

Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

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

We are delighted to have you with us today as we gather to worship the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you are visiting today, we are glad you are here! Whether you are visiting from out of town, seeking a new church home, or for any other reason, thank you for choosing to worship with us. We would love to get in touch with you. Please fill out your contact information on the back cover of this bulletin, and place it in the offering basket.

About Us:

- ◆ Since her opening service on Christmas Eve in 1948 and her charter the following year, Ruthfred Lutheran Church has been a congregation rooted in the conviction that the Bible is inspired by God, living and active, capable to produce faith in its hearers, and true and faithful in all its parts. As such, our preaching and teaching aim to be faithful to its correct interpretation and is central to our worship of God.
- ◆Our Divine Service, called the "Common Service," possesses a rich history that stems from the early days of the Lutheran Reformation. It is centered upon God's Word, and proclaims the realities of God's abundant grace in Jesus Christ from its start to its close. If this is a new form of worship for you, this bulletin will serve as a welcome companion. The order of service begins on page 3.
- ◆The Divine Service begins as our organist begins the Prelude. When the music starts, please quiet your hearts as you prayerfully prepare for worship.



Our cover is a paper cut, or 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

Good Friday, April 15, 2022 Tenebrae Service 7:30 p.m.

Prelude:

"O Sacred Head Now Wounded" (Charles Callahan)

"Love Unknown" (Charles Callahan)

The Opening Hymn:

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (SBH 88, 2nd tune)

(Please stand as we join our hearts in song)



We confess our sins at the beginning of each service, because we are coming into the presence of a holy God. Though we are sinners who daily struggle with sin, we are invited to come to Him to receive the forgiveness of sin earned for us by Jesus. Through this forgiveness, we are given a right standing before a holy God.

Because sin is both corporate and personal, we confess our sins together, and privately in the silence of our hearts.

The Absolution is based upon God's instruction in Luke 24:47 that repentance and the forgiveness of sins should be widely proclaimed in the name of Jesus. (See also 1 John. 1:9).

The Call to Worship and Invocation

Pastor (P): We open this service in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation (C): Amen

The Confession of Sin

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

Together:

O almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities, whereby I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment; but I am heartily sorry for them all and repent of them truly, and I beseech Thee through Thine infinite mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter suffering and death of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinner. Amen.

The Absolution:

The Introit (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.

C: He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities. All we like sheep have gone astray.

P: And the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all. Hear my prayer, O Lord.

C: And let my cry come unto Thee. (Isaiah 53:4-6; Psalm 102:1)

The Scripture Lessons: (NASB)

Isaiah 52:13-53:12:

¹³ Behold, My servant will prosper, He will be high and lifted up and greatly exalted. ¹⁴ Just as many were astonished at you, My people, so His appearance was marred more than any man and His form more than the sons of men. ¹⁵ Thus He will sprinkle many nations, kings will shut their mouths on account of Him; for what had not been told them they will see, and what they had not heard they will understand.

¹ Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? ² For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of parched ground; He has no stately form or majesty that we should look upon Him, nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. ³ He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. ⁴ Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet

(continued on next page)

The Scripture Lessons: (NASB) (cont'd)

Isaiah 52:13—53:12: (cont'd)

we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. ⁵ But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. ⁶ All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him. ⁷ He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, so He did not open His mouth, ⁸ By oppression and judgment He was taken away; and as for His generation, who considered that He was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke was due? 9 His grave was assigned with wicked men, yet He was with a rich man in His death, because He had done no violence, nor was there any deceit in His mouth. 10 But the Lord was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief; if He would render Himself as a guilt offering, He will see His offspring, He will prolong His days, and the good pleasure of the Lord will prosper in His hand. 11 As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied; by His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, as He will bear their iniquities. ¹² Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, and He will divide the booty with the strong; because He poured out Himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; vet He Himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors.

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9:

¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.... ⁷ In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety. ⁸ Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. ⁹ And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation...

The Holy Gospel Readings: (NASB)

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

John 19:17-30

¹⁷ Thev took Jesus, therefore, and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified Him, and with Him two other men, one on either side, and Jesus in between. ¹⁹ Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It was written, "JESUS THE NAZARENE, THE KING OF THE JEWS." 20 Therefore many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Latin and in Greek. 21 So the chief priests of the Jews were saying to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews'; but that He said, 'I am King of the Jews." ²² Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." ²³ Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His outer garments and made four parts, a part to every soldier and also the tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece. ²⁴ So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, to decide whose it shall be": this was to fulfill the Scripture: "They divided My outer garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots." ²⁵ Therefore the soldiers did these things. But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus then saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" ²⁷ Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" From that hour the disciple took her into his own household. ²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all things had already been accomplished, to fulfill the Scripture, said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine was standing there; so they put a sponge full of the sour wine upon a branch of hyssop and brought it up to His mouth. 30 Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

Matthew 27:57-60

⁵⁷ When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸ This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. ⁵⁹ And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, ⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away.

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

The Confession of Faith:

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

The Special Music

Senior Choir—"Surely He Has Borne Our Griefs" (Carter)
"Depth of Mercy" (Rasbach)
Andrew Vogel, cello

Surely He Has Borne Our Griefs

Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
upon Him was the chastisement that made us whole,
and with His stripes we are healed.

Depth of Mercy

Depth of mercy! Can there be mercy still reserved for me? Can my God His wrath forbear, Me, the "Chief of Sinners," spare?

There for me the Savior stands Holding forth His wounded hands. God is love! I know, I feel Jesus weeps and loves me still.

The Announcements

The Offering

The Sermon Hymn:

"O Come And Mourn With Me Awhile" (AMB90)



Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863 Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–1876 ST. CROSS LM

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 Hymn: "Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended?" (SBH85)



- 3 Lo, the good Shepherd for the sheep is offered; The slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered; For man's atonement, while he nothing heedeth, God intercedeth.
- 4 For me, kind Jesus, was thine Incarnation, Thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation; Thy death of anguish and thy bitter Passion, For my salvation.
- 5 Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee, I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee, Think on thy pity and thy love unswerving, Not my deserving. Amen.

Text from The Yattendon Hymnal, edited by Robert Bridges, by permission of The Clarendon Press, Oxford.

Johann Heermann, 1585–1647 Tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930

The Service of Tenebrae*

Explanation of the Service

Seven Words of Christ

I. Father, Forgive Them, For They Know Not What They Do.

II. Verily, I Say To Thee, Today Thou Shalt Be With Me In Paradise.

III. Woman, Behold Thy Son...Behold Thy Mother.

IV. My God, My God, Why Hast Thou Forsaken Me?

V. I Thirst.

VI. It Is Finished.

VII. Father, Into Thy Hands I Commend My Spirit.

Closing Explanation

*Readings and explanations presented by Ruthfred youth and Bible College students.

The Reading of the Passion History VII (Page 27)

"Jesus' Burial"

The Closing Prayer & Silent 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 Postlude: Tolling of the Chimes

After the service of Tenebrae, we will pray and the organist will strike the chimes 33 times to commemorate the 33 years that our Savior lived on earth. Remain in prayer as long as you desire and then leave in silence. The lights will be dimmed with enough light for us to see to exit.



Following this service, let us go to our homes and be in deep devotion to our crucified, yet living Christ. Let us be thankful on Holy Saturday for His death, but let us anticipate with great joy the Easter Services on Sunday at 7:00, 8:30, and 11:00 a.m. We will celebrate Holy Communion following the 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. services.

Paul writes: "God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). For this reason we worship and remember.

Prayer Requests

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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: 1 st-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

■ Ways To Share My Gifts

■ Ruthfred's Ministries or Groups

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