

PENTECOST



Carr

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 *scherschnitte*, 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

Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023

Memorial Day Observance

Prelude:

"Medley for Pentecost"

(M. Burkhardt)

"Hymns for Memorial Day"—

George Barrett,
trumpet (11:00)

The Opening Hymn:

"Blessing and Honor, and Glory and Power"

(SBH #166)

(Please stand as we
join our hearts in
song)

1. Bless - ing and hon - or, and glo - ry and power, Wis - dom, and
2. Dwell - eth the light of the glo - ry with him, Light of a

rich - es, and strength ev - er - more, Give ye to him who our
glo - ry that can - not grow dim, Light in its si - lence and

bat - tle hath won, Whose are the king - dom, the crown and the throne,
beau - ty and calm, Light in its glad - ness and bright - ness and balm,

Whose are the king - dom, the crown and the throne.
Light in its glad - ness and bright - ness and balm.

3 Ever ascendeth the song and the joy,
Ever descendeth the love from on high,
Blessing, and honor, and glory, and praise,
This is the theme of the hymns that we raise.

4 Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb;
Take we the robe and the harp and the palm;
Sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,
Dying in weakness, but rising to reign.

Horatius Bonar, 1808–89

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 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

A Reading from Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address

The Star-Spangled Banner (verses 1 and 4)

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming.
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Oh, thus be it ever when freemen shall stand,
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation;
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n-rescued land
Praise the Power that has made and preserved us a nation.
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto "In God is our trust";
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

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)

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).

"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.

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

The Introit (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: The Spirit of the Lord fills the world, alleluia.

C: Let the righteous be glad, let them rejoice before God; yes, let them exceedingly rejoice. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered.

C: Let them also that hate Him flee before Him. (Psalm 68:1, 3)

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.

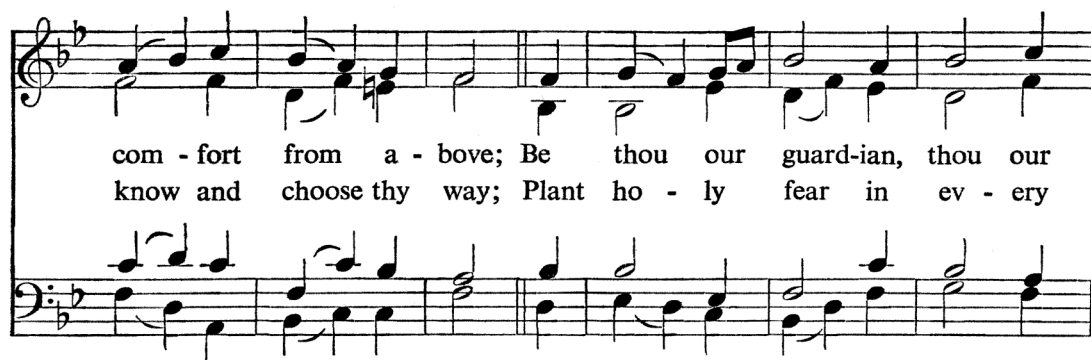
C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Hymn of Praise: "Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove" (SBH #127)

In moderate time



1. Come, gra - cious Spir - it, heaven-ly Dove, With light and
2. The light of truth to us dis - play, And make us



com - fort from a - bove; Be thou our guard-ian, thou our
know and choose thy way; Plant ho - ly fear in ev - ery



guide, O'er ev - ery thought and step pre - side.
heart, That we from God may ne'er de - part. A - men.

3 Lead us to Christ, the living way,
Nor let us from his pastures stray;
Lead us to holiness, the road
That we must take to dwell with God.

4 Lead us to heaven, that we may share
Fulness of joy for ever there;
Lead us to God our final rest,
To be with him for ever blest. Amen.

Simon Browne, 1680-1732

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 God, who did teach the hearts of Your faithful people, by sending to them the light of Your Holy Spirit, grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in His holy comfort; 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: Numbers 11:24-30

²⁴ So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. Also, he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people, and stationed them around the tent. ²⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him; and He took of the Spirit who was upon him and placed *Him* upon the seventy elders. And when the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do *it* again. ²⁶ But two men had remained in the camp; the name of one was Eldad and the name of the other Medad. And the Spirit rested upon them (now they were among those who had been registered, but had not gone out to the tent), and they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷ So a young man ran and told Moses and said, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸ Then Joshua the son of Nun, the attendant of Moses from his youth, said, "Moses, my lord, restrain them." ²⁹ But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, that the LORD would put His Spirit upon them!" ³⁰ Then Moses returned to the camp, *both* he and the elders of Israel.

The Psalm: Psalm 25:1-15

P: To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust, do not let me be ashamed; do not let my enemies exult over me.

C: Indeed, none of those who wait for You will be ashamed; those who deal treacherously without cause will be ashamed.

P: Make me know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.

C: Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day.

P: Remember, O LORD, Your compassion and Your lovingkindnesses, for they have been from of old.

C: Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to Your lovingkindness remember me, for Your goodness' sake, O LORD.

(continued on next page)

The Psalm: Psalm 25:1-15 (cont'd)

P: Good and upright is the LORD; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.

C: He leads the humble in justice, and He teaches the humble His way.

P: All the paths of the LORD are lovingkindness and truth to those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

C: For Your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my iniquity, for it is great.

P: Who is the man who fears the LORD? He will instruct him in the way he should choose.

C: His soul will abide in prosperity, and his descendants will inherit the land.

P: The secret of the LORD is for those who fear Him, and He will make them know His covenant.

C: My eyes are continually toward the LORD, for He will pluck my feet out of the net.

Epistle Lesson: Acts 2:1-21 (NASB)

¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

³ And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

⁵ Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷ They were amazed and astonished, saying, "Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸ And how is it that we each hear *them* in our own language to which we were born? ⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—we hear them in our *own* tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God." ¹² And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others were mocking and saying, "They are full of sweet wine."

¹⁴ But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: "Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give heed to my words. ¹⁵ For these men are

(continued on next page)

Epistle Lesson: Acts 2:1-21 (NASB) (cont'd)

not drunk, as you suppose, for it is *only* the third hour of the day; but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel:

16

17 'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' GOD SAYS,
'THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND;
AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY,
AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS,
AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS;

18 EVEN ON MY BONDSLAVES, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN,
I WILL IN THOSE DAYS POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT
AND THEY SHALL PROPHECY.

19 AND I WILL GRANT WONDERS IN THE SKY ABOVE
AND SIGNS ON THE EARTH BELOW,
BLOOD, AND FIRE, AND VAPOR OF SMOKE.

20 THE SUN WILL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS
AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD,
BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD SHALL COME.

21 AND IT SHALL BE THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE
LORD WILL BE SAVED.'

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 Gradual:

Alleluia, alleluia. You send forth Your Spirit, they are created and You renew the face of the earth. Alleluia, Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Alleluia.

(Psalm 104:30)

The Alleluia (Sung in Unison)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel Reading: John 7:37-39 (NASB)

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

37 Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" 39 But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Anthem

8:30: Senior Choir—*America* (S. Ward/M. McDonald)

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, whose stern, impassioned stress
a thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
confirm thy soul in self control, thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years,
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!


The Special Music

11:00: Kerry Macugoski—*America* (S. Ward/M. McDonald)

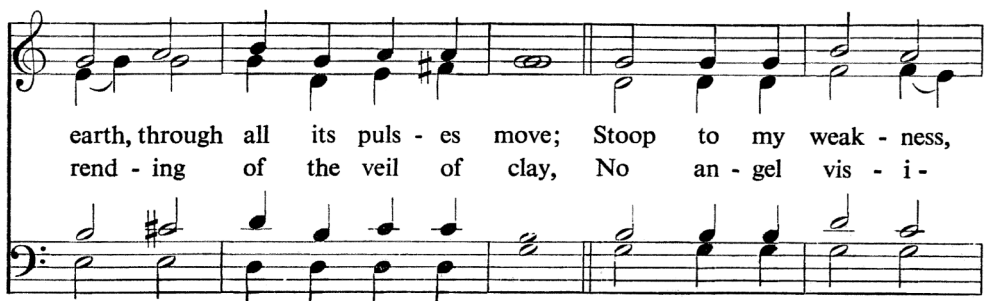
The Announcements

The Children's Object Lesson

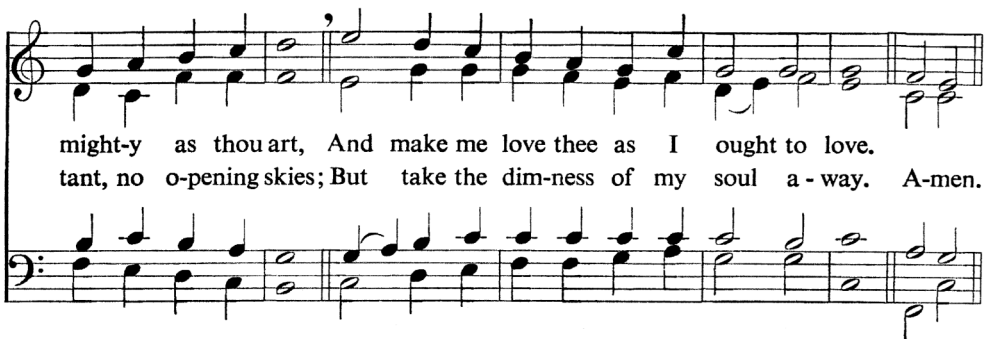
The Sermon Hymn: "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" (SBH #129)



1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart; Wean it from
2. I ask no dream, no proph-et ec - sta - sies, No sud - den



earth, through all its puls - es move; Stoop to my weak - ness,
rend - ing of the veil of clay, No an - gel vis - i -



might-y as thou art, And make me love thee as I ought to love.
tant, no o-pening skies; But take the dim-ness of my soul a - way. A-men.

3 Hast thou not bid me love thee, God and King;
All, all thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind?
I see thy Cross; there teach my heart to cling;
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

4 Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame:
The baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,
My heart an altar, and thy love the flame. Amen.

George Croly, 1780-1860

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: "Speak of God's Mighty Deeds" | Acts 2:1-21

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.

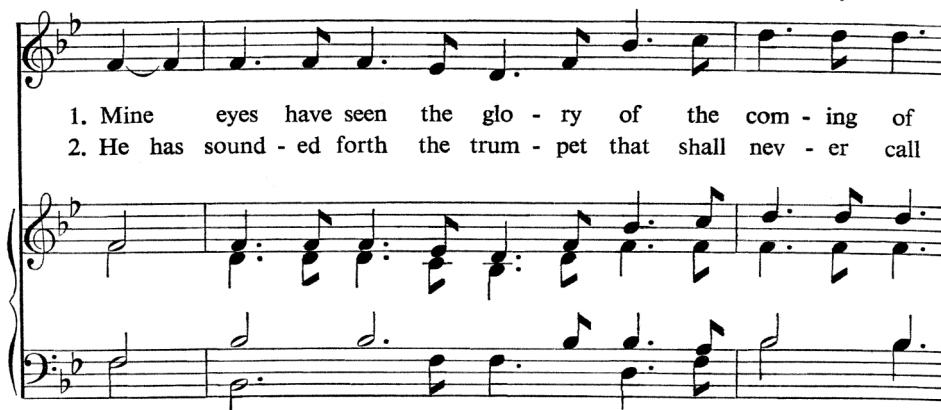
(Numbers 6:24-26)

C: Amen.

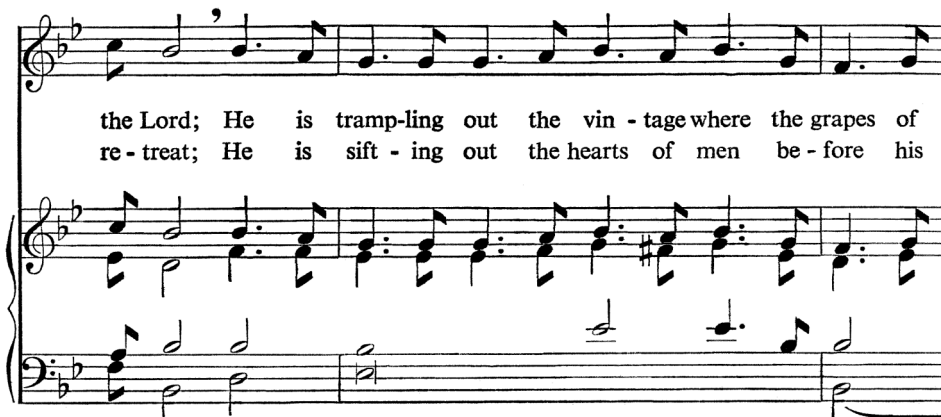
The Closing Hymn: "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory" (SBH #356)

Slowly, in unison

WILLIAM STEFFE, 1852



1. Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of
2. He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall nev - er call



the Lord; He is tramp - ling out the vin - tage where the grapes of
re - treat; He is sift - ing out the hearts of men be - fore his



wrath are stored; He hath loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his
judg - ment - seat; O be swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be

[Harmony]

ter - ri - ble swift sword: His truth is march - ing on. Glo - ry,
ju - bi - lant, my feet! Our God is march - ing on.

glo - ry, Hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry, Hal - le - lu - jah!

Glo - ry, glo - ry, Hal - le - lu - jah! His truth is march - ing on.

3 In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me:
As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,
While God is marching on.

Julia Ward Howe, 1819–1910

The Silent Prayer & Chimes

The Postlude: "Postlude on 'Darwal'" (M. Sobaje)

Announcements

The altar flowers are presented by the Lundgren family in loving memory of Clyde Lundgren and Gillian Lundgren—forever in our hearts.

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

Special thanks to Kurt Ziegler and Tom Sanders. They are reading Scripture today at the 8:30 and 11:00 services, respectively.

Known to be hospitalized: Dan Gill—Genesis HealthCare (Bridgeville) for rehab. Please support him with your prayers and cards.

Prayers for Recovery and Healing: Joanne Salvetti is NOW HOME! Susan Boehme—ankle surgery. Gene Hershberger—treatment for lung cancer. Sue Dawson—knee replacement surgery. Sylvia Fitzgerald—broken leg. 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 now at a rehab facility recovering her strength. Heather Weighley—medical tests. Mark Pugh—received heart monitor. 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: Erna Jochum and John Coldsmith. Please support them with your prayers and cards.

Condolences: Our pastor and congregation extend Christian love and sympathy to Lundy Castro's family (father of Jen Carlson). Lundy passed away after a long battle with cancer on May 19, 2023, at the age of 75. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Current Fund: Given by William and Kathleen Joos in memory of Fritz Motzer.

Fellowship Breakfasts: Given by a Friend in Christ in memory of Fred Schell and in honor of Essi Efthimiou.

Music Fund: Given in loving memory of Fritz Motzer by his wife, Grace Motzer.

Bethel Park Memorial Day Observance: Pastor McMinn will provide the benediction at Bethel Park's Memorial Day ceremony at Bethel Cemetery tomorrow (Monday, May 29th). The ceremony begins at approximately 10 a.m. Bethel Park's Memorial Day parade begins at the municipal building at 9 a.m., and ends at Bethel Cemetery.

On June 4th the Senior Confirmation Class will receive their First Holy Communion at the 11:00 a.m. service.

Special thanks to Amanda Krueger and Sue Hughes for all of their help with the junior and senior confirmation classes! They helped out each week throughout the year. Their great love for the students has been a wonderful blessing to each of them! God bless you, Ms. Krueger and Mrs. Hughes! *Pastor McMinn & Confirmation Students*

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, June 11, 2023, for approval at the June 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 President mail slot in the Conference Room.

Announcements (cont'd)

Craft & Sew: In June, the **Crafters only** will meet, on Mondays June 5 and June 19. Please join us at 9:30 on those Mondays before we take a break for the summer!

Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (AFLC) Annual Conference: Our church body, the AFLC, will hold its Annual Conference June 14th—17th at the Best Western Inn & Ramkota Conference Center in Sioux Falls, SD. Ruthfred Church Council has agreed to cover airfare, meals, and hotel expenses for up to 6 Ruthfred members to attend. Visit aflc.org/about-us/conferences/ for more information. Contact John Morden if you plan to attend. Register ASAP.

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.

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

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 and also allows volunteers to sign up to help make VBS a success! Volunteer sign-up sheets are also available on the interior window outside the Fellowship Hall entrance. Please note that all volunteers age 18 and older must have current clearances.

VBS Decorating 2023: This year decorating will be an in-house project. We meet each Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. These meetings will continue until the decorations are completed. Please consider supporting this important ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Jason or Donna Weighley.

College/Graduate School 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 will be graduating this Spring. Please include name of student, name of college, date of graduation, and degree. We will be highlighting these students in future bulletins.

High School Graduates: Ruthfred will celebrate our high school graduates on Sunday, June 11th. We hope you are able to join us that day to receive a blessing from the church as well as a special, personalized gift. We would like to recognize each graduate in an upcoming **"Ruthfred Reflections"** article. If you would like your senior to be recognized, please forward the following information to Melissa Bostaph at your earliest convenience: student's full name, mailing address, high school they are graduating from, plans after high school (college; trade school; travel/time off; entering the workforce; military), Please also include a senior picture or photo of their choice.

Announcements (cont'd)

Save the Date—Parents' Date Night: Mark June 16th, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., in your calendars! This is a babysitting event, so parents are able to go out and have fun!!! We play games, sing songs, have a Bible lesson, feed the kiddos dinner, and have a snack while watching a movie. Register online at: <https://www.myvbs.org/RuthfredParentsDateNight>. Volunteers are needed for the event, and they can register on the same website.

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

2023-2024 Preschool Registration is now open online at ruthfred.org. Contact pre-school@ruthfred.org with any questions or to schedule a tour. Preschool Director Annie Buzon welcomes your questions and comments!

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 Sunday School. Please contact Shane Cox if you can help: coxfarrierservice@gmail.com.

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!

Donations for Allegheny County Jail: From now until June 11, we will be collecting the following items for the Allegheny County Jail: jigsaw puzzles (new and used), shampoo, conditioner, body wash, 2-in-1 shampoo/body wash, 3-in-1 shampoo/conditioner/body wash, deodorant (men's and women's), bar soap, and toothpaste. Please note that these items should be regular size only, with no pump bottles or travel sizes. Items can be placed in the marked bin in the Fire-side Lounge. Thank you for your support! Please contact Jill Kurtz if you have questions.

New Member Class: Many people have expressed interest in joining Ruthfred lately, so we'd like to schedule another New Member class to begin soon. If you, or someone you know, is interested in joining Ruthfred or in attending a New Member class (current members are allowed, and even encouraged, to do so), please contact Melissa Bostaph (contact information on back of bulletin) to let her know.

Parents of Sunday School Students: The school year is winding down, and our last day of Sunday School for kids will be today. Please know that during the summer we will be doing a video series for 1st through 5th graders. Younger kids will be able to go to the nursery. Middle school kids will join the high school group. Thank you to all those who have given of their time and talents over this past year to teach our Sunday School classes! We have amazing teachers who pour their hearts and souls into sharing with Ruthfred's youth about Jesus.

Fellowship Breakfast Survey: If you did not have a chance to fill out a survey last weekend, you can pick one up from an usher today. Please complete it and place it in one of the marked baskets at the back of the sanctuary by Sunday, June 4. Thank you!

Adult Sunday School Class 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.

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## **Journey Through the Word Summer Session**

**Wednesdays, June 14–August 9 (except July 26)**

**10:00-11:30 a.m.**

### **"The Great 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!



## **YOUTH NEWS**

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

There is NO **SWAP** meeting tonight.

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

TNT will meet on Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, at the Church, 7-9 p.m.

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Questions/concerns?

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

This Week At Ruthfred

Today (5/28) PENTECOST SUNDAY/Memorial Day Celebrated

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School

1 1:00 a.m.—Worship Service

Monday (5/29) MEMORIAL DAY

Church Office Closed

Tuesday (5/30)

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

7:00-9:00 p.m.—VBS Decorating

Thursday (6/1)

Happy 90th Birthday, Wayne Bock!

Friday (6/2)

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

Sunday (6/4) HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY/1st HOLY COMMUNION FOR 2023 CONFIRMANDS

8:30 a.m.—Holy Communion Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School

11:00 a.m.—Holy Communion Service

6:00 p.m.—Holy Communion Service



Today, Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the Holy Spirit's establishment of the church—the body of Christ that still embraces and empowers all. Welcome!

Attendance for Last Week:

Saturday Worship...39

Sunday Worship...247 Sunday School...91

Live Stream...43

*"I will pour out my Spirit
on all people"*

Joel 2:28, NIV




Prayer Requests

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

[illegible]

☐ 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
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Andrew Vogel | Multi-Media Coordinator
(412) 568-3215
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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
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