD SUNDAY

Prayer Requests

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

[illegible]

Welcome to worship on the first Sunday in Lent. A warm welcome to visitors joining us today!

Attendance for Last Week:

Saturday Worship...53


Sunday Worship...210 Sunday School...85

8:30 Live Stream...53

JTTW (morning)...50 JTTW online...3

Ash Wednesday...293

☐ Please keep this request Private (to be kept amongst the pastors only).

 Please make this request known to the Ruthfred prayer team and announce it to the congregation when appropriate.

Visiting with us?

Please use this tear-off section to help us get to know a little bit about you and how we may best serve you.

If you have a specific concern or prayer request, please use the space on the other side of this fold.

Date:

Name:

Children:

Address:

Phone (indicate home, cell, etc.):

Email:

I am a/an:

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

I would like to learn more about:

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

Ruthfred Staff

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Frederick Schell
Organist

Essi Efthimiou
Interim Organist

Melissa Manzo
Children's Choir

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