

RUTHFRED LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

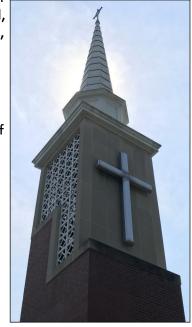
Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (www.aflc.org)

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 on the back cover of this bulletin, and place it in the 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.

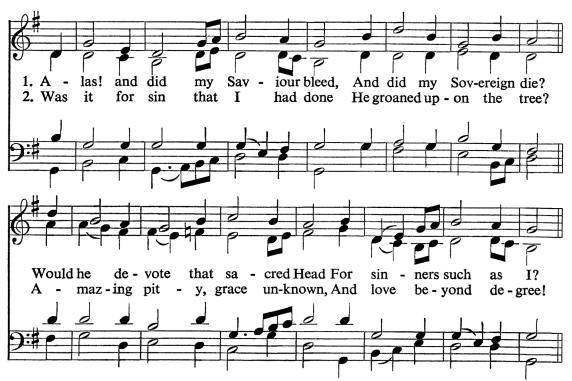
The Divine Service of the Word

The Sixth Wednesday in Lent, April 6, 2022 "Our Lord is Crucified"

<u>Prelude:</u> Two Preludes for Lent (Marcel Dupre)

The Opening Hymn: "Alas and Did My Savior Bleed" (SBH486)

(Please stand as we join our hearts in song)



- 3 Well might the sun in darkness hide, And shut his glories in, When Christ, the mighty Maker, died For man, the creature's sin.
- 4 Thus might I hide my blushing face, While his dear Cross appears; Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, And melt mine eyes to tears.
- 5 But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe. Here, Lord, I give myself away; 'Tis all that I can do.

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

We confess our sins at the beginning of each service, because we are comina 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 Sin

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

Together:

O Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy and ask You for Christ's sake, grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Absolution:

The Introit (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: At the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow.

C: Of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth. For he became obedient to death, even the death of the Cross.

P: Wherefore he is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Hear my prayer, O Lord.

C: And let my cry come to you. (Philippians 2: 9-11; Psalm 102: 1)

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.

<u>The Reading of the Passion History VI</u> (Page 24) "Jesus' Death On The Cross"

The Holy Gospel Lessons: (NASB)

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

Matthew 27:33-54

³³ And when they came to a place called Golgotha, which means Place of a Skull, ³⁴ they gave Him wine to drink mixed with gall; and after tasting it, He was unwilling to drink. ³⁵ And when they had crucified Him, they divided up His garments among themselves by casting lots. ³⁶ And sitting down, they began to keep watch over Him there. ³⁷ And above His head they put up the charge against Him which read, "THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS." 38 At that time two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and one on the left. ³⁹ And those passing by were hurling abuse at Him, wagging their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross." ⁴¹ In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking Him and saying, 42 "He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe in Him. 43 He trusts in God; let God rescue Him now, if He delights in Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God." 44 The robbers who had been crucified with Him were also insulting Him with the same words. ⁴⁵ Now from the sixth hour darkness fell upon all the land until the ninth hour. 46 About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" ⁴⁷ And some of those who were standing there, when they heard it, began saying, "This man is calling for Elijah." 48 Immediately one of them ran, and taking a sponge, he filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink. ⁴⁹ But the rest of them said, "Let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him." ⁵⁰ And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. ⁵1 And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth shook and the rocks were split. 52 The tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; 53 and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they entered the holy city and appeared to many. 54 Now the centurion, and those who were with him keeping guard over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the things that were happening, became very frightened and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

John 19:31-37

³¹ Then the Jews, because it was the day of preparation, so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. ³² So the soldiers came, and broke the legs of the first man and of the other who was crucified with Him; ³³ but coming to Jesus, when they saw that He was already dead, they

(cont'd on next page)

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.

John 19:31-37 (cont'd)

did not break His legs. ³⁴ But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. ³⁵ And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you also may believe. ³⁶ For these things came to pass to fulfill the Scripture, "NOT A BONE OF HIM SHALL BE BROKEN." ³⁷ And again another Scripture says, "THEY SHALL LOOK ON HIM WHOM THEY PIERCED."

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

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 Robert Vogel, piano—"Darkest Hour" (arr. Raney)

7:30 Bell Choir—"Just As I Am" (arr. Kinyon)

The Announcements

The Sermon Hymn: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (AMB63)



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Tune: Gregorian chant; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

HAMBURG LM 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:

"Our Lord Is Crucified" | Matthew 27:33-54

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)

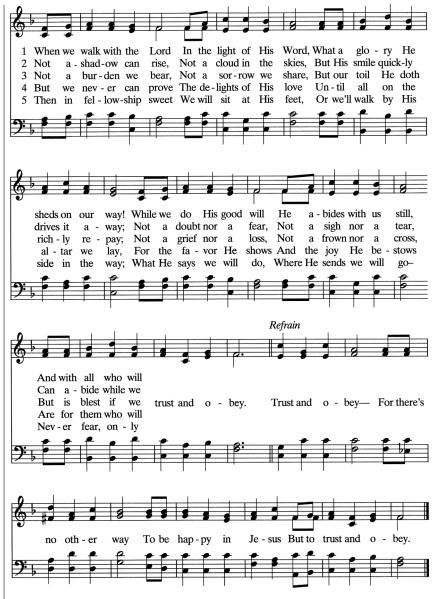
C: Amen.

The Closing Hymn:

"Trust and Obey" (AMB517)

The Silent Prayer & Chimes

The Postlude



Text: John H. Sammis, 1846–1919 Tune: Daniel B. Towner, 1850–1919 TRUST AND OBEY 669 669 w/refrain

We welcome you to our service. This is a time of deep reflection and commitment. Let us make every effort to attend all Lenten services and spend time in fellowship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



Praver Requests

- pastors and vicar only).
- Please make this request known to the Ruthfred prayer team and announce it to the congregation when appropriate.

Visiting with us?

Please use this tear-off section to help us get to know a little bit about you and how we may best serve you.

If you have a specific concern or prayer request, please use the space on the other side of this fold.

Date:
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

■ Ways To Share My Gifts

■ Ruthfred's Ministries or Groups

Ruthfred Staff

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Ruthfred Lutheran Church

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