

Psalms of our Savior



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 today 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 one of the offering baskets.

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 *schერenschnitte*, 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 Wednesday in Lent, March 1, 2023

“Sin: Not Hidden, Forgiven”

Prelude:

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

(D. Janzer)

“Jesus, Name of Wondrous Love”

(H. J. Gauntlett)

The Opening Hymn:

“O Christ, Our King, Creator, Lord”

(SBH #62, 2nd tune)

(Please stand as we join our hearts in song)

1. O Christ, our King, Cre - a - tor, Lord, Sav - iour of
2. In thy dear Cross a grace is found, It flows from
3. Thou didst cre - ate the stars of night, Yet thou hast

all who trust thy word, To them who seek thee
ev - ery stream - ing wound, Whose power our in - bred
veiled in flesh thy light, Hast deigned a mor - tal

ev - er near, Now to our prais - es bend thine ear.
sin con - trols, Breaks the firm bond, and frees our souls.
form to wear, A mor - tal's pain - ful lot to bear. A - men.

4 When thou didst hang upon the Tree
The quaking earth acknowledged thee,
When thou didst there yield up thy breath
The world grew dark as shades of death.

5 Now in the Father's glory high,
Great Conqueror, never more to die,
Us by thy mighty power defend,
And reign through ages without end.
Amen.

*St. Gregory, 540–604
Tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–87*

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 Confession of Sins

Pastor (P): Let us continue by confessing our sin.

Together:

O Almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities, whereby I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment; but I am heartily sorry for them all and repent of them truly, and I beseech Thee through Thine infinite mercy for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter suffering and death of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinner. Amen

The Absolution

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 Reading of the Passion History 2 (Page 8)

“Jesus’ Agony Of Soul In Gethsemane”

The Scripture Lesson: Psalm 32:1-7 (NASB)

¹ How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered! ² How blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit! ³ When I kept silent about *my sin*, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. ⁴ For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my vitality was drained away *as* with the fever heat of summer. *Selah.* ⁵ I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"; and You forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah.* ⁶ Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found; surely in a flood of great waters they will not reach him. ⁷ You are my hiding place; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with songs of deliverance. *Selah.*

The Confession of Faith (Confessed in Unison)

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord: who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, bought me and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with silver and gold, but with His holy and precious blood, and with His innocent sufferings and death, in order that I might be His own, live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness; even as He is risen from the dead, and lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

The Special Music

2:00 Mettelse Ziegler—*Who Is the Lamb?* (L. Larson)

Who is the Lamb who sleeps in stable warm?

Who is the Lamb, secure in Mary's arm?

Who is the Lamb whom heavenly angels charm?

Who is the Lamb?

Who is the Lamb who preaches in the field?

Who is the Lamb, the blind and sick to heal?

Who is the Lamb for us His life to yield?

Who is the Lamb?

The Promised One, the sinless son,

His death is our salvation won.

Who is the Lamb who comes down heaven's path?

Who is the Lamb? A cross is on His back!

Who is the Lamb who groans and breathes His last?

Who is the Lamb?

Behold the Lamb of God!

The Lamb who takes away the sins of the world!

During different seasons of the year, we confess our faith using Luther's explanation of the 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed, which concerns the person and work of Jesus. In it we confess who Christ is, and what we believe about Him. This serves as a public witness of our faith, as well as personal and corporate affirmation of the salvation that is ours in Him.

The Anthem

7:30 Bell Choir—*Near the Cross* (Doane, Wilson/Dobrinski)

Jesus, keep me near the cross.
There a precious fountain, free to all, a healing stream,
flows from Calvary's mountain.
In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever,
till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

The Announcements

The Sermon Hymn:

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

(Hymns for the Family of God #251)

John Bowring

RATHBUN
Ithamar Conkey

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tower - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing Light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and pleas - ure, By the

1 o'er the wrecks of time; All the light of sa - cred
2 ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -
3 love up - on my way, From the cross the ra - diance
4 cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no

1 sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
2 sake me: Lo! it glows with peace and joy.
3 stream-ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.
4 meas - ure, Joys that through all time a - bide. A - men.

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: "Sin: Not Hidden, Forgiven" | Psalm 32:1-7

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:

"Savior When in Dust to Thee"

(SBH #72)

The Silent Prayer & Chimes

The Postlude:

"Variation on the Spanish Hymn"

(D. Lasky)

In moderate time

1. Sav - iour, when in dust to thee Low we bend the a - dor - ing knee;
2. By thy help - less in - fant years, By thy life of want and tears,

When, re - pent - ant, to the skies, Scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes;
By thy days of sore dis - tress In the sav - age wil - der-ness,

O by all thy pains and woe Suf - fered once for man be - low,
By the dread mys - ter - ious hour Of the in - sult - ing tempt - er's power;

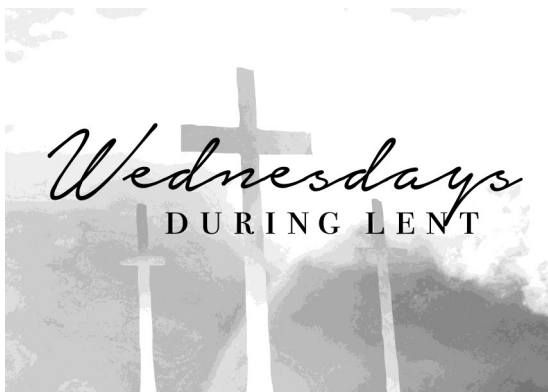
Bend - ing from thy throne on high, Hear our sol - emn lit - a - ny!
Turn, O turn a fa - voring eye, Hear our sol - emn lit - a - ny! A - men.

3 By thine hour of dire despair,
By thine agony of prayer;
By the cross, the nail, the thorn,
Piercing spear, the torturing scorn;
By the gloom that veiled the skies
O'er the dreadful sacrifice;
Listen to our humble cry,
Hear our solemn litany!

4 By thy deep expiring groan,
By the sad sepulchral stone,
By the vault whose dark abode
Held in vain the rising God;
O from earth to heaven restored,
Mighty, re-ascended Lord,
Listen, listen to the cry
Of our solemn litany! Amen.

Robert Grant, 1779-1838

During the announcements, please sign the Friendship Pad and return it to the center aisle.



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

[illegible]

■ 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. Steven P. Carlson | Senior Pastor
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 229)
PastorCarlson@ruthfred.org

Rev. Bryce C. McMinn | Associate Pastor
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 226)
PastorMcMinn@ruthfred.org

Melissa Bostaph | Parish Assistant
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 225)
MelissaBostaph@ruthfred.org

Sally Ondrejko | Office Manager
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 222)
SallyOndrejko@ruthfred.org

John Morden | Accounting Manager
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 224)
JohnMorden@ruthfred.org

Felicia Rieck | Administrative Assistant
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 221)
FeliciaRieck@ruthfred.org

Brian Lyskava | Custodian

Andrew Vogel | Multi-Media Coordinator
(412) 568-3215
AndrewVogel@ruthfred.org

A. J. Dolence | Live Stream & Social Media Assistant
AJDolence@ruthfred.org

Robert Vogel
Senior & Bell Choirs

Frederick Schell
Organist

Essi Efthimiou
Interim Organist

Melissa Manzo
Children's Choir

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

Ruthfred Lutheran Church

3401 South Park Road
Bethel Park, Pennsylvania 15102
Phone: (412) 835-7140
Email: ruthfred@ruthfred.org
www.ruthfred.org