



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.

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 in Lent, March 5, 2023

Prelude:

"Prelude on 'Dundee'"

(E. W. Beals)

"Ar Hyd y Nos"

(S. Owens)

"Larghetto"

(J. C. Schmutgel)

The Opening Hymn:

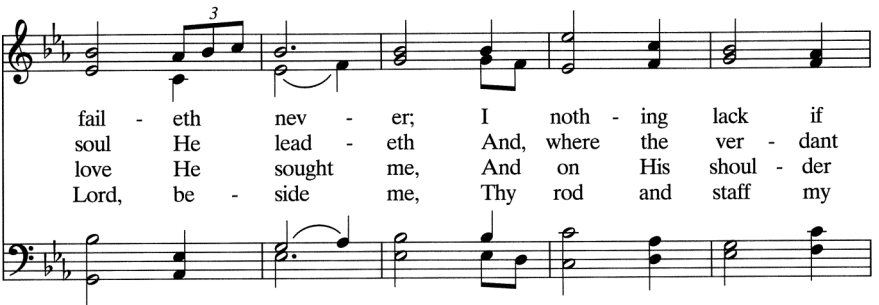
"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

(AMB #566)

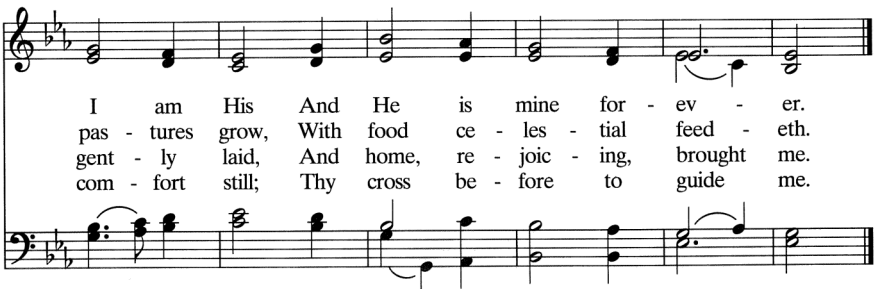
(Please stand as we
join our hearts in
song)



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
love He sought me, And on His shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, And home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still; Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
Thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877
Tune: Irish

ST. COLUMBA
87 87

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

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

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

The Call to Worship and Invocation

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

Congregation (C): Amen

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

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

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

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

The Absolution, Admonition & Blessing

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

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

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

C: Amen

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

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

The "Gradual" (Latin for *step*) is a liturgical reading bridging the readings of the epistle and the Gospel. It is comprised of Scripture, mostly the Psalms.

The Introit (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: Remember, O Lord, Your tender mercies and Your lovingkindnesses.

C: For they have been ever of old.

P: Let not my enemies triumph over me.

C: Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

P: Unto You, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

C: O my God, I trust in You; let me not be ashamed.

(Psalm 25:1, 2, 6, 22)

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: Job 19:23-27 (NASB)

²³ "Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book! ²⁴ "That with an iron stylus and lead they were engraved in the rock forever! ²⁵ "As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will take His stand on the earth. ²⁶ "Even after my skin is destroyed, yet from my flesh I shall see God; ²⁷ Whom I myself shall behold, and whom my eyes will see and not another. My heart faints within me!

The Gradual

The troubles of my heart are enlarged. O bring You me out of my distresses. Look upon my affliction and my pain and forgive all my sins. O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good. For His mercy endures forever. (Psalm 25:17, 18; 106:1)

The Sentence for Lent

Christ hath humbled himself, and become obedient unto death: even the death of the Cross.

The Holy Gospel Lesson: John 11:1-7, 17-46, 53 (NASB)

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

¹ Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was the Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick. ³ So the sisters sent *word* to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick." ⁴ But when Jesus heard *this*, He said, "This sickness is not to end in death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it." ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when He heard that he was sick, He then

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The Holy Gospel Lesson: John 11;1-7, 17-46, 53 (NASB) (cont'd)

stayed two days *longer* in the place where He was.⁷ Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again."

¹⁷ So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days.¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off;¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary, to console them concerning *their* brother.²⁰ Martha therefore, when she heard that Jesus was coming, went to meet Him, but Mary stayed at the house.²¹ Martha then said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.²² Even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You."²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."²⁴ Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies,²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"²⁷ She said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I have believed that You are the Christ, the Son of God, *even* He who comes into the world."²⁸ When she had said this, she went away and called Mary her sister, saying secretly, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you."²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and was coming to Him.³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha met Him.³¹ Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and consoling her, when they saw that Mary got up quickly and went out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.³² Therefore, when Mary came where Jesus was, she saw Him, and fell at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."³³ When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her *also* weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and was troubled,³⁴ and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see."³⁵ Jesus wept.³⁶ So the Jews were saying, "See how He loved him!"³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have kept this man also from dying?"³⁸ So Jesus, again being deeply moved within, came to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.³⁹ Jesus said, "Remove the stone." Martha, the sister of the deceased, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there will be a stench, for he has been *dead* four days."⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"⁴¹ So they removed the stone. Then Jesus raised His eyes, and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me.⁴² I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me."⁴³ When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth."⁴⁴ The man who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was

(continued on next page)

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 Holy Gospel Lesson: John 11;1-7, 17-46, 53 (NASB) (cont'd)

wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what He had done, believed in Him. ⁴⁶ But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them the things which Jesus had done.

⁵³ So from that day on they planned together to kill Him.

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

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

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

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

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

The Anthem

11:00: Senior Choir—*Dear Lord, Remember Me* (J. Roff)

O Thou from Whom all goodness flows, I lift my heart to Thee;
In all my sorrows, conflicts, woes, Dear Lord, remember me.
When on my aching, burdened heart, My sins lie heavily,
Thy pardon grant, Thy peace impart, In love remember me.

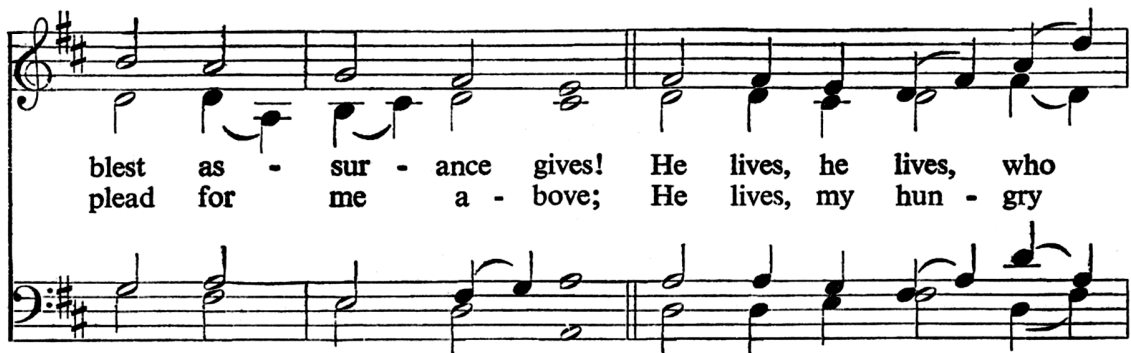
If on my face for Thy dear name, Shame and reproaches be;
All hail reproach, and welcome shame, If Thou remember me.
And O when in the hour of death, I won Thy just decree,
Be this the prayer of my last breath, Dear Lord remember me.

The Announcements

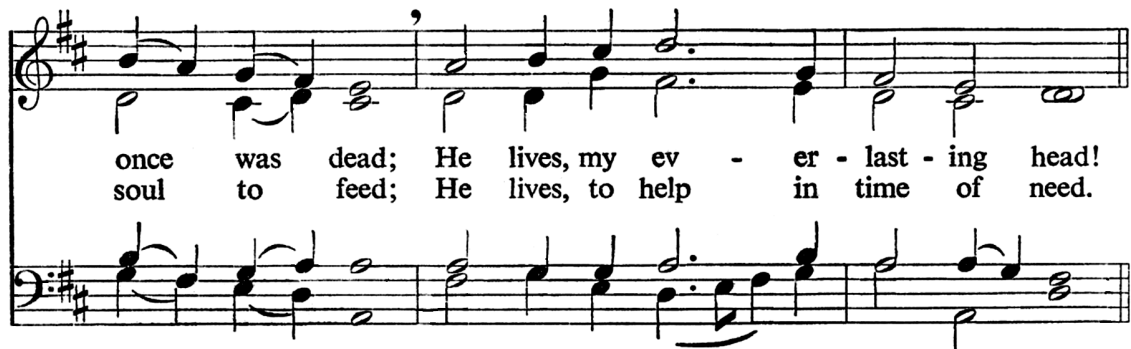
The Sermon Hymn: "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" (SBH #387)



1. I know that my Re - deem - er lives: What joy the
2. He lives, to bless me with his love; He lives, to



blest as - sur - ance gives! He lives, he lives, who
plead for me a - bove; He lives, my hun - gry



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - last - ing head!
soul to feed; He lives, to help in time of need.

3 He lives, and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives, my mansion to prepare;
He lives, to bring me safely there.

4 He lives, all glory to his Name;
He lives, my Saviour, still the same;
What joy the blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Samuel Medley, 1738-99

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.

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.

The Sermon: "Jesus Wept" | John 11:1-7, 17-46, 53

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 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.

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

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

Luther formulated a list of 20 questions with appropriate responses to guide the believer to prepare their hearts for Communion. We include a selection of those questions on page 13 for the purpose of aiding you in the same way.

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.

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

C: And with thy Spirit.

The Agnus Dei

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

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

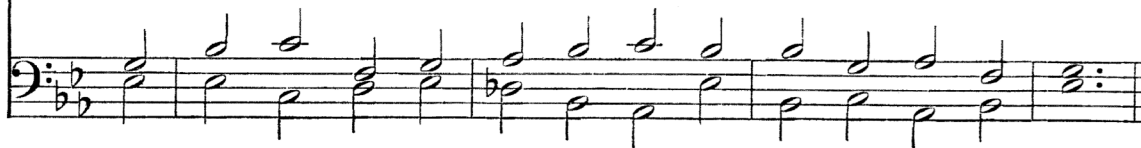
O Christ thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace. Amen.

The Distribution

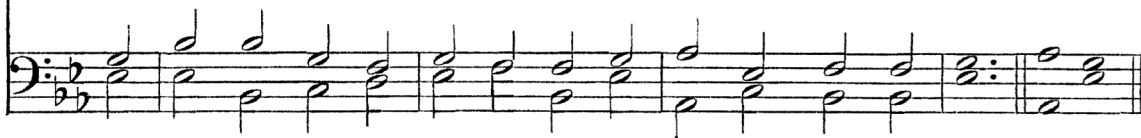
During Communion we shall sing: "According to Thy Gracious Word" (SBH #266) and "Lord Jesus Christ We Humbly Pray" (SBH #265, 1st tune)



1. Ac - cord - ing to thy gra - cious word, In meek hu - mil - i - ty,
2. Thy Bod - y, bro - ken for my sake, My bread from heaven shall be;
3. Geth - sem - a - ne can I for - get, Or there thy con - flict see,



This will I do, my dy - ing Lord, I will re - mem - ber thee.
Thy tes - ta - men - tal cup I take, And thus re - mem - ber thee.
Thine ag - o - ny and blood - y sweat, And not re - mem - ber thee? A - men.



- 4 When to the Cross I turn mine eyes, 5 Remember thee, and all thy pains,
And rest on Calvary, And all thy love to me;
O Lamb of God, my Sacrifice, Yea, while a breath, a pulse remains,
I must remember thee! Will I remember thee.

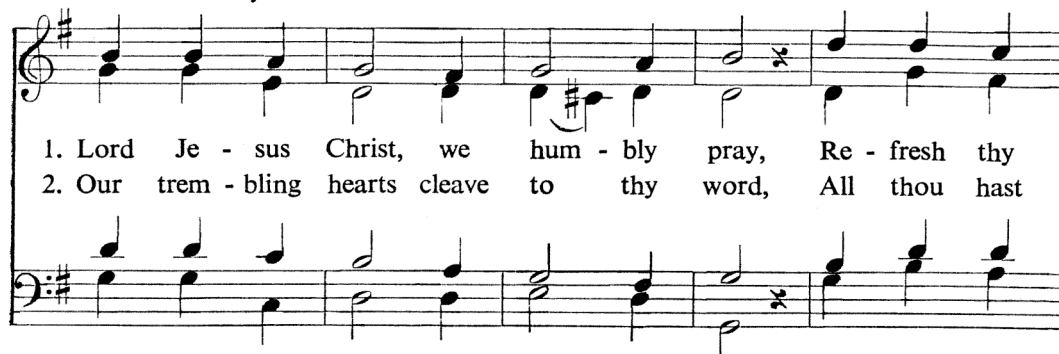
- 6 And when these failing lips grow dumb,
And mind and memory flee,
When thou shalt in thy kingdom come,
Jesus, remember me. Amen.

James Montgomery, 1771–1854

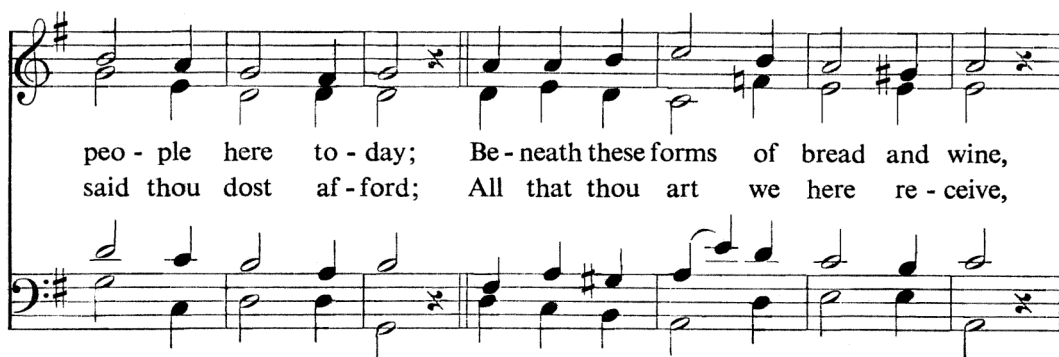
The Distribution (cont'd)

"Lord Jesus Christ We Humbly Pray" (SBH #265, 1st tune)

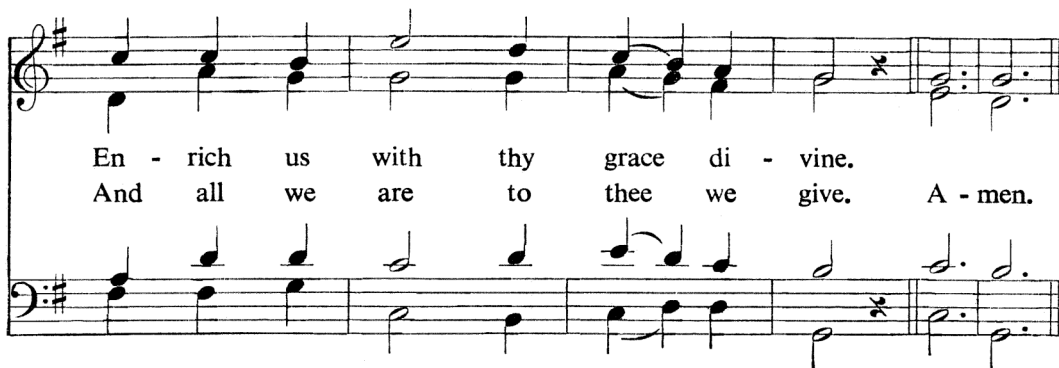
Devotionally



1. Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray, Re - fresh thy
2. Our trem - bling hearts cleave to thy word, All thou hast



peo - ple here to - day; Be - neath these forms of bread and wine,
said thou dost af - ford; All that thou art we here re - ceive,



En - rich us with thy grace di - vine.
And all we are to thee we give. A - men.

3 One bread, one cup, one body, we,
United by our life in thee,
Thy love proclaim till thou shalt come,
To bring thy scattered loved ones home.

4 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray
To keep us steadfast to that day,
That each may be thy welcomed guest
When thou shalt spread thy heavenly feast.
Amen.

Henry Eyster Jacobs, 1844-1932, a.

Do you believe that you are a sinner?

Yes, I believe that I am a sinner.

Are you sorry for your sins?

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

Do you desire to be saved?

Yes, such is my desire.

In Whom do you trust?

In my dear Lord, Jesus Christ.

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

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

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

Yes, I believe it.

What induces you to believe this?

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

Why ought we to remember and proclaim His death?

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

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

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

The Nunc Dimittis

U: Lord now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the Glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Prayer

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

C: And His mercy endureth forever

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

P: The Lord be with you.

C. And with thy spirit

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Benediction

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May He make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May He lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Numbers 6:24-26)

C: Amen

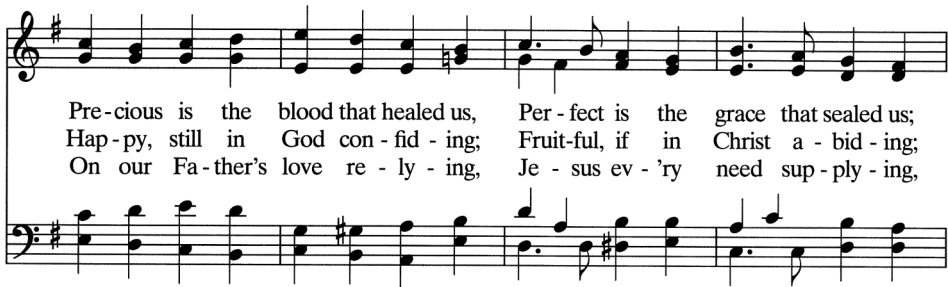
The Closing Hymn: "Through the Love of God Our Father" (AMB #598)



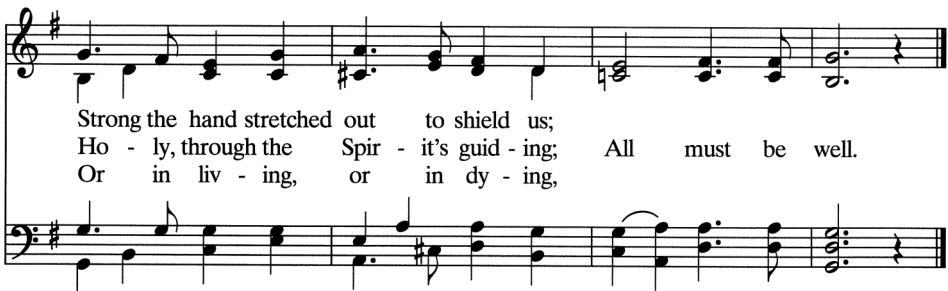
1 Through the love of God our Fa - ther
 2 Though we pass through trib - u - la - tion, All will be well;
 3 We ex - pect a bright to - mor - row;



Free and change-less is His fa - vor,
 Ours is such a full sal - va - tion, All, all is well:
 Faith can sing through days of sor - row,



Pre - cious is the blood that healed us, Per - fect is the grace that sealed us;
 Hap - py, still in God con - fid - ing; Fruit-ful, if in Christ a - bid - ing;
 On our Fa - ther's love re - ly - ing, Je - sus ev - 'ry need sup - ply - ing,



Strong the hand stretched out to shield us;
 Ho - ly, through the Spir - it's guid - ing; All must be well.
 Or in liv - ing, or in dy - ing,

Text: Mary Peters, 1813–1856

Tune: Welsh traditional; Jones' Relics of the Welsh Bards, 1784

AR HYD Y NOS

84 84 88 84

The Silent Prayer & Chimes

The Postlude: "Andante" (E. Fellowes)

Announcements

The altar flowers are presented by Patricia Lindauer in loving memory of Leonard Lindauer.

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

Known to be hospitalized: Fred Schell—Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Sewickley. Fred's home address is: 103 South Grandview Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15205. Joanne Salvetti—Magee Women's Hospital. Lundy Castro—Shadyside Hospital. Please support them with your prayers and cards.

Prayers for Recovery and Healing: Becky Lindner. Carol Holt (recent hospital stay). Linda Donolo (broken leg & hip replacement). Linda is currently in Florida, so cards can be sent to: 307 Reynolds Ct., Naples, FL 34112. Pat Lutz (upcoming surgery). Please keep all of them in your prayers, as well as all those in the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

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

Condolences: Our pastors and congregation extend Christian love and sympathy to Grace Motzer and her family on the passing of her husband, Fritz, on February 27th, 2023. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. His "going up" service will be here tomorrow, Monday, March 6, at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. Visitation will be today at the David Henney Funeral Home from 2-4 and 6-8. There will also be a time of visitation here at the church tomorrow at 10 a.m. prior to the funeral. A luncheon/celebration of life will follow the service, in the Fellowship Hall.

Craft and Sew Fund: Given by a close, old friend in memory of Jim Agnew.

Lenten Soup and Salad Suppers: Please join us for soup and salad suppers on Wednesday evenings from 6—7 p.m. An evening service will follow at 7:30 p.m. If you attend the 2:00 p.m. service, you are welcome to attend the supper also. Peggy Cox will be organizing the food. Arlene Ball will be coordinating volunteers for setting up, serving, and cleaning up. Please contact Arlene at 412-977-8013 or Arlene1952@gmail.com if you are able to help. Thank you in advance!

Family Easter Festival: The 4th annual festival for families with young children returns on April 2, 4-6 p.m. Activities are geared to children ages 2-8, but ALL are welcome. Inviting friends is encouraged. To ensure we have adequate supplies and food, **sign-up is REQUIRED by March 26**. This can be done online at ruthfred.org/announcements or on the list posted next to the Nursery. Please join us!

Volunteer/Donation Opportunities for Family Easter Festival: We are needing donations of desserts for the Festival. You can sign up on the list at the base of the stairs or by calling Peggy Cox. Also, we could use a few more kitchen helpers and "where needed" helpers. Please sign up on the list if you can serve, or contact Barb Harrold, brharrold@comcast.net.

Special Concert: Please join us on Tuesday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the adult Sunday School classroom for a concert by the vocal quintet CONVIVIAM. The group, formed in the fall of 2022, comprises five singers who met at Wheaton College, a Christian college in Illinois. The ensemble takes its name from the Latin word for "feast" or "banquet." Their repertoire spans a wide range, including Renaissance polyphony, jazz standards, contemporary choral works, and hymnody.

Announcements

Easter Flower Orders: Please consider ordering a tulip or a lily in memory of or in honor of a loved one to decorate our beautiful sanctuary for Easter. Envelopes will be available in the pew racks from now until March 26. **The cost for a tulip or a lily is \$13.00.** Place your cash or check in the envelope and write your dedication, name, and type of flower you prefer on the outside of the envelope. Envelopes may be placed in the collection baskets or in the box in the office.



City Mission Food Sunday is Today, Sunday, March 5: Our monthly food collection for the City Mission in Washington, PA. There is a flyer with needed items on the bulletin board across from the downstairs elevator. Donations can be placed outside the kitchen. Thank you for helping!

Farewell Reception for Pastor Carlson and Family: Please join us for a reception to honor Pastor Carlson and his family after the 11:00 a.m. service on March 19th.

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

Employment Opportunity at Ruthfred: Do you have a heart for the youngest in our Church family? We have a need for a nursery worker during the 8:30 a.m. service and Sunday School. Please contact Shane Cox if you can help: coxfarrierservice@gmail.com.

Craft & Sew Candy Collection: As of February, the women at Craft & Sew have sent nearly 2000 favors to local nursing homes since September. Because of this, our candy supply is almost depleted. Please help to refill our supply with snack-size Milky Way bars, M & M's, Hershey's Kisses, KitKats, or Twix bars. These candy favors put smiles on many faces. Thank you so much for doing your part! There is a collection box in the Fellowship Hall.

Journey Through the Word: Morning JTTW began a new study in January—Nancy Guthrie's The Promised One (Jesus in Genesis). Contact Sue Swan if you would like information about this study: 412-708-3535 or writingcygnet@gmail.com. The evening group has concluded for this school year. They will resume next fall on Wednesday, October 11th. Mark your calendars!

Save the date for Parents' Night Out Dinner at Church: Ruthfred Youth Ministry will be catering a dinner and providing entertainment for their parents on Friday, March 17, at 6:30 p.m.

Bible Reading 2023: Please join us in reading through the entire Bible in 2023, starting on January 1, 2023. We will be using the YouVersion Bible app, which provides a reading guide for each day (including a daily Psalm), over 150 videos to engage readers throughout the year, and a talk-it-over feature. The daily reading schedule will also be available on the Ruthfred website, as well as being printed in each month's Herald. The theme for 2023 will be "One Story That Leads to JESUS." For questions, or to sign up, please email Don Roose at donroose@yahoo.com.

Lutheran Ambassador: The March issue is now available for you to pick up at any one of the church entrances.

Knit Wits will meet this month on March 9th and 23rd at 10 a.m. All are welcome!

Easter Baskets for our Shut-Ins/Homebound Members

This project is back to normal this year. Donations and volunteers are needed. You are encouraged to visit with those receiving a basket depending on your and their comfort level. Some facilities may require that a mask be worn. Sign-up sheets for assembly at 10 a.m. and pickup/delivery beginning at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 1, are on the bulletin board across from the elevator.

Thank you so much for your help.

SUGGESTED DONATIONS

HOMEMADE GOODIES - muffins, cookies, etc. in baggies or individually wrapped for easier distribution.

Soft candies	Small notebooks
Mini candy bars	Pens
Snack crackers	Note cards
100 calorie snacks	Postage stamps
Breakfast bars	Applesauce
Hot/cold cereal	Wrapped tea bags
Mini muffins	Hot chocolate mix
Cookies	Soup packets
Pudding/Jello cups	Tissue packs
Diced fruit	Chapstick

Raisin or Craisin boxes

Please choose store items that are individually wrapped and/or single-serving food items. **NOTHING WITH NUTS. Sugar-free items are welcomed.** Any unused items will be donated to Meals on Wheels.

Please place items in the Easter basket collection bin outside the kitchen by Thursday, March 30.

Questions??? Contact Jeanine Szalinski or Jill Kurtz



Adult Sunday School Class in Large Classroom*

There is no Sunday School today. Next week Mark Arelt will begin a new series.



YOUTH NEWS

SWAP (6-8 Grade)

There is a **SWAP** meeting tonight at church, 6-7:30 p.m.

Save the date:

Friday, March 17: Parents' Night Out Dinner. Youth in Grades 6-12 will help prepare and serve a delicious meal for their parents!

TNT (9-12 Grade)

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

Save the date:

March 24-26: Seneca Hills Retreat for Grades 9-12.

Questions/concerns?

Contact: Any member of the Youth Committee



Please plan on joining us **today**
Sunday, MARCH 5
for our
Fellowship Breakfast

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

**Menu to include Assorted Breakfast Casseroles, Hash Brown
Breakfast Casserole, Bacon, Assorted Muffins & Donuts, Fresh
Fruit, Juice, Coffee, Tea**

GF and DF Options will be available.



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
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*"... where the spirit
of the Lord is,
there is freedom."
2 Cor. 3:17*

Nominating Committee

What a blessing it is to belong to a fellowship that holds onto the inerrancy of God's Word and the truth of our Lutheran confessions. May God continue to bless our Association.

**The 2023 annual conference will be held in Sioux Falls S.D.
The 2024 conference will be held at AFLC Schools, Plymouth MN.**

The AFLC is founded on the principle that the local congregation is the right form of God's Kingdom on earth, and no power but God's Word and Spirit may dictate to it. The AFLC is not an incorporated synod, but an association. Each local congregation is a separate corporation, and several additional corporations are sponsored by them to direct our common endeavors.

**These endeavors are dependent upon the participation and
free-will contributions of members.**

**Will you pray about volunteering to serve in the
positions and tasks listed.**

**Please forward any nominations and
phone numbers to:**

Vicki Johnson
Congregation/Dist. Rep.



610-207-0132
Phone

For these positions, there should be 2 nominees:

Board of Trustees: (Lay – 5 year term)

Must be on the Schools Corporation

Board of Trustees: (Pastor – 5 year term)

Must be on the Schools Corporation

World Missions Board: (Lay – 5 year term)

Must be on the World Missions Corporation

World Missions Board: (Pastor – 5 year term)

Must be on the World Missions Corporation

Home Missions Board: (Lay – 2 year term)

Must be on the Home Missions Corporation

Home Missions Board: (Pastor – 2 year term)

Must be on the Home Missions Corporation

Bay Broadcasting Board: (Lay – 3 year term)

Must be on the Home Missions Corporation

FLAPS Board: (Lay – 5 year term)

Must be on the Home Missions Corporation

ARC Board: (Lay – 5 year term)

Must be on the ARC Corporation

Coordinating Committee: (Pastor – 5 year term)

Youth Board: (Lay – 5 year term)

Board of PUB & PE: (Lay – 5 year term)

Benefits Board: (Lay – 5 year term)

Evang. & Discipleship. Board: (Lay – 5 year term)

Budget Analysis Committee: (Lay – 3 year term)

Budget Analysis Committee: (Lay – 3 year term)

Home Missions Corporation (20 nominees)

World Missions Corporation (20 nominees)

Schools Corporation (20 nominees)

ARC Corporation (20 nominees)

Conference Committees serve at the **2024 Annual Conference**, and present resolutions for the Conference to consider. Each Committee has five members, with a majority of laity.

Committee #1 (Administration)

Committee #2 (Schools)

Committee #3 (Home Missions and World Missions, Lay only)

Committee #4 (Publication, Parish Education, and Youth)

Committee #5 (Evangelism and Benefits)

For The Month of March

Acolytes:

8:30 a.m.

Joshua Cimarolli

1 1:00 a.m.

Evan Gusky

Lenten Services

3rd Wednesday

7:30 p.m. (3/8)

Asher Manzo

4th Wednesday

(3/15)

Elliot McMinn

5th Wednesday

(3/22)

Evan Gusky

6th Wednesday

3/29)

Jonathan Tarrant

Crucifers:

8:30 a.m. (3/12)

Courtney Felicetti

(3/26)

Holly Miller

1 1:00 a.m. (3/5)

Morgan Dolence

(3/19)

Holly Miller

Altar Guild:

Eileen Bernish/Joanne Salvetti

Counters:

8:30 a.m.

Tom Sanders, Mark Killinger

11:00 a.m.

Kurt Ziegler, Mark Rilev

Ushers:

8:30 a.m.

Bernard Paterra, John Ruzicka

1 1:00 a.m.

Richard Rostauscher, Mark Hisdorf

Coffee Hour:

Bill & Susan Rotz



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

This Week At Ruthfred
Today (3/5) CITY MISSION FOOD SUNDAY

6:00 p.m.—Communion Service

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

Senior Choir will continue after Lenten Service

11:00 a.m.—Worship Service/New Members Join

Lenten Services... 189 7:30 Live Stream... 14

☐ 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

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PastorCarlson@ruthfred.org

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Robert Vogel
Senior & Bell Choirs

Frederick Schell
Organist

Essi Efthimiou
Interim Organist

Melissa Manzo
Children's Choir

Erin McMinn | Interim Preschool Head Teacher
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 234)
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