

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 at the back of the sanctuary.

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 Kathryn Carr. The artwork will reflect liturgical and Ruthfred-specific themes that occur throughout the year.

The Divine Service of the Word

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, June 25, 2023

Prelude:

"Prelude"

(G. Pergolesi)

"Partita"

(B. Pasquini)

"Pastorale"

(L. Bottazzo)

The Opening Hymn:

"Guide Me, O Great Jehovah"

(SBH #520, 1st tune)

(Please stand as we
join our hearts in
song)

1. Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, Pil - grim through this
2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y, Hold me with thy
stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloud-y pil - lar Lead me all my

power - ful hand; Bread of heav - en, Bread of heav - en, Feed me
jour - ney through; Strong de - liv - erer, Strong de - liv - erer, Be thou

till I want no more, Feed me till I want no more.
still my strength and shield, Be thou still my strength and shield. A-men.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises
I will ever give to thee. Amen.

*William Williams, 1717-91
Tr. from the Welsh by the author
and Peter Williams, 1722-96*

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.

"Kyrie" is from the Greek word 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: You turn unto me and have mercy upon me.

C: For I am desolate and afflicted. Look upon my affliction and my pain.

P: And forgive all my sins. Unto You, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

C: O my God, I trust in You, let me not be ashamed.

(Psalm 25:1-2, 16-18)

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.

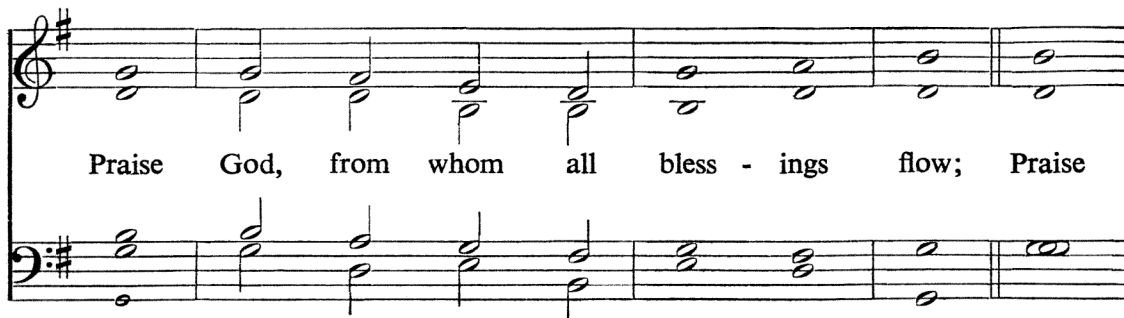
P: Christ, have mercy upon us.

C: Christ, have mercy upon us.

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

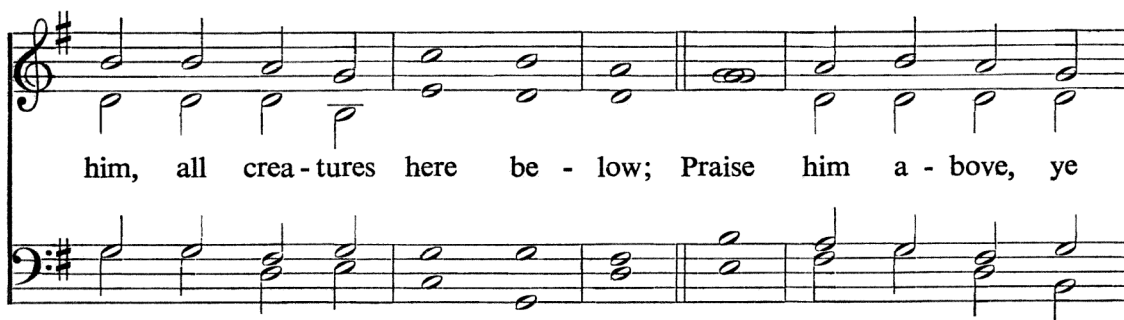
C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Hymn of Praise: "The Doxology" (SBH #602)



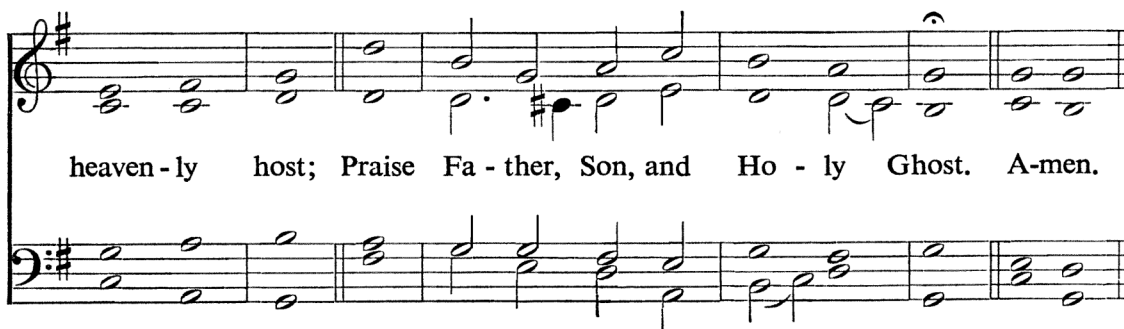
Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise

The first system of musical notation for the hymn. It consists of a treble and a bass staff, both in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the staves.



him, all crea - tures here be - low; Praise him a - bove, ye

The second system of musical notation. It continues the melody and bass line from the first system. The lyrics are written below the staves.



heaven - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A-men.

The third system of musical notation, concluding the hymn. It features a final cadence in the treble staff and a sustained bass line. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

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: O God, the protector of all that trust in You, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, increase and multiply upon us Your mercy; that, with You being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal; 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: Jeremiah 20:7-13 (NASB)

⁷ O LORD, You have deceived me and I was deceived; You have overcome me and prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; Everyone mocks me. ⁸ For each time I speak, I cry aloud; I proclaim violence and destruction, because for me the word of the LORD has resulted in reproach and derision all day long. ⁹ But if I say, "I will not remember Him or speak anymore in His name," then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire shut up in my bones; and I am weary of holding *it* in, and I cannot endure *it*. ¹⁰ For I have heard the whispering of many, "Terror on every side! Denounce *him*; yes, let us denounce him!" All my trusted friends, watching for my fall, say: "Perhaps he will be deceived, so that we may prevail against him and take our revenge on him." ¹¹ But the LORD is with me like a dread champion; therefore my persecutors will stumble and not prevail. They will be utterly ashamed, because they have failed, with an everlasting disgrace that will not be forgotten. ¹² Yet, O LORD of hosts, You who test the righteous, Who see the mind and the heart; let me see Your vengeance on them; for to You I have set forth my cause. ¹³ Sing to the LORD, praise the LORD! For He has delivered the soul of the needy one from the hand of evildoers.

The Psalm: Psalm 91:1-10 (NASB)

P: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

C: I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, My God, in whom I trust!"

P: For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper and from the deadly pestilence.

C: He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings you may seek refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark.

P: You will not be afraid of the terror by night, or of the arrow that flies by day;

C: Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or of the destruction that lays waste at noon.

The Psalm: Psalm 91:1-10 (NASB)

P: A thousand may fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, *but* it shall not approach you.

C: You will only look on with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.

P: For you have made the LORD, my refuge, *even* the Most High, your dwelling place.

C: No evil will befall you, nor will any plague come near your tent.

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 6:12-23 (NASB)

¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, ¹³ and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin *as* instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God. ¹⁴ For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace. ¹⁵ What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? May it never be! ¹⁶ Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone *as* slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, ¹⁸ and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in *further* lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification. ²⁰ For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ Therefore what benefit were you then deriving from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the outcome of those things is death. ²² But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Gradual

Cast your burden upon the Lord and He shall sustain you. I will call upon God; and the Lord shall save me. He has delivered my soul in peace. Alleluia, alleluia. I will love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer. Alleluia.

(Psalm 55:16, 18, 22; 18:1-2)

The Alleluia (Sung in Unison)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

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

The Holy Gospel Lesson: Matthew 10:5a, 21-33 (NASB)

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

^{5a} These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them:

²¹ “Brother will betray brother to death, and a father *his* child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. ²² You will be hated by all because of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved. ²³ But whenever they persecute you in one city, flee to the next; for truly I say to you, you will not finish *going through* the cities of Israel until the Son of Man comes.”

²⁴ “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master. ²⁵ It is enough for the disciple that he become like his teacher, and the slave like his master. If they have called the head of the house Beelzebul, how much more *will they malign* the members of his household!”

²⁶ “Therefore do not fear them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear *whispered* in *your* ear, proclaim upon the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And *yet* not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So do not fear; you are more valuable than many sparrows.”

³² “Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. ³³ But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.”

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 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 Special Music

8:30 & 11:00 Sue Swan—*For Such a Time As This* (Wayne Watson)

Now, all I have is now to be faithful,
To be holy and to shine, lighting up the darkness.
Now, I really have no choice but to voice the truth to the nations,
A generation looking for God.

For such a time as this I was placed upon the earth,
To hear the voice of God and do His will, whatever it is.
For such a time as this, for now and all the days He gives,
I am here, I am here, and I am His for such a time as this.

You, do you ever wonder why,
Seems like the grass is always greener under everybody else's sky?
But right here, right here for this time and place,
You can live a mirror of His mercy, a forgiven image of grace.

For such a time as this I was placed upon the earth,
To hear the voice of God and do His will, whatever it is.
For such a time as this, for now and all the days He gives,
I am here, I am here, and I am His for such a time as this.

Can't change what's happened 'til now,
But we can change what will be
By living in holiness,
That the world will see Jesus.

For such a time as this I was placed upon the earth,
To hear the voice of God and do His will, whatever it is.
For such a time as this, for now and all the days He gives,
I am here, I am here, and I am His for such a time as this.


The Announcements (Please be seated)

The Children's Object Lesson


The Sermon Hymn: "Rise, Ye Children of Salvation" (SBH #556)

NEANDER (UNSER HERRSCHER). 8 7, 8 7, 7 7. JOACHIM NEANDER, 1650–1680


With dignity



1. Rise, ye chil - dren of sal - va - tion, All who cleave to Christ the Head;
 2. Saints and mar - tyrs long be - fore us Firm - ly on this ground have stood;
 3. Fight - ing, we shall be vic - to - rious By the Blood of Christ our Lord;



Wake, a - wake, O might - y na - tion, Ere the foe on Zi - on tread;
 See their ban - ner wav - ing o'er us, Con - querors through the Sav - iour's Blood.
 On our fore - heads, bright and glo - rious, Shines the wit - ness of his word;



He draws nigh, and would de - fy All the hosts of God most high.
 Ground we hold, where - on of old Fought the faith - ful and the bold.
 Spear and shield on bat - tle - field, His great Name; we can - not yield.

4 When his servants stand before him
 Each receiving his reward,
 When his saints in light adore him,
 Giving glory to the Lord;
 'Victory!' our song shall be
 Like the thunder of the sea.

Justus Falckner, 1672–1723
Tr. Emma Frances Bevan, 1827–1909

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: "Be Persuaded to Be Laughed At" | Jeremiah 20:7-13

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 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:

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

(SBH #379, 2nd tune)

The Silent Prayer & Chimes

The Postlude:

"Toccatina"

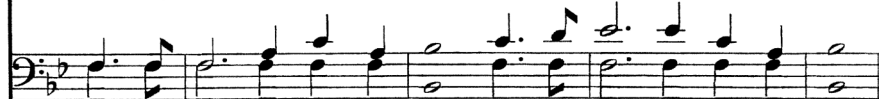
(G. Lardelli)



1. Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in thee;
2. Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From thy riv - en side which flowed,
Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for ev - er flow,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure, Cleanse me from its guilt and power.
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and thou a - lone. A-men.



3 Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to thy Cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress;
Helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Saviour, or I die.

4 While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee. Amen.

Augustus Montague Toplady, 1740-78

Announcements

The altar flowers are presented by the Swan, Baird, Pacich, and Reith families in honor of their parents and grandparents, Gladys and Bob Reith, on their 70th wedding anniversary June 27. We are so grateful for their faithful example of Christian marriage and for teaching us how to follow Jesus.

Special thanks to Eric Wentz and Tom Sanders. They are reading Scripture today at the 8:30 and 11:00 services, respectively. Thank you for your assistance!

Nursery Today: 8:30—Donna Weighley; 11:00—Claudia Patalong.

Known to be hospitalized: Karl Munn—West Penn Hospital for testing. Bob Boyd—St. Clair Hospital for testing. Please support them with prayers and cards.

Prayers for Recovery and Healing: Dee Coldsmith—back surgery last Thursday. Joanne Salvetti is home but struggling with some blood pressure issues. Susan Boehme—ankle surgery. Gene Hershberger—treatment for lung cancer. Amy Jones (Al Malone's daughter)—broken pelvis. Her address is 1216 Valley St., McKees Rocks, PA 15136. Abby Stutzman—autoimmune disorders. Virginia DiSalvo is at a rehab facility for PT, but she has developed a blood clot which is requiring bed rest. Please keep them in your prayers, as well as all those members of the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

On Hospice Care: John Coldsmith, Cliff Morton, and Claudia Goldsmith. Please support them with your prayers and cards.

Welcome Today! We are so blessed to have everyone, visitors and regular attendees alike, in worship today! Please take the time to greet one another in His Name!

Portals of Prayer: The new edition of Portals of Prayer (for July-September) is available. Both regular print and large print are on the shelves outside the Sanctuary doors.

Altar Flowers: There are still a few openings remaining on the flower chart for this year, the most immediate need being for July 23rd. Please note that if the altar flowers for a particular date are already taken, you also have the option of providing chancel rail flowers for that day at the same cost. Just call the office to let Sally or Felicia know. Thank you to all who help provide this beauty in our sanctuary!

Volunteer Guidelines: Please note that **all volunteers age 18 and older must have current clearances** in order to serve with children and youth at VBS, Sunday School, and youth events. Clearances are good for 5 years. Contact Felicia Rieck in the church office for more information.

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.

VBS 2023 Volunteers Needed: Please prayerfully consider being a **Crew Leader** volunteer for VBS. This is the most important position for VBS, as Crew Leaders guide the kids from class to class and help to ensure the success of VBS. No advanced training is needed—just a willingness to help children learn God's Word. You can sign up online at the registration link (<https://www.myvbs.org/RuthfredLutheran/>) or on the sheets on the interior window outside the Fellowship Hall entrance. We also need **snack and craft volunteers**. Please note that all volunteers age 18 and older must have current clearances. There will be a **volunteer meeting** on Sunday, July 9th, after the 11 a.m. service in the Fellowship Hall.

Announcements (cont'd)

VBS Decorating 2023: Thank you to all who helped with producing the decorations for VBS! We are finished with what needed to be done prior to set up, so the Tuesday sessions are done.

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 July 9th for approval at the July Council meeting. Application forms are available on the table at the bottom of the stairs near the Fellowship Hall or by calling the church office. Please place completed applications in the Council Secretary mail slot in the Conference Room.

Post-Secondary Graduates: It is that time of year when we want to recognize our graduates. Please let us know (via email to sallyondrejko@ruthfred.org) of any college or graduate school students who have graduated this Spring. Please include name of student, name of college, date of graduation, and degree. We will be highlighting these students in future bulletins.

2023-2024 Preschool Registration is now open online at ruthfred.org. Contact AnnieBuzon@ruthfred.org with any questions or to schedule a tour. Spaces are available.

For the summer months, the double oak doors leading to the back parking lot will be unlocked for scheduled events, but they will be locked at all other times for security purposes. Please use the South Park entrance (across from Ruthfred Market) when entering the church Monday through Saturday.

Attention All Summer Special Music Providers: Please let Sally or Essi know what you will be doing for the Special Music by Tuesday of each week. An email would be great—sallyondrejko@ruthfred.org OR emefthimiou@hotmail.com. If we don't hear from you, we will only be able to list your name in the bulletin under the Special Music.

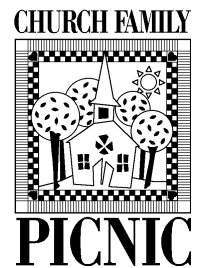
Employment Opportunity at Ruthfred:

Nursery Attendant: Do you have a heart for the youngest in our Church family? We have a need for nursery workers. Please contact Shane Cox if you can help.

New Member Class: Many people have expressed interest in joining Ruthfred lately, so we have scheduled a New Member class to begin today. If you have previously expressed interest in this class, you should have received a letter from Ruthfred with details. If you have not previously expressed interest, or if you did not receive a letter and are interested, please contact Melissa Bostaph (contact information on back of bulletin) to let her know. Current members are welcome as well!

Calling All Picnic Planners: We need YOU! Our annual Church Picnic has always been a wonderful way for us to enjoy food, fellowship, games, and entertainment on our beautiful church grounds. We'd like to keep the annual tradition going, but in order to make it happen, we need people with a heart for planning fun and engaging events. Our tentative date is Sunday, August 20th. This is truly an event where many hands make light work. If you'd like to participate in the planning, have questions, or have ideas and suggestions you'd like to share, please reach out to Felicia Rieck (FeliciaRieck@ruthfred.org) or Erin McMinn (ErinMcMinn@hotmail.com) as soon as possible.

City Mission Food Sunday July 2: Please bring your non-perishable food donations next Sunday and place them in the collection box in the Fellowship Hall.



Announcements (cont'd)

Prayer Chain Ministry: Are you aware that there is a Prayer Chain Ministry at Ruthfred? We have an email list of people to whom prayer requests are sent when they are received at the church and the requestor notes that they would like the request to be forwarded to this list of dedicated prayer warriors. We are updating the list, so all those who are on the list have received emails asking them to let Melissa Bostaph know if they wish to stay on the list. If you have not yet responded, please do so as soon as possible. If you have **not** been on the list and **would like** to be, please reach out to Melissa at MelissaBostaph@ruthfred.org.

Ruthfred 75th Anniversary Committee Request: Next April, Ruthfred will celebrate the 75th anniversary of its incorporation. Planning has begun for celebrating this milestone. If you would like to join the planning committee, please contact Becky Evans. In the meantime, please be thinking about your happiest memories of Ruthfred. If you are willing to share a memory or memories, there is a collection box on the table near the elevator on the lower level. Or, feel free to send an email to ruthfred@ruthfred.org. Thank you for blessing us with your memories!

Journey Through the Word Summer Film Festival: Many excellent Christian movies have been released through the years. A variety of old and new, fiction and documentary, will be shown for your viewing pleasure! See the complete list of movies and brief summaries in the May issue of *The Herald*. Come for one; come for all! No registration is necessary, and **all** are welcome! Movies are shown at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays (except July 26) through August 9. This week's movie will be "**The Jesus Revolution**." This true story of a national spiritual awakening in the early 1970s chronicles its origins within a community of teenage hippies in southern California. Jonathan Roumie and Kelsey Grammar star.



JOIN OUR TEAM!
RUTHFRED LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL

- Do you love teaching children?
- Do you love sharing the love of Jesus?
- Are you looking for a part time position where you can do both of those things?

**Great! We are Hiring for the
2023/2024 school year!**

Email your cover letter and your resume to
AnnieBuzon@ruthfred.org

Adult Sunday School Class Today In Large Classroom

Why is Ruthfred part of a national church body called the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (AFLC)? What's the AFLC, what's a congregation, and why does that matter to me? Pastor McMinn and others will guide the adult Sunday School class through a series called "*The Gospel in The Congregation*," written in part by Pastor James Molstre, a former pastor at Ruthfred. Join us for this series, which includes great videos and a short, helpful workbook. Don't assume you already understand the Biblical role of a congregation and your part in it. Come and see for yourself what it's all about. This Sunday we will start **Lesson 3—Organization of the congregation**.

~~~~~

## **Summer Sunday School for Kids**

Miss Bunny (Barger) and Miss Susan (Wholey) will continue their wonderful Sunday School class for 4- & 5-year-olds through the summer. Jason Weighley & Friends will offer a special Sunday School series for kids ages 6—5<sup>th</sup> grade featuring the Torchlighters' animated films about heroes of the Faith. Students in grade 6 and up will join Mason for youth Sunday School classes. If you can help with the nursery this summer, please contact Shane Cox.

## **YOUTH NEWS**

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

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

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

TNT will meet on Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at Caleb Cox's house (169 Terrace Dr., Monongahela, PA 15063), 7-9 p.m.

**Parent/Student Meeting for FLY Convention**: Students (and their parents) who will be attending the FLY Convention this summer, please join us **Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7 p.m.** in the Adult Sunday School classroom for a meeting.

~~~~~

Questions/concerns?

**Contact: Mason Mitchell at MasonMitchell@ruthfred.org, or
(c) (412)-926-8698**

This Week At Ruthfred

Today (6/25) 4th Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School & New Member Class
11:00 a.m.—Worship Service
6:30 p.m.—GIFT Bible Study @ Ruthfred

Monday (6/26)

Herald Deadline

Tuesday (6/27)

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

Wednesday (6/28)

10:00 a.m.—JTTW Summer Films (“The Jesus Revolution”)
3rd Anniversary of Pastor McMinn’s Installation

Thursday (6/29) St. Peter & St. Paul, Apostles

Friday (6/30)

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

Sunday (7/2) 5th Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 a.m.—Holy Communion
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School & New Member Class
11:00 a.m.—Holy Communion
6:00 p.m.—Holy Communion
City Mission Food Sunday

Welcome to worship and Christian Fellowship this summer morning! May we learn what Jesus truly means by calling us to “take up the cross and follow [him]” (Matthew 10:38).

Attendance for Last Week:

Saturday Contemporary Worship...44
Sunday Worship...209 Sunday School...41
Live Stream...47 JTTW...16

Prayer Requests

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

☐ Please keep this request private (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:

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

Melissa Bostaph | Parish Assistant
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 225)
MelissaBostaph@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

Mason Mitchell | Interim Director of Youth Ministry
(412) 926-8698
MasonMitchell@ruthfred.org

Felicia Rieck | Administrative Assistant
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 221)
FeliciaRieck@ruthfred.org

Brian Lyskava | Custodian

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

John Sperandio | Live Stream & Social Media Asst.
JohnSperandio@ruthfred.org

Robert Vogel
Senior & Bell Choirs

Essi Efthimiou
Interim Organist

Melissa Manzo
Children's Choir

Annie Buzon | Preschool Director
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 234)
AnnieBuzon@ruthfred.org

Ruthfred Lutheran Church

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