



RUTHFRED LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations ([www.aflc.org](http://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

Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023

## Prelude:

### **"Maestoso and Andante on St. Theodulph"**

(M. Burkhardt)

### **"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"**

(arr. J. W. Kerr)

## The Opening Hymn:

### **"All Glory Praise and Honor"**

(ALC #428)

(Please stand as we join our hearts in song)

1. All glo - ry, praise and hon - or To Thee, Re - deem - er, King,  
2. The com - pa - ny of an - gels Are prais - ing Thee on high,  
3. To Thee, be - fore Thy pas - sion, They sang their hymns of praise;

To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring!  
And mor - tal men and all things Cre - at - ed make re - ply.  
To Thee, now high ex - alt - ed, Our mel - o - dy we raise:

Thou art the King of Is - rael, Thou, Da - vid's roy - al Son,  
The peo - ple of the He - brews With palms be - fore Thee went:  
Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; Ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Who in the Lord's name com - est, The King and bless - ed One.  
Our praise and prayer and an - thems Be - fore Thee we pre - sent.  
Who in all good de - light - est, Thou good and gra - cious King.

CHORUS

All glo - ry, praise and hon - or To Thee, Re - deem - er, King,

To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring. A-MEN.

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 Order for Public Confession** (SBH, p. 247)

**Unison: (U): Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son our Lord, Amen.**

P: Let us humbly kneel, and make confession unto God, imploring his forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**U: O God, our heavenly Father, I confess unto thee that I have grievously sinned against Thee in many ways; not only by outward transgressions, but also by secret thoughts and desires which I cannot fully understand, but which are all known unto Thee. I do earnestly repent, and am heartily sorry for these my offenses, and I beseech Thee of Thy great goodness to have mercy upon me, and for the sake of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to forgive my sins, and graciously to help my infirmities. Amen.**

## **The Absolution, Admonition & Blessing**

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and for the sake of the sufferings, death, and resurrection of His dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, forgives us all our sins. As a Minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare unto you who do truly repent and believe in Him, the entire forgiveness of all your sins. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

P: On the other hand, by the same authority, I declare unto the impenitent and unbelieving, that so long as they continue in their impenitence, God hath not forgiven their sins, and will assuredly visit their iniquities upon them, if they turn not from their evil ways, and come to true repentance and faith in Christ, ere the day of grace be ended.

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you 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.

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 “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 Introit** (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: Be not far from me, O Lord. O my Strength, come quickly to help me.

**C: Save me from the lion’s mouth and deliver me from the horns of the wild oxen.**

P: My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?

**C: Why are You so far from helping me?**

(Psalm 22:1, 19-21)

### **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 Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 118:19-29** (NASB)

<sup>19</sup> Open to me the gates of righteousness; I shall enter through them, I shall give thanks to the LORD.

<sup>20</sup> This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous will enter through it.

<sup>21</sup> I shall give thanks to You, for You have answered me, and You have become my salvation.

<sup>22</sup> The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief corner *stone*.

<sup>23</sup> This is the LORD’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

<sup>24</sup> This is the day which the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

<sup>25</sup> O LORD, do save, we beseech You; O LORD, we beseech You, do send prosperity!

<sup>26</sup> Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD; we have blessed you from the house of the LORD.

<sup>27</sup> The LORD is God, and He has given us light; bind the festival sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar.

<sup>28</sup> You are my God, and I give thanks to You; *You are* my God, I extol You.

<sup>29</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His lovingkindness is everlasting.

### **The Gradual**

You have held me by my right hand. You shall guide me with Your counsel, and afterward receive me to glory. Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart. My God, my God why have You forsaken me? Why are You so far from helping me? Our fathers trusted in You. They cried to You and were delivered.

(Psalm 73:1, 23-24; 22: 1, 4)

*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: John 12:12-19** (NASB)

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

<sup>12</sup> On the next day the large crowd who had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, <sup>13</sup> took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and *began* to shout, "Hosanna! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, even the King of Israel." <sup>14</sup> Jesus, finding a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written, <sup>15</sup> "FEAR NOT, DAUGHTER OF ZION; BEHOLD, YOUR KING IS COMING, SEATED ON A DONKEY'S COLT." <sup>16</sup> These things His disciples did not understand at the first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him. <sup>17</sup> So the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead, continued to testify *about Him*. <sup>18</sup> For this reason also the people went and met Him, because they heard that He had performed this sign. <sup>19</sup> So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are not doing any good; look, the world has gone after Him."

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

**The Confession of Faith:** The Nicene Creed (Confessed in Unison)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

During the Service of Holy Communion, we confess our faith using the Words of the Nicene Creed. Though officially adopted a few hundred years after Christ's earthly ministry, the Creed emphasizes the truths that had been taught since the time of the Apostles, namely, that Christ is both fully God and fully man. As such, we are assured that in the person of Jesus Christ, God Himself became like us in every way, yet perfect and without sin; and shed His own Blood and gave His own Body in death so that we could find in Him forgiveness of sin and life eternal.

This creed has been used in worship across denominational lines.

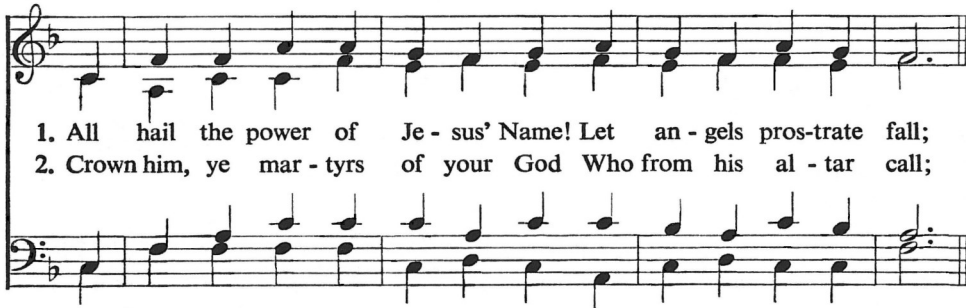
### **The Anthem**

11:00: Senior Choir—*Palm Branches* (G. Faure/W. G. Sudds)

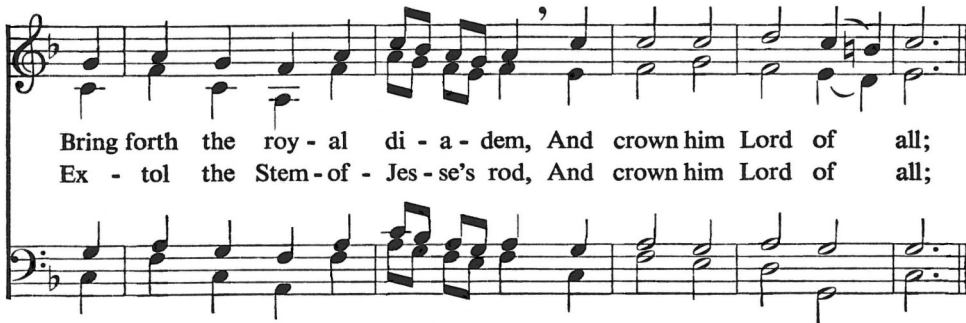
O'er all the way green palms and blossoms gay  
Are strewn this day, in festal preparation.  
Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away  
E'en now the throng to welcome him prepare.  
Join all and sing, His name declare.  
Let every voice resound with joyous acclamation.  
Hosanna, praise to the Lord!  
Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation.  
His word goes forth, and people by its might  
Once more regain freedom from degradation.  
Humanity doth give to each his right,  
While those in darkness find restored the light.  
Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem,  
Of all thy sons sing the emancipation.  
Thro' boundless love, the Christ of Bethlehem  
Brings faith and hope to thee forever more.

### **The Announcements**

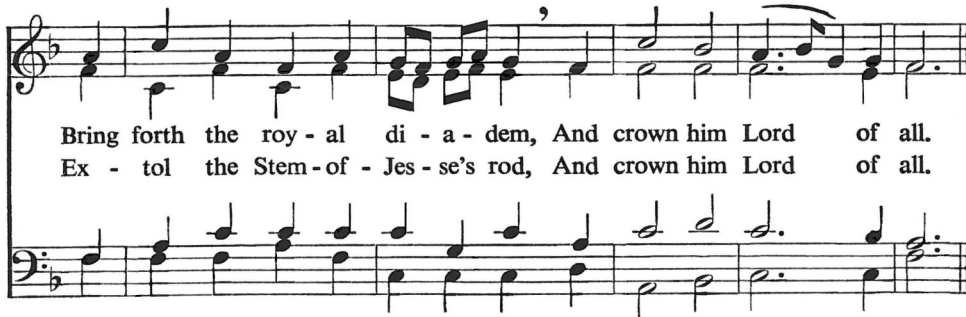
**The Sermon Hymn: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"** (SBH #426, 2nd tune)



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*



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 Is He! He is God!" | Psalm 118:19-29

**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)

On the first Sunday of each month, as well as on other special occasions, we have the privilege of receiving Holy Communion together. We do not require membership to participate in this. However, we do ask that those coming to receive Communion would be baptized believers in the saving work of Jesus Christ, who are of confirmation age (completed 8th grade), and who are in agreement with the biblical teaching of Christ concerning it.

We believe and teach that Holy Communion is a Sacrament in which we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine, that it was instituted by Christ himself, and that it is given to us Christians to eat and to drink.

We believe and teach that the benefit for Christians receiving Communion is expressed in the words "given" and "shed for you for the forgiveness of sins" (See Matthew 26:26-29). As described by Martin Luther in his *Small Catechism*, these words show us that "forgiveness of sin, life and salvation" are given to us in Communion.

Luther formulated a list of 20 questions with appropriate responses to guide the believer to prepare their hearts for Communion. We include a selection of those questions on page 12 for the purpose of aiding you in the same way.

## **The Service for Communion**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And with thy Spirit.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

**C: It is meet and right so to do.**

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God...Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious Name; ever more praising Thee, and saying:

**C: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory; Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## **The Words of Institution**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night in which He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you; This do in remembrance of Me.

After the same manner also, He took the cup, when He had supped, and, when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in my Blood, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; this do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

P: 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;

**C: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you alway.

**C: And with thy Spirit.**

## **The Agnus Dei**

**C: O Christ thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us;**

**O Christ thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us;**

**O Christ thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace. Amen.**

**The Distribution** *During Communion we shall sing:*

**"Let Us Break Bread Together"** (AMB #285)

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;

- Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
- Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, With my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

3. Let us praise God together on our knees;  
Let us praise God together on our knees.

**Do you believe that you are a sinner?**

Yes, I believe that I am a sinner.

**Are you sorry for your sins?**

Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.

**Do you desire to be saved?**

Yes, such is my desire.

**In Whom do you trust?**

In my dear Lord, Jesus Christ.

**What has Christ done for you that you trust in him?**

He died for me and shed his blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

**Do you believe that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?**

Yes, I believe it.

**What induces you to believe this?**

The Word of Christ, "Take, eat this is My body; This is My blood, drink of it all of you."

**Why ought we to remember and proclaim His death?**

That we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins but Christ, true God and man; and that we may learn to look with terror at our sins, and to regard them as great indeed, and to find joy and comfort in Him alone, and thus be saved through such faith.

**Finally, why do you wish to go to receive Holy Communion?**

That I may learn to believe that Christ died for my sin out of great love, as before said; and that I may also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.

## **The Nunc Dimittis**

**U: Lord now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the Glory of Thy people Israel. 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 Prayer**

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

**C: And His mercy endureth forever**

## **The Closing Prayer** *(after which the congregation shall sing "Amen.")*

P: The Lord be with you.

**C. And with thy spirit**

P: Bless we the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **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.

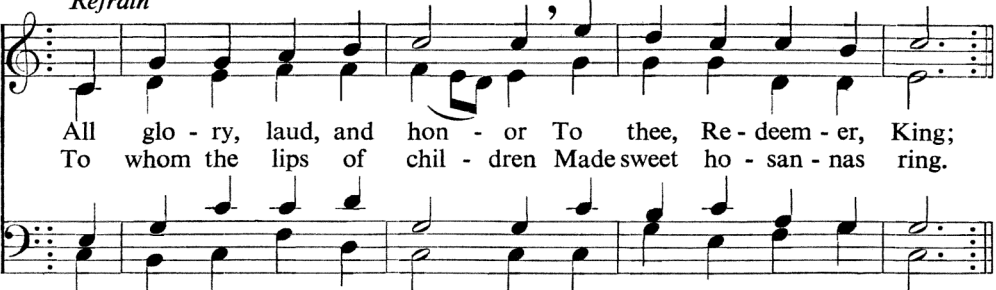
May He lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.  
In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

(Numbers 6:24-26)

**C: Amen**

## The Closing Hymn: "All Glory Laud and Honor" (SBH #74)

*Refrain*



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To thee, Re - deem - er, King;  
To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1. Thou art the King of Is - rael, Thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,

*Repeat refrain*



Who in the Lord's Name com - est, The King and Bless - ed One!

2 The company of angels  
Are praising thee on high,  
And mortal men and all things  
Created make reply. *Refrain.*

3 The people of the Hebrews  
With palms before thee went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems  
Before thee we present. *Refrain.*

4 To thee before thy Passion  
They sang their hymns of praise;  
To thee, now high exalted,  
Our melody we raise. *Refrain.*

5 Thou didst accept their praises;  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest,  
Thou good and gracious King. *Refrain.*

*Theodulph of Orleans, cir. 760-821  
Tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66*

## The Silent Prayer & Chimes

### The Postlude: "Fantasy on Ellacombe" (M. Burkhardt)

# Announcements

**The altar flowers** are presented by Jill and Pete Huwe in appreciation of our wonderful staff and volunteers at Ruthfred. Thank you for your service as we grow together in Christ!

**Scripture Readers and Communion Assistants Today:** 8:30—Al Macugoski; 11:00—Kurt Ziegler and Tom Glasser.

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

**Known to be hospitalized:** Joanne Salvetti—Magee Women's Hospital. Caryl Hansen—Presbyterian SeniorCare Network in Washington, PA for rehab after a fall (Room 344). Her direct room phone number is 724-250-5780. Please support them with your prayers and cards.

**Prayers for Recovery and Healing:** Bill VanKirk is now at Arden Courts, 380 Wray Large Rd., Room 24, Jefferson Hills, PA 15025. Fred Schell is now home—103 South Grandview Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15205. Lundy Castro is at the Carlsons' house. Linda Donolo (broken leg & hip replacement). Linda is currently in Florida, so cards can be sent to: 307 Reynolds Ct., Naples, FL 34112. Pat Lutz (recent surgery). Nancy Jane Weighley (Jason's mother) has been released to return home. Greg Saul—back surgery. Please keep them in your prayers, as well as all those in the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

**On hospice care:** Marie Wilmer and John Coldsmith continue under hospice care. Please support them with your prayers and cards.

**Current Fund:** Given by Sue Hughes in memory of George Kopac (Lynn Vogel's father).

**Current Fund:** Given by Lee VanSickle in memory of Fritz Motzer.

**Music Fund:** Given by Sandy and Bryan Newman in memory of George Kopac.

**Pastor's Fund:** Given by Eugene Hershberger in memory of my great friend Fritz Motzer.

**Pastor's Fund:** Given by Greg Lindner & family and Pam Ason & family in memory of Becky Lindner, loving and beloved mother and grandmother.

**Address Update:** Grace Motzer has changed apartments, so her new address at The Waters of McMurray is: 441 Valley Brook Rd., Apt. 102, McMurray, PA 15317.

**Thank You** to the Ruthfred congregation and pastors for all of the prayers, kind words, visits, cards, and support since Becky's passing on March 2. Thank you also for the beautiful Lily Plant. You have carried God's message of love and comfort to us! Love, *Rich Lindner and family*

**Family Easter Festival:** The 4<sup>th</sup> annual festival for young families is **TODAY, April 2**, 4-6 p.m. If you are donating a dessert, please bring it to the kitchen any time before 4 p.m.

**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 will begin Tuesday, April 11, 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](mailto:jason.weighley@gmail.com), or bring the boxes to the stage. If you have any questions, please contact Jason or Donna Weighley.

# Announcements

**City Mission Food Sunday is Today, Sunday, April 2:** Our monthly food collection for the City Mission in Washington, PA. There is a flyer with needed items on the bulletin board across from the downstairs elevator. Donations can be placed outside the kitchen. Thank you for helping!

**Preschool Registration** is now open for the 2023-2024 school year. Register online at Ruthfred.org. Contact: [preschool@ruthfred.org](mailto:preschool@ruthfred.org) with any questions or to schedule a tour.

**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, April 9, 2023, for approval at the April Council meeting. Please place applications in the Council Secretary mail slot in the Conference Room. Call the church office if you need an application.

**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](mailto: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.

**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](mailto:donroose@yahoo.com).

**Knit Wits** will meet this month on April 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. All are welcome!

**Altar Flowers:** Please note that there are still a few open slots for 2023, the most pressing being April 30 and May 14 (Mothers' Day). Would you be able to help?



## **Adult Sunday School Class in Large Classroom\***

There is no Sunday School today OR next Sunday.



## **YOUTH NEWS**

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

There is NO **SWAP** meeting tonight.

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

**TNT** will meet at Ruthfred on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 7-9 p.m.

**Questions/concerns?**

**Contact: Any member of the Youth Committee**





Please plan on joining us **today**  
**Sunday, APRIL 2**  
for our  
**Fellowship Breakfast**

**Held during the Sunday School Hour**  
**9:40a.m. – 10:45a.m. in Fellowship Hall**

**Menu to include Biscuits and Gravy, Biscuits with Butter & Jam,  
Bacon and Egg Breakfast Casserole, Cereal, Donuts, Fresh Fruit,  
Coffee, Tea, and Juice**

**GF and DF Options will be available.**

## For The Month of April

**Acolytes:**

8:30 a.m. (4/2, 4/9, 4/16)  
(4/23)  
(4/30)

Asher Manzo  
Josh Cimarolli  
Evan Gusky  
Ryan Handshue

## Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday  
Maundy Thursday  
Good Friday  
Easter Sunrise

2:00 p.m. (4/6)  
7:30 p.m. (4/6)  
7:30 p.m. (4/7)  
7:00 a.m. (4/9)

Elliot McMinn  
Ryan Handshue  
Evan Gusky  
Elliot McMinn

**Crucifers:**

8:30 a.m. (4/9)  
(4/23)  
11:00 a.m. (4/2, 4/9)  
(4/16)  
(4/30)

Morgan Dolence  
Holly Miller  
Courtney Felicetti  
Holly Miller  
Courtney Felicetti

## Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday  
Good Friday

7:30 p.m. (4/6)  
7:30 p.m. (4/7)

Holly Miller  
Courtney Felicetti

### Altar Guild:

Eileen Bernish

**Counters:**

8:30 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.

Tom Glasser, Roger Kurtz  
Marty Rieck, Kevin Boehme

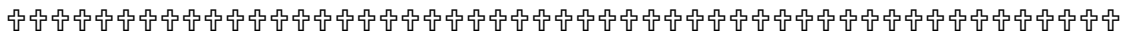
**Ushers:**

8:30 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.

Bernard Paterra, John Ruzicka  
Will Charlton, Mark Sheatsley  
Jason Weighley (4/9)

**Coffee Hour:**

Tom & Peggy Glasser



**OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE:** Today, we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. By means of bread and wine, Jesus Christ gives Himself to each communicant. This is His Word and promise. We accept His Word. If you are not a member of a Lutheran church, we ask you to speak to one of our pastors at any time about the meaning of Holy Communion and a person's desire to receive it. When we come to the altar, we must come with believing and repentant hearts. As we return from the altar, we always bow or kneel in prayer with thanksgiving to God for what Jesus Christ has given unto us. We do not practice the communion of children who are not instructed and confirmed, but the children are encouraged to come to the altar rail for a family blessing.

## This Week At Ruthfred

**Today (4/2) PALM SUNDAY**

8:30 a.m.—Communion Service  
9:45 a.m.—Fellowship Breakfast  
11:00 a.m.—Communion Service  
4:00-6:00 p.m.—Family Easter Festival  
6:00 p.m.—Communion Service

## CITY MISSION FOOD SUNDAY

## Monday (4/3)

9:30 a.m.—Craft & Sew (Crafters only)  
7:00 p.m.—Elders' Meeting

## Tuesday (4/4)

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

### Wednesday (4/5)

5:45 p.m.—Children's Choir  
6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir  
6:45 p.m.—Confirmation classes  
7:30 p.m.—Senior Choir

## Thursday (4/6) Maundy Thursday

2:00 p.m.—Communion Service  
7:30 p.m.—Communion Service

## Friday (4/7) Good Friday

12:30-3:00 p.m.—Various Meditations  
7:30 p.m.—Tenebrae Service

## Sunday (4/9) EASTER SUNDAY

7:00 a.m.—Worship Service  
8:30 a.m.—Worship Service\*  
No Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.—Worship Service\*  
\*Holy Communion after service

Hosanna in the highest! Welcome as we bless the One  
who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Attendance for Last Week:**

Sunday Worship...229   Sunday School...84  
8:30 Live Stream...49  
JTTW (morn)...53   Online...3  
Lenten Services...142

## Prayer Requests

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

[illegible]

☐ Please keep this request Private (to be kept 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  
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**Brian Lyskava** | Custodian

**Andrew Vogel** | Multi-Media Coordinator  
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**A. J. Dolence** | Live Stream & Social Media Assistant  
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[DavidCompel@ruthfred.org](mailto:DavidCompel@ruthfred.org)

**Robert Vogel**  
Senior & Bell Choirs

**Frederick Schell**  
Organist

**Essi Efthimiou**  
Interim Organist

**Melissa Manzo**  
Children's Choir

**Erin McMinn** | Interim Preschool Head Teacher  
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 234)  
[Preschool@ruthfred.org](mailto:Preschool@ruthfred.org)

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