



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 the offering plate as it passes before you.

About Us:

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



Our cover is a paper cut or *scherenschnitte* created specially for our church by our very own Kathryn Carr. The artwork will reflect liturgical and Ruthfred-specific themes that occur throughout the year.

The Divine Service of the Word

The Second Sunday after Christmas, January 2, 2022

Prelude:

"Two Preludes on Appalachian Carols"

(John Jacob Niles)

The Opening Hymn:

"Joy to the World"

(AMB18)

(Please stand as we join our hearts in song)

1 Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! The Sav - ior reigns: Let men their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow, Nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him room,
songs em - ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
fest the ground; He comes to make His bless - ings flow
na - tions prove The glo - ries of His right - eous - ness

And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His
(And heav'n and na - ture sing,)

sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Tune: George F. Handel, 1685–1759; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

ANTIOCH
CM

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

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, hath 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.

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

The Introit (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: Behold the Lord, the Ruler, has come.

C: And the kingdom, and the power, and the glory are in His hand.

P: Give the King your judgments, O God.

C: And your righteousness unto the King's Son.

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 First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:1-9 (NASB)

¹ "At that time," declares the Lord, "I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people." ² Thus says the Lord, "The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness—Israel, when it went to find its rest." ³ The Lord appeared to him from afar, saying, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness. ⁴ "Again I will build you and you will be rebuilt, O virgin of Israel! Again you will take up your tambourines, and go forth to the dances of the merrymakers. ⁵ "Again you will plant vineyards on the hills of Samaria; the planters will plant and will enjoy them. ⁶ "For there will be a day when watchmen on the hills of Ephraim call out, 'Arise, and let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God.'" ⁷ For thus says the Lord, "Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise and say, 'O Lord, save Your people, the remnant of Israel.'" ⁸ Behold, I am bringing them from the north country, and I will gather them from the remote parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and she who is in labor with child, together; a great company, they will return here. ⁹ With weeping they will come, and by supplication I will lead them; I will make them walk by streams of waters, on a straight path in which they will not stumble; for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is My firstborn."

The Gradual

All they from Sheba shall come, they shall bring gold and incense and they shall show forth the praises of the Lord. Arise, shine for your light is come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. Alleluia, alleluia. We have seen His star in the east and have come to worship Him. Alleluia.

The Alleluia (Sung in Unison)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel Reading: Mark 10:46-52 (NASB)

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

⁴⁶ Then they came to Jericho. And as He was leaving Jericho with His disciples and a large crowd, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the road. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus the Nazarene, he began to cry out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸ Many were sternly telling him to be quiet, but he kept crying out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹ And Jesus stopped and said, “Call him here.” So they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take courage, stand up! He is calling for you.” ⁵⁰ Throwing aside his cloak, he jumped up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ And answering him, Jesus said, “What do you want Me to do for you?” And the blind man said to Him, “Rabboni, I want to regain my sight!” ⁵² And Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and began following Him on the road.

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

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 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.

The Special Music

11:00: Senior Choir Anthem—*"Away in a Manger"* (arr. Sjolund)

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

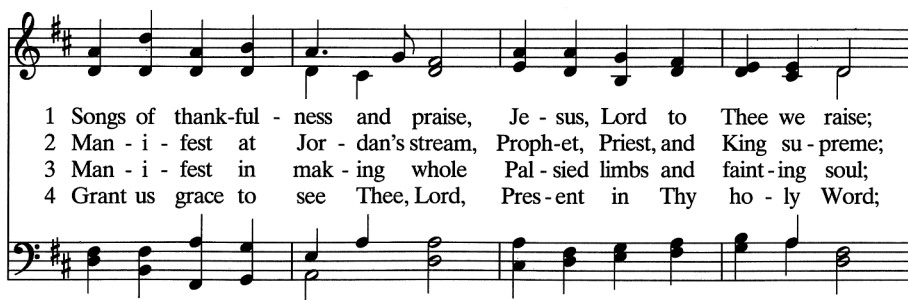
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

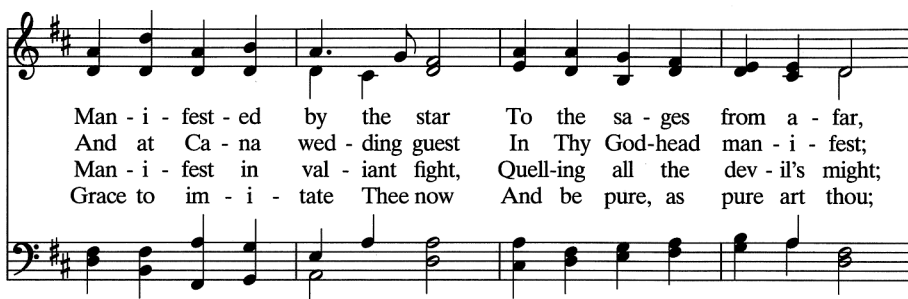
The Announcements

The Sermon Hymn:

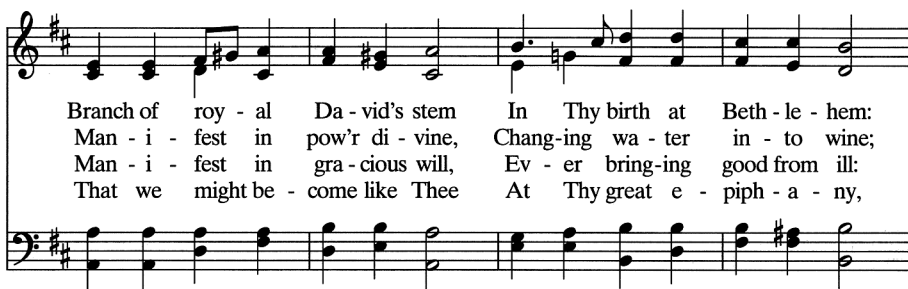
"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" (AMB59)



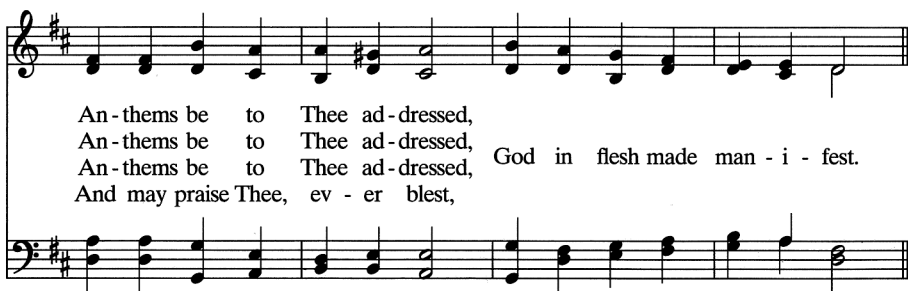
1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord to Thee we raise;
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su - preme;
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole Pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;
4 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word;



Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,
And at Ca - na wed - ding guest In Thy God-head man - i - fest;
Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell-ing all the dev - il's might;
Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;
Man - i - fest in gra - cious will, Ev - er bring-ing good from ill:
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny,



An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed,
An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed,
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest,

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:

"New Beginnings: Believing, Seeing, Belonging, Following" |
Mark 10:46-52

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 the following page 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 (Prayed in Unison)

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.

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.

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

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*):
"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" (AMB31)



1 Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy king - ly crown When Thou
2 Heav-en's arch - es rang when the an - gels sang, Pro -
3 The fox - es found rest, and the bird had its nest In the
4 Thou cam - est, O Lord, with the liv - ing Word That should
5 When the heav - ens shall ring, and the an - gels sing At Thy

cam - est to earth for me; But in Beth - le - hem's home there was
claim - ing Thy roy - al de - gree; But in low - ly birth didst Thou
shade of the for - est tree; But Thy couch was the sod, O Thou
set Thy chil - dren free; But with mock - ing scorn, and with
com - ing to vic - to - ry, Let Thy voice call me home, say - ing,

found no room For Thy ho - ly na - tiv - i - ty.
come to earth, And in great hu - mil - i - ty.
Son of God, In the moun - tains of Gal - i - lee.
crown of thorn, They bore Thee to Cal - va - ry.
"Yet there is room, There is room at My side for thee."

O come to my heart, Lord Je - sus: There is room in my heart for Thee.
O come to my heart, Lord Je - sus: There is room in my heart for Thee.
O come to my heart, Lord Je - sus: There is room in my heart for Thee.
O come to my heart, Lord Je - sus: There is room in my heart for Thee.
And my heart shall re-joice, Lord Je - sus, When Thou com-est to call for me.

Text: Emily Elizabeth Steele Elliott, 1836-1897
Tune: Timothy Richard Matthews, 1826-1910

MARGARET
Irregular

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:

"Amazing Grace" (AMB578)

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

The image shows the first system of musical notation for the hymn 'Amazing Grace'. It consists of a treble and a bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are printed below the staves, aligned with the notes.

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

The image shows the second system of musical notation for the hymn 'Amazing Grace'. It continues the melody and bass line from the first system. The lyrics are printed below the staves, aligned with the notes.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807
Tune: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

NEW BRITAIN
CM

The Silent Prayer & Chimes

The Postlude:

"In Dulci Jubilo" (M. Dupre)

Announcements

The altar flowers are presented by Brian and Wendy Schmidt in loving memory of Jim & Cheryl Schmidt, two wonderful and loving Christian parents.

Altar flower spots are still available for the following Sundays in January: January 9th, January 23rd and January 30th and also many Sundays throughout the year. Please sign-up TODAY!

Nursery Today: 8:30—Greta Kelly; Sunday School—Jenna Schwartz; 11:00—Claudia Patalong.

Known to be hospitalized: Terry Alwine—Canonsburg Hospital. Please support him with your prayers and cards.

Prayers for Recovery and Healing: Dan Gill is at Townview Health & Rehabilitation Center in Canonsburg recovering from surgery for a broken hip. Wil Vogel is now at Pro Medica in McMurray after a stint in the hospital. Please also keep Pat Lutz, Larry Holt, Ray Feller, and Elaine Grant in your prayers, as well as all those in the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

Upcoming Surgery: John Coldsmith is scheduled to have valve replacement surgery on January 4, hopefully via an artery rather than open heart surgery.

On Hospice Care: Al Hatala and Marie Wilmer. Please support them with prayers and cards.

Condolences: Our pastors and congregation extend Christian love and sympathy to Beth, Jeff, and Amy Blanc, who lost their husband/father, Kevin Blanc, on December 22nd. Pastor Carlson led a prayer service at the David Henney Funeral Home on December 27th.

Expression of Thanks: Nancy McCloskey is now home. She wishes to thank the pastors and her loving congregation for their cards and prayers.

Benevolence Fund: Given by a friend in Christ in memory of Linda Vogel.

Music Fund: Given by Beverlee Kasdorf in memory of DeWayne and Martha Kanagy.

Wednesday Morning Journey Through the Word: Our spring session will begin on Wednesday, January 12. As Christians, we tend to spend more time in the New Testament. Yet there is much to learn about Jesus in the Old Testament. Join us for this exciting and insightful study, The Lamb of God: Seeing Jesus in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers & Deuteronomy. We have small groups for both women and men and an online Zoom group, so all are welcome! If you did not attend in the fall and would like to participate in this session, please contact Pat Moore (412-833-3034; patmoore9@msn.com). Due to retirements and health issues, we are in great need of a co-leader to partner with Sue Swan, as well as small group leaders and backups. Please pray about these opportunities for service. If you feel the Lord calling you to help fill the gap, contact Sue Swan (412-708-3535; writingcygnet@gmail.com).

Wednesday Evening Journey, Confirmation Classes, Adult Choirs, and Kids' Time resume January 5th.

Annual Congregational Meeting: Your attendance is requested at the Annual Congregational Meeting to be held immediately following the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services on Sunday, January 16, 2022. The agenda includes the presentation of 2021 financial reports and the election of members of Church Council.

Announcements (cont'd)

Respect Life Month Stewardship Project: We have added New Life Options Pregnancy Center in Monongahela to our list of benevolences in this year's budget. As January is Respect Life Month, we will be collecting baby items for them. Any of the items listed below would be greatly appreciated. They can be placed in the marked bin in the Fireside Lounge through January 30. Thank you! Contact Jill Kurtz with any questions. Here are the items being requested: wipes, baby wash, shampoo (unscented), blankets, diaper cream, crib sheets, disposable diapers (sizes newborn, 3, 4 & 5), comb & brush sets, baby bottles, sippy cups, hooded baby towels & washcloths, pacifiers, nail clippers, teething rings, nasal aspirators, onesies (sizes newborn to 24 months - new).

Bible Reading 2022: We will be reading through the Bible together again in 2022. With the Bible reading app, there will be a reading guide for each day, an opportunity to share comments with others, and additional devotional videos. If you are interested in joining, please contact Don Roose at donroose@yahoo.com or text 412-584-2112. The daily reading schedule will also be posted online on our Ruthfred page. The theme for 2022 will be “The Story Line” as we trace God’s story and salvation through the Bible.

A New Member Class will begin on Sunday, January 9th. Meetings will be in the Fireside Lounge during Sunday School.

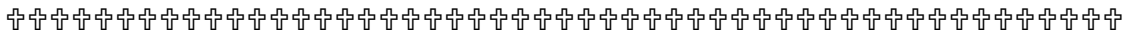
2022 VBS Director Needed: Please let one of the pastors know if you are interested in leading this vibrant, week-long summer program for kids.

2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES have been moved to the Library.


The 2022 Coffee Hour Sign-up Sheet is now posted on the wall near the kitchen and Fireside Lounge.

Our congregation thanks Paul Henney Cremation & Funeral Tributes, Inc. for the 2022 calendars. There are still a few available as you leave the sanctuary.

January 2022 issues of the Lutheran Ambassador are available to be picked up as you leave the sanctuary.



OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE: Today, we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. Today, 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 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 with believing and repentant hearts. As we return we always bow or kneel in prayer in thanksgiving to God for what Jesus Christ has given unto us. We do not practice the communion of children but the children are encouraged to come to the altar rail for a family blessing.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Sunday, January 16, 2022, the Annual Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services. The agenda includes the presentation of 2021 financial reports and the election of members to Church Council. The members who have agreed to be put on the ballot as nominees are detailed below.

President: Mark Riley

Vice President: Kevin Boehme

Elders: Tom Glasser
(elect 3) Tom Sanders*
Kurt Ziegler*

11:00 Deacons: Marty Rieck
(elect 1)

Trustees: Mark Killinger
(elect 2) Jonathan Stutzman
Neil Wagner

*Indicates Incumbent

2022 Nominating Committee Members: Barb Harrold (Chair), Mark Arelt, Steve Cox, Connie Munn, Paula Mikulan, and Caleb Cox. Thank you to all!

Ex Officio: Pastor Carlson and Pastor McMinn

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For The Month of January, 2022

Acolytes: 8:30 a.m. Joshua Cimarolli
11:00 a.m. Noah McMinn

Crucifers: 8:30 a.m. (1/9, 1/23) Maddie Cox
11:00 a.m. (1/2, 1/16, 1/30) Abby Stutzman

Altar Guild: Kathi Siciliano

Counters: 8:30 a.m. Brian Schmidt and TBD
11:00 a.m. Will Charlton and Kris Wentz

<u>Ushers:</u>	8:30 a.m.	Bernard Paterra, John Ruzicka
	11:00 a.m.	TBD

Coffee Hour: Weighley

Adult SS Class Today In Large Classroom

Pastor Carlson is teaching the Adult Sunday School Class on the book of Romans. This book contains the most complete and comprehensive explanations of the teachings of the Christian faith. Each week we will be doing a chapter overview while also doing a deep dive to discover particular gems. Whether you have never read the book, or have it memorized, this will be a great opportunity for you to grow in your understanding of your Christian faith! Today we are studying Chapter 11.

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## **Today in the Upper Room**

**Forgiving What You Can't Forget**—Join us for a continuing 6-week Bible study in which author Lysa TerKeurst shares her personal journey with forgiveness and what the Bible has to say about letting go of resentment and finding peace. In each individual session, we will explore a step-by-step plan to free ourselves from hurt, disempower triggers that hijack our emotions, deal with difficult relationships, and discover the life-giving freedom that our souls desperately need. All are welcome to join—drop in on any one of the sessions!!!

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YOUTH NEWS

SWAP (6-8th Grades)

There is **SWAP** tonight, 6-7:30 p.m. at the Church.

TNT (9-12th Grades)

TNT will meet at Ruthfred on January 4th, 7-9 p.m.

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Questions/concerns?

Contact: Regan Johnson at [ReganJohnson@ruthfred.org](mailto:ReganJohnson@ruthfred.org), or  
(c) (218)-230-5800

## This Week At Ruthfred

### Today (1/2) CITY MISSION FOOD SUNDAY

8:30 a.m.—Communion Service  
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.—Communion Service  
6:00 p.m.—Communion Service

### Monday (1/3)

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

### Tuesday (1/4)

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

### Wednesday (1/5)

5:45 p.m.—Children's Choir  
6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir  
6:45 p.m.—Confirmation; JTTW; Kids' Time  
7:30 p.m.—Senior Choir

### Thursday (1/6) THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

### Friday (1/7)

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

### Saturday (1/8)

930 a.m.—Mary Bible Study (Fireside Lounge)

### Sunday (1/9) EPIPHANY SUNDAY

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service  
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.—Worship Service

As the shepherds and magi worshiped the Word-made  
-flesh, we too gather to worship the Lord. Welcome,  
one and all!



### Attendance for Last Week:

Christmas Eve...617 Live Stream...56  
Christmas Day...56  
Church (12/26)...187 Live Stream...48  
Sunday School...41

## Prayer Requests

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

☐ Please keep this request  
Private (to be kept amongst the  
pastors and vicar 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:

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Name:

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Children:

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Address:

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Phone (indicate home, cell, etc.)

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Email:

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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. Steven P. Carlson** | Senior Pastor  
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 229)  
[PastorCarlson@ruthfred.org](mailto:PastorCarlson@ruthfred.org)

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**Brian Lyskava** | Custodian

**Andrew Vogel** | Multi-Media Coordinator  
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**A. J. Dolence** | Livestream & Social Media Assistant  
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**Robert Vogel** | Senior & Bell Choirs  
[rjvogel58@gmail.com](mailto:rjvogel58@gmail.com)

**Frederick Schell**  
Organist

**Melissa Manzo**  
Children's Choir

**Denise Stutzman** | Preschool Head Teacher  
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**Lauren Compel & Denise Stutzman**  
Kid's Time Leaders

### Ruthfred Lutheran Church

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