

Give  
Thanks



Ruthfred Lutheran Church

# Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

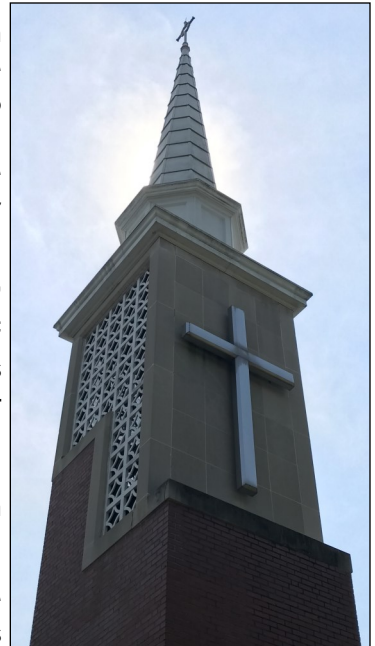
Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations ([www.aflc.org](http://www.aflc.org))

**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 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

Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 2022

## Prelude:

### **"Rejoicing"**

(Handel/Wolff)

### **"Now Thank We All Our God"**

(Karg-Elert)

### **"Thanks Be to Thee"**

(G. F. Handel)

## The Opening Hymn:

### **"We Praise Thee, O God"**

(SBH #450)

(Please stand as we  
join our hearts in  
song)

1. We praise thee, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor,  
2. We wor - ship thee, God of our fa - thers, we bless thee;  
3. With voi - ces u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer,

In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
Through trou - ble and tem - pest our guide thou hast been;  
To thee, great Je - ho - vah, glad an - thems we raise;

We lay it be - fore thee, we kneel and a - dore thee,  
When per - ils o'er - take us, es - cape thou wilt make us,  
Thy strong arm will guide us, our God is be - side us;

We bless thy ho - ly Name, glad prais - es we bring.  
And with thy help, O Lord, our bat - tles we win.  
To thee, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise. A - men.

Author unknown, 1626  
Tr. Julia Bulkley Cady Cory, 1882

### **The Call to Worship**

Senior Choir—*All Thanks and Praise to God* (arr. Goemanne)

### **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 Reading of Abraham Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation**

It has seemed to me fit and proper that (the gracious gifts of God) should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquillity and Union.

## The National Anthem

### The Star-Spangled Banner

O say can you see, by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming.  
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.  
O say does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

O thus be it ever when freemen shall stand,  
Between their loved homes and war's desolation;  
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n rescued land  
Praise the power that has made and preserved us a nation.  
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust";  
And the Star-Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

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 Confession of Sins (SBH, p. 15)

#### **Together:**

**O almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a poor miserable sinner confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities, whereby I have 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 and 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:

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.

**The Introit** (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord.

**C: Praise ye the Lord. Praise Him for His mighty acts.**

P: Praise Him according to His excellent greatness. Praise ye the Lord.  
Praise God in His sanctuary.

**C: Praise Him in the firmament of His power.** (Psalm 150: 1, 2, 6)

**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 Anthem**

Children's Choir—"I Will Give Thanks" (Michael Jothen)

**The Old Testament Lesson: 1 Chronicles 16:29-36** (NASB)

<sup>29</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him; Worship the LORD in holy array. <sup>30</sup> Tremble before Him, all the earth; indeed, the world is firmly established, it will not be moved. <sup>31</sup> Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; and let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns." <sup>32</sup> Let the sea roar, and all it contains; let the field exult, and all that is in it. <sup>33</sup> Then the trees of the forest will sing for joy before the LORD; for He is coming to judge the earth. <sup>34</sup> O give thanks to the LORD, for *He is good*; for His lovingkindness is everlasting. <sup>35</sup> Then say, "Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us and deliver us from the nations, to give thanks to Your holy name, and glory in Your praise." <sup>36</sup> Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting even to everlasting. Then all the people said, "Amen," and praised the LORD.

**The Psalm:** Psalm 107:1-15, 19-21, 35-37, 31 (NASB)

P: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His lovingkindness is everlasting.

**C: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom He has redeemed from the hand of the adversary and gathered from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.**

P: They wandered in the wilderness in a desert region; they did not find a way to an inhabited city.

**C: They were hungry and thirsty; their soul fainted within them.**

P: Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble; He delivered them out of their distresses.

(continued on next page)

**The Psalm:** Psalm 107:1-15, 19-21, 35-37, 41, 31 (NASB) (cont'd)

**C: He led them also by a straight way, to go to an inhabited city.**

P: Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, and for His wonders to the sons of men!

**C: For He has satisfied the thirsty soul, and the hungry soul He has filled with what is good.**

P: There were those who dwelt in darkness and in the shadow of death, prisoners in misery and chains, because they had rebelled against the words of God and spurned the counsel of the Most High.

**C: Therefore He humbled their heart with labor; they stumbled and there was none to help.**

P: Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble; He saved them out of their distresses.

**C: He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death and broke their bands apart.**

P: Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, and for His wonders to the sons of men!

**C: Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble; He saved them out of their distresses.**

P: He sent His word and healed them, and delivered *them* from their destructions.

**C: Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, and for His wonders to the sons of men!**

P: He changes a wilderness into a pool of water and a dry land into springs of water;

**C: And there He makes the hungry to dwell, so that they may establish an inhabited city, and sow fields and plant vineyards, and gather a fruitful harvest.**

P: But He sets the needy securely on high away from affliction, and makes *his* families like a flock.

**C: Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness, and for His wonders to the sons of men!**

**The Epistle Lesson:** 1 Thessalonians 5:15-18 (NASB)

<sup>15</sup> See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people. <sup>16</sup> Rejoice always; <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing; <sup>18</sup> in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.



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:**

The eyes of all wait upon you and you give them their meat in due season. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. Alleluia, alleluia. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me. Bless his holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. Alleluia. (Psalm 145: 15, 16; Psalm 103: 1, 2)

### **The Alleluia** (Sung in Unison)

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **The Holy Gospel Lesson: Luke 17:11-19** (NASB)

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

<sup>11</sup> While He was on the way to Jerusalem, He was passing between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup> As He entered a village, ten leprous men who stood at a distance met Him; <sup>13</sup> and they raised their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" <sup>14</sup> When He saw them, He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they were going, they were cleansed. <sup>15</sup> Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, <sup>16</sup> and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan. <sup>17</sup> Then Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine—where are they? <sup>18</sup> Was no one found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?" <sup>19</sup> And He said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has made you well."

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

### **The Explanation, First Article of the Creed:**

I believe that God has created me and all that exists: that He has given and still preserves to me, my body and soul, my eyes and ears, and all my members, my reason and all the powers of my soul, together with food and raiment, home and family and all my property; that He daily provides abundantly for all the needs of my life, protects me from all danger, and guards, and keeps me from all evil, and that He does this purely out of fatherly and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me for all which I am in duty bound to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him. This is most certainly true.



### **The Anthem**

Senior Choir Anthem—*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* (arr. Harlan & Hallquist)

Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home!

All is safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin.

God, our maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied;

Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

We ourselves are God's own field, fruit unto His praise to yield,

Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.

First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear;

Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

Even so, Lord, quickly come, bring Thy final harvest home;

Gather all Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,

There, forever purified, in Thy presence to abide.

Come, with all Thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.

### **The Announcements**

### **The Children's Object Lesson**

## **The Sermon Hymn:**

### **"Thanks to God for My Redeemer"**

(AMB # 149)

1 Thanks to God for my Re-deem-er, Thanks for all Thou dost pro-vide!  
2 Thanks for prayers that Thou hast an-swered, Thanks for what Thou dost de-ny!  
3 Thanks for ros-es by the way-side, Thanks for thorns their stems con-tain!

Thanks for times now but a mem-ory, Thanks for Je-sus by my side!  
Thanks for storms that I have weath-ered, Thanks for all Thou dost sup-ply!  
Thanks for home and thanks for fire-side, Thanks for hope, that sweet re-frain!

Thanks for pleas-ant, balm-y spring-time, Thanks for dark and drear-y fall!  
Thanks for pain and thanks for pleas-ure, Thanks for com-fort in de-spair!  
Thanks for joy and thanks for sor-row, Thanks for heav'n-ly peace with Thee!

Thanks for tears by now for-got-ten, Thanks for peace with-in my soul!  
Thanks for grace that none can mea-sure, Thanks for love be-yond com-pare!  
Thanks for hope in the to-mor-row, Thanks for all e-ter-ni-ty!

Text: August Ludwig Storm, 1862–1914; tr. Carl E. Backstrom, b. 1901  
Tune: Johannes A. Hultman, 1861–1942

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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:

"Give Thanks to the Lord" | Psalm 107

### Sermon Notes:

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### 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 Doxology:**

**“Praise God, From  
Whom All Blessings  
Flow”**

(SBH #602)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise".

him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye".

heaven-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

The third system concludes the doxology. The lyrics are: "heaven-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.".

### The Closing Hymn:

#### **"Now Thank We All Our God"**

(SBH #443)

### The Silent Prayer & Chimes

### The Postlude:

#### **"Nun danket alle Gott"**

(Bach/Wolff)

1. Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voice - es,  
Who won-drous things hath done, In whom his world re - joic - es;

Who, from our moth - er's arms, Hath blessed us on our way With

count - less gifts of love, And still is ours to - day. A-men.

2 O may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in his grace,  
And guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven;  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore. Amen.

*Martin Rinkart, 1586-1649  
Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-78*





## 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:

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Name:

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Children:

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Address:

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Phone (indicate home, cell, etc.)

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Email:

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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

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