

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

The Second Sunday after Pentecost, June 11, 2023

Prelude:

"Meditation on Five Shaker Hymn Tunes"

(W. Held)

The Opening Hymn:

"To God Be the Glory"

(Crowning Glory
Hymnal #14)

(Please stand as we
join our hearts in
song)

FANNY J. CROSBY

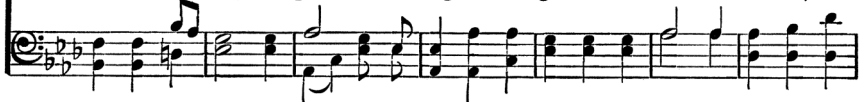
WILLIAM H. DOANE



1. To God be the glo-ry — great things He hath done, So loved He the world that He
2. O per - fect re-demp-tion, the purchase of blood! To ev - 'ry be-liev - er the
3. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, And great our rejoicing thro'



gave us His Son, Who yield-ed His life an a-tone-ment for sin And o-pened the
prom-ise of God; The vil - est of-fend-er who tru-ly be-lieves, That moment from
Je - sus the Son; But pu - rer and higher and greater will be Our won-der, our



CHORUS



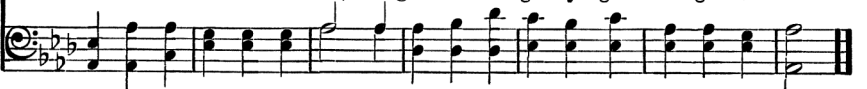
Life-gate that all may go in.
Je - sus a par-don receives. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His
transport, when Jesus we see.



voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the peo-ple re-joice! O come to the



Fa-ther thro' Je-sus the Son, And give Him the glo-ry — great things He hath done.



The “invocation” is Latin for “call upon.” In the Invocation we remember our baptism and acknowledge God as our Father. We are reminded that through Christ’s name we have access to the Father’s throne by the Holy Spirit. Because we are children of God, we have the privilege to invite (invoke) God’s presence and blessing upon this service of “divine liturgy” in which we receive the Work of God through His Word and Spirit, and also in which we offer up to God our praise as an act of worship. *Hebrews 10:19-25; 13:15; Ephesians 2:18*

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

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

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

The Call to Worship and Invocation

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

Congregation (C): Amen

The Confession of Sins (SBH, p. 41)

Pastor (P): Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord

Congregation (C): Who made heaven and earth. (Psalm 124:8)

P: I said, “I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. (Psalm 32:5)

P: Let us bow or kneel for the confession of our sin.

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee, that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring thy grace, for the sake of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

(Silent Prayer of Personal Confession)

Together:

O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will, and true obedience to Thy Word, that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only-begotten son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name, He gives the power to become children of God, and bestows upon them His Holy Spirit. The one who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this O Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen

“Introit” means “to enter into,” and is a responsive reading meant to lead God’s forgiven children into the worship of Him. The words are from Scripture, and relate to the theme of the day in the liturgical calendar.

“Kyrie” is from the Greek word for *Lord*, which is the first word of the prayer. Distinct from the confession of sin, it is a prayer for God to grant His mercy in every aspect of our lives and to supply us with all our needs, personally, corporately and for the whole world.

The Introit (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: O Lord, I have trusted in Your mercy:

C: My heart shall rejoice in Your salvation.

P: I will sing unto the Lord because He has dealt bountifully with me.
How long will You forget me, O Lord?

C: How long will You hide your face from me? (Psalm 13:1, 5, 6)

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.

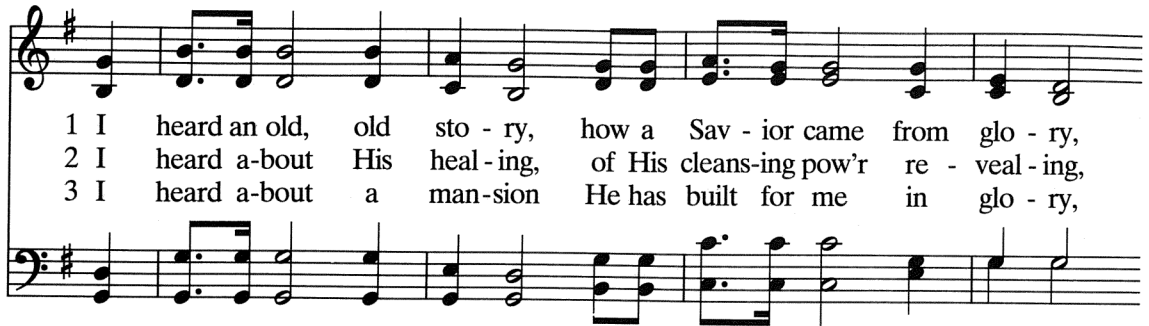
P: Christ, have mercy upon us.

C: Christ, have mercy upon us.


P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

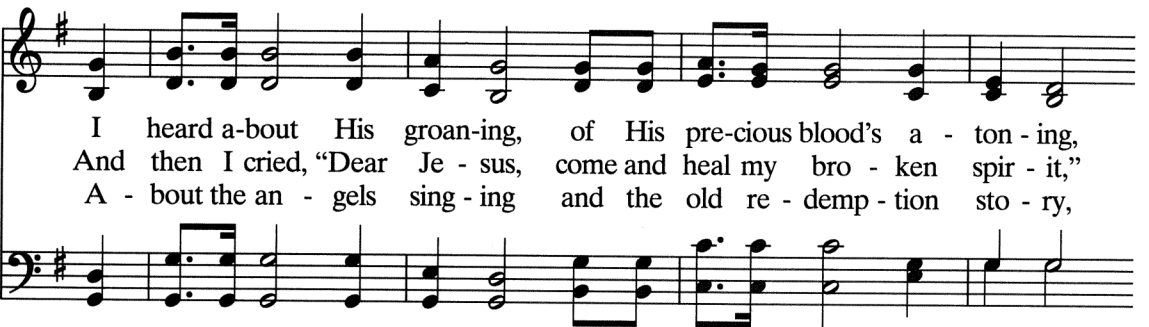
The Hymn of Praise: "Victory in Jesus" (AMB #542)



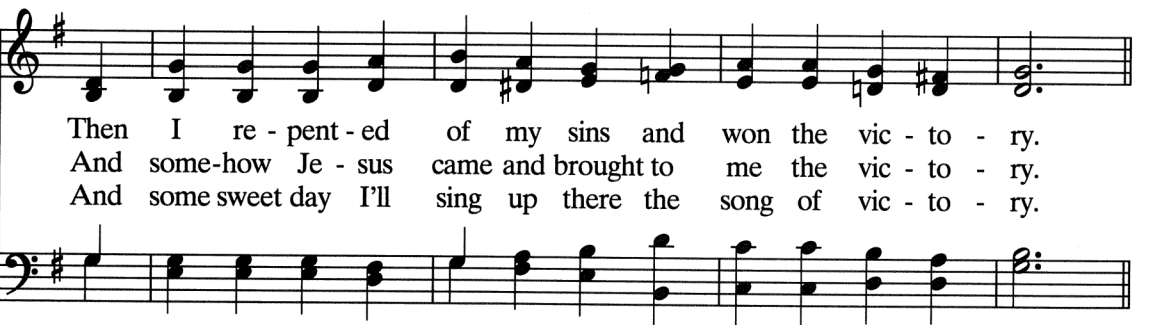
1 I heard an old, old sto - ry, how a Sav - ior came from glo - ry,
2 I heard a-bout His heal - ing, of His cleans - ing pow'r re - veal - ing,
3 I heard a-bout a man - sion He has built for me in glo - ry,



How He gave His life on Cal - va - ry to save a wretch like me:
How He made the lame to walk a - gain and caused the blind to see;
And I heard a - bout the streets of gold be - yond the crys - tal sea;



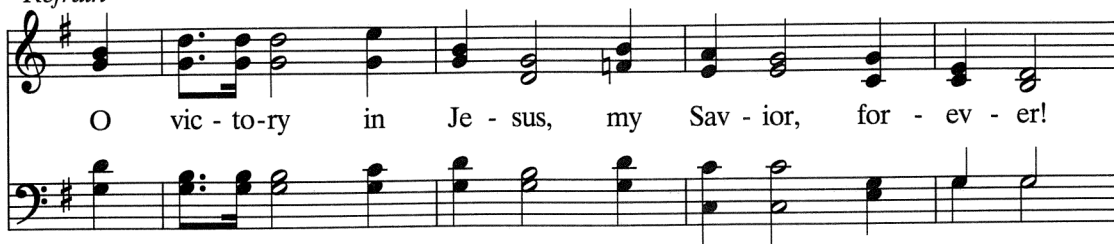
I heard a-bout His groan - ing, of His pre - cious blood's a - ton - ing,
And then I cried, "Dear Je - sus, come and heal my bro - ken spir - it,"
A - bout the an - gels sing - ing and the old re - demp - tion sto - ry,



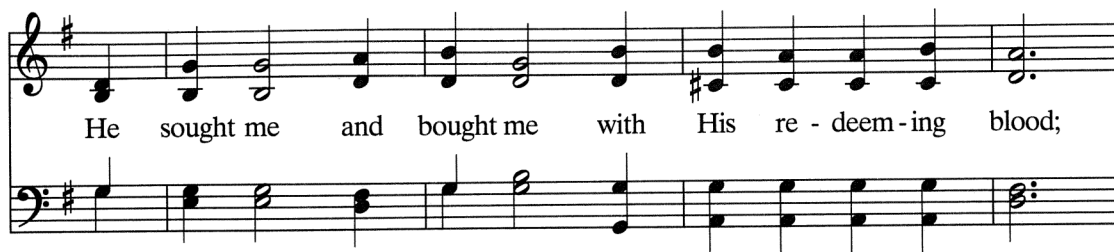
Then I re - pent - ed of my sins and won the vic - to - ry.
And some - how Je - sus came and brought to me the vic - to - ry.
And some sweet day I'll sing up there the song of vic - to - ry.

The Hymn of Praise: "Victory in Jesus" (AMB #542) (cont'd)

Refrain



O vic - to - ry in Je - sus, my Sav - ior, for - ev - er!



He sought me and bought me with His re - deem - ing blood;



He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him—



He plunged me to vic - to - ry be - neath the cleans - ing flood.

Text: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1885–1941
Tune: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1885–1941

VICTORY IN JESUS
78 96 78 14 w/refrain

The "collect" is a prayer of the day for each day in the liturgical calendar. It is meant to "collect" the prayers of God's people.

God's chief means of extending His grace to His children is through His Word. Hearing it and learning it are central to His proper worship.

The Collect:

P: The Lord be with you:

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Let us continue to pray: O God, the strength of all them that put their trust in You. Mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without You, grant us the help of Your grace, that in keeping Your commandments we may please You, both in will and deed; 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: Exodus 14:8-14 (NASB)

⁸ The LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and he chased after the sons of Israel as the sons of Israel were going out boldly. ⁹ Then the Egyptians chased after them *with* all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, his horsemen and his army, and they overtook them camping by the sea, beside Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon. ¹⁰ As Pharaoh drew near, the sons of Israel looked, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they became very frightened; so the sons of Israel cried out to the LORD. ¹¹ Then they said to Moses, "Is it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you dealt with us in this way, bringing us out of Egypt? ¹² Is this not the word that we spoke to you in Egypt, saying, 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." ¹³ But Moses said to the people, "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the LORD which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever. ¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you while you keep silent."

The Psalm: Psalm 119:65-72 (NASB)

P: You have dealt well with Your servant, O LORD, according to Your word.

C: Teach me good discernment and knowledge, for I believe in Your commandments.

P: Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word.

C: You are good and do good; teach me Your statutes .

P: The arrogant have forged a lie against me; with all *my* heart I will observe Your precepts.

C: Their heart is covered with fat, *but* I delight in Your law .

P: It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes.

C: The law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver *pieces*.

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 4:13-25 (NASB)

¹³ For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if those who are of the Law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise is nullified; ¹⁵ for the Law brings about wrath, but where there is no law, there also is no violation. ¹⁶ For this reason *it is* by faith, in order that *it may be* in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷ (as it is written, "A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS HAVE I MADE YOU") in the presence of Him whom he believed, *even* God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist. ¹⁸ In hope against hope he believed, so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had been spoken, "SO SHALL YOUR DESCENDANTS BE." ¹⁹ Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; ²⁰ yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, ²¹ and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform. ²² Therefore IT WAS ALSO CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS. ²³ Now not for his sake only was it written that it was credited to him, ²⁴ but for our sake also, to whom it will be credited, as those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵ *He* who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification.

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

I said, Lord, be merciful unto me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against You. Blessed is he that considers the poor. The Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. Alleluia, alleluia. O Lord my God, in You do I put my trust. Save me from all them that persecute me, and deliver me. Alleluia. (Psalm 41:1, 4; Psalm 7:1)

The Alleluia (Sung in Unison)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel Lesson: Matthew 9:9-13 (NASB)

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

⁹ As Jesus went on from there, He saw a man called Matthew, sitting in the tax collector's booth; and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he got up and followed Him. ¹⁰ Then it happened that as Jesus was reclining *at the table* in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were dining with Jesus and His disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw *this*, they said to His disciples, "Why is your Teacher eating with the tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when Jesus heard *this*, He said, "*It is* not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick." ¹³ But go and learn what this means: 'I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT SACRIFICE,' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

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

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

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.

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—*Give Thanks* (H. Smith / J. Wilson)

God Himself is with us, let us now adore Him,
and with awe appear before Him.

God is in His temple. All within keep silence,
and before Him bow in reverence.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"

Let the poor say, "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us."

God Himself is with us; hear the hymns ascending,
saints and angels' voices blending.
Give thanks.

The Special Music

11:00 Praise Team—*The Blessing* (Chris Brown/Cody Carnes/Kari
Jobe/Steven Furtick) (CCLI #7147007)

Verse

The Lord bless you and keep you
Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you
The Lord turn His face toward you
And give you peace.

Chorus

Amen
Amen, amen
Amen
Amen, amen.

Verse

The Lord bless you and keep you
Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you
The Lord turn His face toward you
And give you peace.

Chorus

Amen
Amen, amen
Amen
Amen, amen.

[Instrumental Interlude]

Bridge 1

May His favor be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family and your children
And their children and their children.

Bridge 1

May His favor be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family and your children
And their children and their children.

(continued on next page)

The Special Music (cont'd)

Bridge 2

May His presence go before you
And behind you and beside you
All around you and within you
He is with you He is with you.

Bridge 3

In the morning in the evening
In your coming and your going
In your weeping and rejoicing
He is for you He is for you.

Tag

He is for you He is for you
He is for you He is for you
He is for you He is for you
Amen! Amen!

Chorus

Amen
Amen, amen
Amen
Amen, amen.

Bridge 2

May His presence go before you
And behind you and beside you
All around you and within you
He is with you He is with you.

Bridge 3

In the morning in the evening
In your coming and your going
In your weeping and rejoicing
He is for you He is for you.

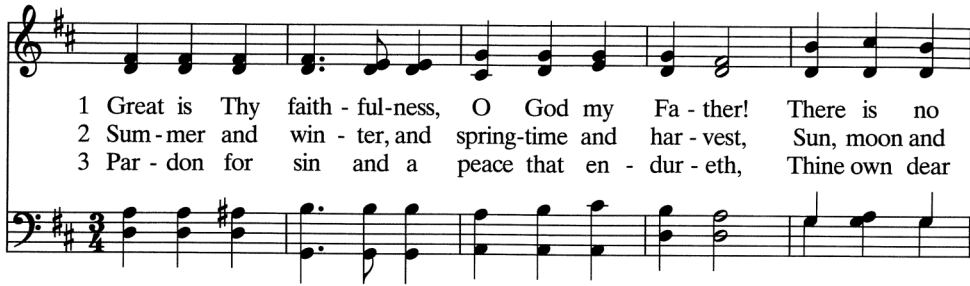
He is for you He is for you
He is for you He is for you
He is for you He is for you
He is for you.

Recognition of 2023 High School Graduates

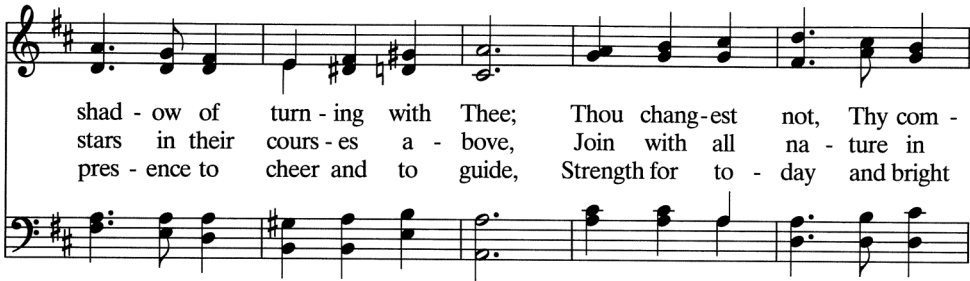
The Announcements (Please be seated)

The Children's Object Lesson

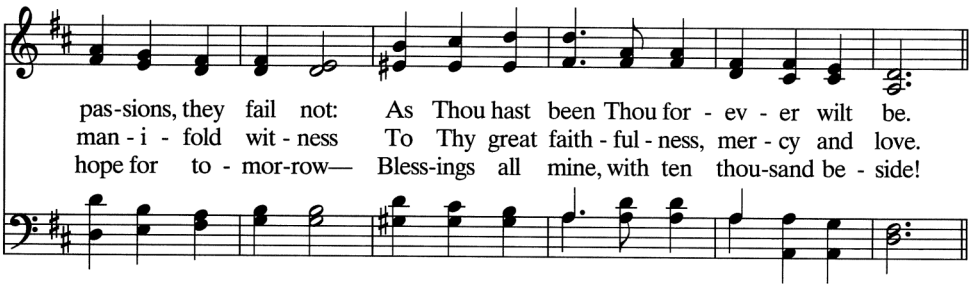
The Sermon Hymn: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (AMB #559)



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther! There is no
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest, Sun, moon and
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, Thine own dear

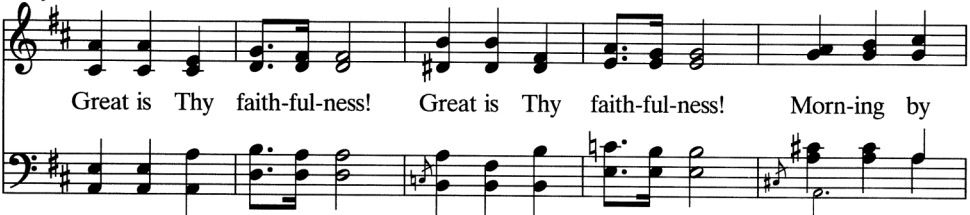


shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee; Thou chang - est not, Thy com -
 stars in their cours - es a - bove, Join with all na - ture in
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide, Strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions, they fail not: As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man - i - fold wit - ness To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love.
 hope for to - mor - row— Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed Thy

The Sermon Hymn: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” (AMB #559) (cont’d)

hand hath pro - vid-ed— Great is Thy faith - ful-ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Tune: William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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FAITHFULNESS

11 10 11 10 w/refrain

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: “Divine Warrior and Savior God” | Exodus 14:13-14

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:

"Trust and Obey"

(AMB #517)

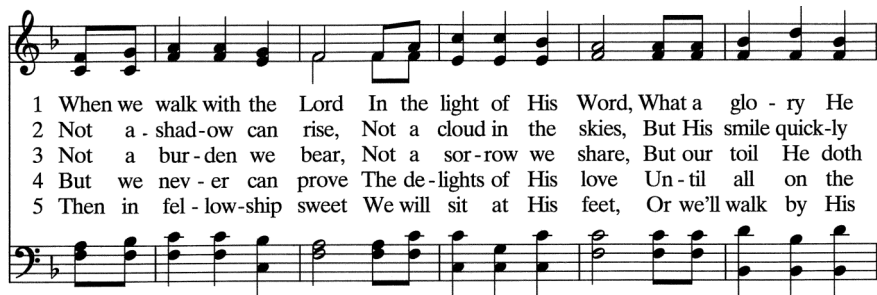
The Silent Prayer &

Chimes

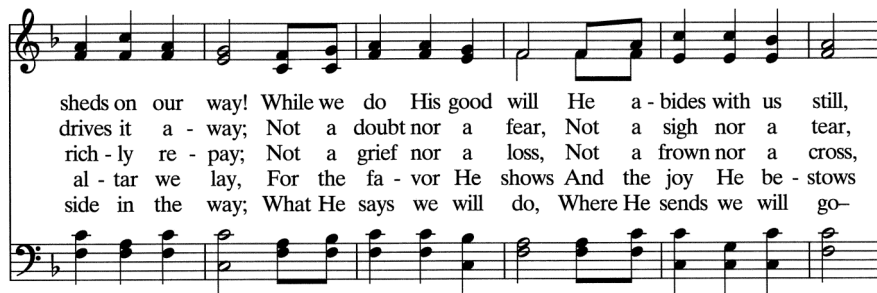
The Postlude:

"Festival Postlude"

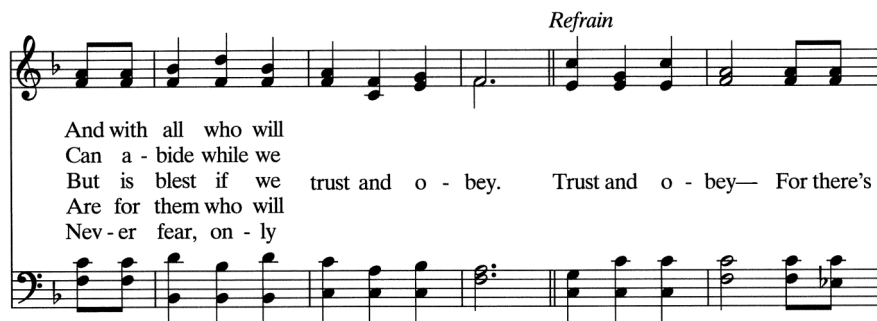
(W. E. Thayer)



1 When we walk with the Lord In the light of His Word, What a glo - ry He
2 Not a - shad - ow can rise, Not a cloud in the skies, But His smile quick - ly
3 Not a bur - den we bear, Not a sor - row we share, But our toil He doth
4 But we nev - er can prove The de - lights of His love Un - til all on the
5 Then in fel - low - ship sweet We will sit at His feet, Or we'll walk by His



sheds on our way! While we do His good will He a - bides with us still,
drives it a - way; Not a doubt nor a fear, Not a sigh nor a tear,
rich - ly re - pay; Not a grief nor a loss, Not a frown nor a cross,
al - tar we lay, For the fa - vor He shows And the joy He be - stows
side in the way; What He says we will do, Where He sends we will go -



Refrain

And with all who will
Can a - bide while we
But is blest if we trust and o - bey. Trust and o - bey— For there's
Are for them who will
Nev - er fear, on - ly



no oth - er way To be hap - py in Je - sus But to trust and o - bey.

Text: John H. Sammis, 1846–1919
Tune: Daniel B. Towner, 1850–1919

TRUST AND OBEY
669 669 w/refrain

Announcements

The altar flowers are presented by Marty and Felicia Rieck in honor of their 15th wedding anniversary—1 Corinthians 13.

The chancel rail flowers are presented by Lori Yanosich in honor of her parents' 63rd wedding anniversary: Happy 63rd anniversary to my parents, Don (with our Heavenly Father) and Barbara Wilkinson. We are so thankful to them for providing us a beautiful example of a truly loving marriage!

Special thanks to our visiting clergy today. The Rev. Dr. Brent Olson is preaching, while the Rev. Dr. Nathan Olson is leading adult Sunday School. We are grateful to them for traveling from Minnesota to be with us today. Please take time to greet each of them!

11:00 Usher for June: George Barrett will be serving as usher for the 11:00 service in June. This information was inadvertently left out of last week's bulletin.

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

Known to be hospitalized: None known.

Prayers for Recovery and Healing: Joanne Salvetti is NOW HOME! Susan Boehme—ankle surgery. Gene Hershberger—treatment for lung cancer. 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. Please keep them in your prayers, as well as all those members of the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

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

Official Act: On Saturday, June 3, 2023, Pastor McMinn officiated at a funeral service for Erna Jochum in the Ruthfred sanctuary and at her burial at Bethel Cemetery. Please keep Erna's dear friend, Annmarie DeJames, and Erna's extended family in Germany, in your thoughts and prayers.

Current Fund: Given by Dottie and George Barrett in loving memory of dear friend Erna Jochum.

Journey Through the Word Fund: Given by Cindy Heddaeus in memory of Erna Jochum.

Music Fund: Given by Jan and John Ruzicka in memory of Erna Jochum. Given by Essi Efthimiou in memory of Fred Schell. Given by Barb Thomas in loving memory of Erna Jochum. Given by Bob and Gladys Reith in memory of Erna Jochum. Given by Dorothy Kratz in memory of Erna Jochum.

A Sincere Thank You from Amy Sue Jones for all of the wonderful cards she has received from church members!

VBS Volunteer Meeting: Please join us today after the 11:00 a.m. service. We will meet in the Adult Sunday School room. Please contact Jason Weighley if you have questions or are unable to attend but would like to help (jason.weighley@gmail.com).

Save the Date—Parents' Date Night: Mark THIS FRIDAY, June 16th, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., on 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.

Announcements (cont'd)

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 today 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.

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.

Post-Secondary Graduates: It is that time of year when we want to recognize our graduates. Please let us know (via email to sallyondrejko@ruthfred.org) of any college or graduate school students who 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.

Craft & Sew: In June, the **Crafters only** will meet. Our next meeting will be Monday, June 19. Please join us at 9:30. We will take a break for July and August.

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

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

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.

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.

Meals on Wheels Thank You: On behalf of the South Park Meals on Wheels program, I want to thank our generous congregation for donating over 88 bottles of salad dressing to help with their needs. They were so very grateful to receive the donation! Thank you! *Carol Ward*

Announcements (cont'd)

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

“Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly... Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer....” —

Romans 6:6, 10-12.

Donations for Allegheny County Jail: Through today, 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 Fireside 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 have scheduled a New Member class to begin June 25th. If you have previously expressed interest in this class, you should have received a letter from Ruthfred with details. If you have not previously expressed interest, or if you did not receive a letter and are interested, please contact Melissa Bostaph (contact information on back of bulletin) to let her know. Current members are welcome as well, but please let Melissa know, so that we have sufficient class materials.

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!

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

Adult Sunday School Class Today In Large Classroom

Today, we welcome the **Rev. Dr. Nathan Olson** as our Adult Sunday School teacher. His topic will be “A Corinthian Ecclesiology.” Translation: He will be reflecting on how God has a plan for His Church and its members. Come hear about how God works in and through the body of Christ and the theology of the congregation!.

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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!

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Summer Sunday School for Kids

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

YOUTH NEWS

SWAP (6-8 Grade)

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

SWAP and TNT: Summer Kick-Off, June 13, 5-9 p.m. at Ruthfred.

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**Questions/concerns?**

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



## 2023 High School Graduates

Congratulations to all of our seniors graduating from high school this year! We pray for God's blessings on the next chapter of your lives.



Alana Agnew  
Caleb Cox  
Andrew Dolence  
Emma Hardy  
Colton Pfeuffer  
Matthew Russell  
Vivian Russell  
Landon Tarrant  
Zachary Taylor



## This Week At Ruthfred

**Today (6/11) 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service (Rev. Dr. Brent Olson preaching)

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School (Rev. Dr. Nathan Olson)

11:00 a.m.—Worship Service (Rev. Dr. Brent Olson preaching)

H.S. Graduate Recognition at both services

## Noon-ish—VBS Volunteer Meeting

### Monday (6/12)

7:00 p.m.—Elders' Prayer Time

7:30 p.m.—Council Meeting

## Tuesday (6/13)

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

## Wednesday (6/14) Flag Day; AFLC Annual Conference Opens

10:00 a.m.—JTTW Summer Films ("Hiding Place")

Noon—Esther

### Thursday (6/15)

2:00 p.m.—Ruth

**Happy 92<sup>nd</sup> Birthday to Kay Wyrwas!**

### Friday (6/16)

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

5:30—8:30 p.m.—Parents' Date Night

### Saturday (6/17)

6:00 p.m.—Contemporary Liturgical Worship

**Sunday (6/18) Father's Day; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School

1 1:00 a.m.—Worship Service

“The earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord” (Psalm 33:5). Welcome to worship. Let us together praise God!

**Attendance for Last Week:**

Sunday Worship...315    Sunday School...39

Live Stream...35

## 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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[PastorMcMinn@ruthfred.org](mailto:PastorMcMinn@ruthfred.org)

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**John Sperandio** | Live Stream & Social Media Asst.  
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**Robert Vogel**  
Senior & Bell Choirs

**Essi Efthimiou**  
Interim Organist

**Melissa Manzo**  
Children’s Choir

**Annie Buzon** | Preschool Director  
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