

Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

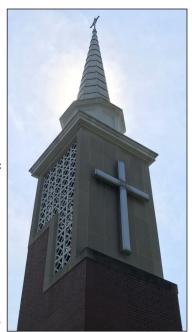
Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (www.aflc.org)

We are delighted to have you with us this morning as we gather to worship the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you are visiting today, we are glad you are here! Whether you are visiting from out of town, seeking a new church home, or for any other reason, thank you for choosing to worship with us. We would love to get in touch with you. Please fill out your contact information in the red folder at the end of your pew, or fill out the information on the back cover of this bulletin, and place it in the offering plate as it passes before you.

About Us:

- Since her charter in 1949, 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 2.
- ◆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 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 16, 2018

Prelude:

"Lied"

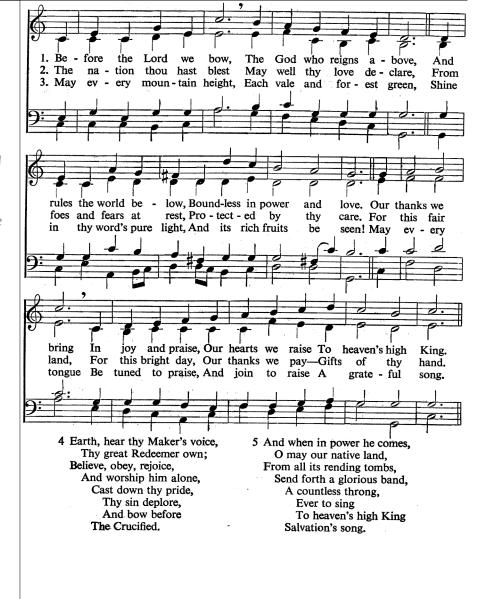
(Louis Vierne)

"Berceuse" (Louis Vierne)

The Opening Hymn:

"Before The Lord We Bow" (SBH339)

(Please stand as we join our hearts in song)



The Call to Worship

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

Congregation (C): Amen

The Confession of Sin (SBH, p. 15)

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

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 I John. 1:9).

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

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

The Introit (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: Be merciful unto me, O Lord.

C: For I cry to you daily.

P: For you, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive.

C: And plenteous in mercy to all that call upon you.

P: Bow down your ear, O Lord, hear me.

C: For I am poor and needy. (Psalm 86: 1, 3-5)

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 Kyrie (Sung in Unison; SBH p. 18)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace that is from above, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the churches of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for them that in faith, piety and fear of God offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, pity and defend us, O God, by thy grace.

C: Amen.

The Hymn of Praise:



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 pray: Lord, we pray that your grace may always go before and follow after us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; 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: Isaiah 60: 1-5 (ESV)

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. ³ And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴ Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

The Psalm: Psalm 117 (ESV)

P: Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol him, all peoples!

C: For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!

The Epistle Lesson: Acts 11: 1-18 (ESV)

Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, ³ "You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them." ⁴ But Peter began and explained it to them in order: ⁵ "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. ⁶ Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. ⁷ And I heard a voice saving to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸ But I said, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹ But the voice answered a second time from heaven, What God has made clean, do not call common. ¹⁰ This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. ¹¹ And behold. at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. ¹² And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household. 15 As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁷ If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" 18 When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

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 Gradual

The heathen shall fear the Name of the Lord; and all the kings of the earth your glory. When the Lord shall build up Zion; He shall appear in his glory. Alleluia, alleluia. O sing unto the Lord a new song; for He hath done marvelous things. Alleluia. (Psalm 98: 1; 102: 15-16)

"Alleluia" is Hebrew for "Praise the Lord." The Alleluia (Sung in Unison)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel Lesson: Matthew 8: 5-13 (ESV)

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

When he had entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, appealing to him, ⁶ "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering terribly." ⁷ And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." ⁸ But the centurion replied, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹ For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." ¹⁰ When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith. ¹¹ I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, ¹² while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." ¹³ And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; let it be done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

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

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

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

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

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

The Announcements (Please be seated)

The Special Music

8:30 Senior Choir—"Amazing Grace" (arr. Sateren)

11:00 Will Charlton—"What Wondrous Love Is This" (arr. Charity Putnam)

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.

Lyrics on page 14

The Sermon Hymn:

"Christ For The World We Sing" (AMB309)



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:

"Missions Outside Our Comfort Zone" | Acts 11: 1-18

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 Offering and Offertory

"God That Madest Earth and Heaven" (John Ferguson)

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:

"Macedonia "

(AMB323)

The Silent Prayer & Chimes

The Postlude:

"Caprice sur les Grands Jeux"

(L. N. Clerambault)



Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch, a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now, but now I see.

Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears, my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first, I first believed.

Thru many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come, have come; Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead, will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

And grace, and grace will lead, will lead me home.

Announcements

The altar flowers are presented by Ron and Arlene Fees in memory of Arlene's parents.

Nursery Today: 8:30—Greta Kelly; during Sunday School—Shari Smith; 11:00—Claudia Patalong.

Known to be hospitalized: Cheryl Schmidt—Shadyside Hospital.

<u>Official Act:</u> On Saturday, September 15, 2018 at 11:00 a.m., a memorial service was held for Dagny Fjaere, 91, in the sanctuary of our church.

<u>Congratulations to Nathan and Abby Donolo</u> upon the birth of their son, Wyatt Blaise, on Monday, September 10, 2018. Congrats also to Wyatt's proud grandmother, Linda Donolo.

<u>Congratulations</u> to Hannah Newman and Thomas Pan. Today, Sunday, September 16, 2018, they will exchange wedding vows at the Emmanuel Presbyterian Church in New York City.

Our next EVENING OF PRAYER AND PRAISE will be held tonight, Sunday, September 16th at 6:00 PM in the large Sunday School room. Prayers and meditations will focus on our worship of Jesus, the One and Only! What a beautiful name it is - the name of Jesus! Join our church family and invite others for this uplifting evening of praise, worship, and fellowship. A heart in tune with God can't help but sing His praise! "Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." PHILIPPIANS 2:9-11

Fall Family Brunch-Fellowship, Food and Fun: Covered dish, next Sunday, September 23, 2018 (NO STEELER GAME THAT DAY). Time – immediately following the second service (12:15) until about 2:30 p.m. Entertainment of jugglers/dancers. Sign up to attend today after the 8:30 service and prior to the 11:00 service. It will be great to spend time together and share our comfort food! For questions, contact Bev Rowan.

<u>Men's Annual Dinner!</u> Plan on attending the annual steak fry dinner at Ruthfred on Thursday, September 27th at 7:00 p.m. Our speaker this year will be Dr. Ed Glover of 'Man Up Pittsburgh'. Music with Kurt Radke. Cost is \$15 (High School men are welcome and are only \$10.) Please see Greg Saul or Pete Huwe to sign up.

XYZ: Don't forget to sign up for the Secptember 28, XYZ luncheon and program to be held in the fellowship hall at 12:00 noon. Our speaker for the event is Attorney Ben Urso of the Law Firm Zachery-Brown in McMurray. He will be bringing us a program entitled "Estate and Elder Law: The Most Important Document You Need to Protect Your Assets". The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside Pat's office. Looking forward to seeing you all again after our summer break!

<u>Please continue to pray for Gina Consoli.</u> Gina had a brain tumor partially removed last month. Her MRI scheduled for Friday, September 14th has been postponed due to Hurricane Florence. Please keep her in prayer. Her address is: 4305 Excursion Drive, Dalzell, SC 29040

SUNDAY SCHOOL, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2018

LARGE CLASS ROOM (Adult)

We will be sharing memories of Pastor Dennis as we mark the 10th year anniversary of his passing this week.

Sunday, September 23, 2018

Nate and Rhoda Jore will be sharing about their mission in Uganda

UPPER ROOM (Adult)

Please join the Adult Large Sunday School Class Room thru Sunday, 11/18/18

en's Choir Regins this Wednesday 9/19/1

Children's Choir Begins this Wednesday, 9/19/18

September Birthdays

Happy 99th Birthday to Esther Headrick on Wednesday, 9/19/18

Happy 90th Birthday to Margie Jacobson on Thursday, 9/20/18

Happy 91st Birthday to Harry Fjaere on Sunday, 9/30/18

Please remember all of the above with birthday wishes and prayers.

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# **Recent Stewardship Projects:**

- Thank you for your donations to the Pittsburgh's Veterans' Administration Hospital collected in May. Roger Kurtz delivered four large boxes of items to be distributed to patients with a need. Your thoughtfulness and generosity were very much appreciated.
- Ruthfred filled 5 totes with school supplies for the Salvation Army Back-to-School program at the center on McNeilly Road. They were very grateful for our support and participation in helping students have a good start to the school year.

Anyone interested in helping with a Stewardship Project at any time during the year can contact Jill Kurtz who organizes collections as part of Ruthfred's Women's Ministry.

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<u>Current Fund:</u> Given by Norma Vogel in memory of William Harris, Ruthfred's former adult and children's choir director.

Youth Fund: Given by Joan Teichart in memory of Stacie Lynn Klick.

Pastor's Fund: Given by Joan Teichart in memory of Joan Knefelkamp.

<u>Serving Dishes:</u> Last call for picking up your serving dishes on the shelf outside the kitchen.

YOUTH NEWS

SWAP (6-8 Grade)

There will be SWAP Tonight! SWAP is our weekly get together for 6-8 Graders, during this time we play games, have a Bible lesson, and get to know one another as we become a community in Christ.

Brunch (9-12 Grade)

On certain Sundays we host after Church brunch for the youth at the Fouks' House. Brunch typically starts immediately after church, and goes until around 4pm. If you like good food, good company, and fun games, brunch is perfect for you. **There will be brunch September 23rd.**

Fall Festival (6-12 Grade kids & Families)

Steve and Peggy Cox have once again opened their farm to the youth and their families for our annual fall festival. The Festival will be taking place on **October 6th from 3:30pm to 9pm** at the Farm. During this time, we will be participating in fall themed activities, enjoying great food, and watching an outdoor movie (weather permitting). Contact Brandon ASAP to RSVP if you are planning to attend.

SWAP Retreat (6-8 Grade)

Registration is open for this year's annual SWAP retreat at Seneca Hills Bible Camp. We will be leaving from church on Friday October 19th at 6pm, and returning Sunday October 21st around 3pm. During their time at Seneca Hills the kids will play large group games, participate in worship, enjoy great food, and take in a number of sessions from a guest speaker. Forms are available outside the youth office, cost is \$65.

SWAP Late Night (6-8 Grade) On **September 29th** we will be hosting a late night for Grades 6-8. The Late night will start at 5pm, at Church, and end at 10pm, during that time we will play games, eats pizza, watch a movie, and enjoy spending time together. If you are interested in attending, please contact Brandon ASAP

Save the Date:

September 23 Brunch

SEPTEMBER 29 SWAP Late Night

October 6 Fall Festival

October 19 SWAP Retreat

Ouestions/concerns?
Contact Brandon Fouks: Fouksanator@gmail.com
(c) (715)-781-6063

This Week At Ruthfred

Today (9/16) HERALD ARTICLE DEADLINE

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

6:00 p.m.—Evening of Prayer & Praise

Monday (9/17)

9:15 a.m.—JTTW Leaders Meeting 9:30 a.m.—Craft & Sew

Wednesday (9/19)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ESTHER HEADRICK

9:15 a.m.-JTTW

5:45 p.m.—Children's Choir

6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir

6:45 p.m.-JTTW/KidsTime

6:45 p.m.—Jr. & Sr. Confirmation Classes

7:30 p.m.—Senior Choir

Thursday (9/20)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARGIE JACOBSON 7:00 p.m.—Career & College Group

Friday (9/21)

6:30 a.m.—Men's Prayer Group @ Panera's 6:30 p.m.—Keepers of the Faith

Brothers and sisters in Christ, welcome as we worship, learn and fellowship together. Please greet one another in friendship. During the announcements, please sign the Friendship Pad and return it to the center aisle.

Attendance for Last Week: Church...339 Sunday School...98

Prayer Requests

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: 1 st-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. Adam G. Osier | Assistant Pastor (412) 835-7140 (ext. 226) PastorOsier@ruthfred.org

Kevin Czymbor | Vicar (Seminary Intern) (412) 835-7140 (ext. 231) kevin@czymbor.net

Paula Mikulan| Office Manager (412) 835-7140 (ext. 222) PaulaMikulan@ruthfred.org

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Brandon Fouks | Director of Youth Ministry (412) 835-7140 (ext. 240) BrandonFouks@ruthfred.org

Andrew Vogel | Multi-Media Coordinator (412) 860-6270 AndrewVogel@ruthfred.org

Robert Vogel

Senior & Bell Choirs

Frederick Schell

Organist

Melissa Manzo

Children's Choir

Erin Campion

Preschool Director

Lauren Compel & Denise Stutzman

Kid's Time Leaders

Ruthfred Lutheran Church

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