



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 Third Sunday in Lent, March 12, 2023

Prelude:

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

(B. Miller)

"Lord, Whose Love"

(L. Visser)

The Opening

Hymn:

"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"

(SBH #402)

(Please stand as we
join our hearts in
song)

1. O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my wea - ry
2. O Light that fol-lowest all my way, I yield my flick-ering

soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, That
torch to thee; My heart re-stores its bor-rowed ray, That

in thine o - cean depths its flow May rich - er, full - er be.
in thy sun-shine's blaze its day May bright - er, fair - er be.

3 O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain.
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

4 O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

George Matheson, 1842-1906

Words and music by permission of Novello and Company, Ltd.

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 (SBH, p. 41)

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: The Almighty and merciful God grant unto you, being penitent, pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of His Holy Spirit.

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.

“Kyrie” is Latin 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: Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He shall pluck my feet out of the net.

C: Turn unto me, and have mercy upon me, for I am desolate and afflicted.

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, 15, 16)

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 Kyrie (Sung in Unison; SBH p. 48)

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

P: Christ, have mercy upon us.

C: Christ, have mercy upon us.

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Hymn of Praise: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" (SBH #375)

1. My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2. May thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart,

Sav - iour di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, Take all my
 My zeal in - spire; As thou hast died for me, O may my

guilt a - way, O let me from this day Be whol - ly thine.
 love to thee, Pure, warm, and change-less be, A liv - ing fire. A-men.

3 While life's dark maze I tread,
 And griefs around me spread,
 Be thou my guide;
 Bid darkness turn to day,
 Wipe sorrow's tears away,
 Nor let me ever stray
 From thee aside.

4 When ends life's transient dream,
 When death's cold sullen stream
 Shall o'er me roll;
 Blest Saviour, then, in love
 Fear and distrust remove;
 O bear me safe above,
 A ransomed soul. Amen.

Ray Palmer, 1808-87

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: We beseech You, Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of Your humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of Your Majesty to be our defence against all our enemies; 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: Exodus 17:1-7 (NASB)

¹ Then all the congregation of the sons of Israel journeyed by stages from the wilderness of Sin, according to the command of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, and there was no water for the people to drink. ² Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water that we may drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” ³ But the people thirsted there for water; and they grumbled against Moses and said, “Why, now, have you brought us up from Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” ⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, saying, “What shall I do to this people? A little more and they will stone me.” ⁵ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Pass before the people and take with you some of the elders of Israel; and take in your hand your staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink.” And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He named the place Massah and Meribah because of the quarrel of the sons of Israel, and because they tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us, or not?”

The Psalm: Psalm 95:1-9 (NASB)

P: O come, let us sing for joy to the LORD, let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation.

C: Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.

P: For the LORD is a great God and a great King above all gods, in whose hand are the depths of the earth, the peaks of the mountains are His also.

C: The sea is His, for it was He who made it, and His hands formed the dry land.

(continued on next page)

The Psalm: Psalm 95:1-9 (NASB) (cont'd)

P: Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

C: For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand. Today, if you would hear His voice,

P: Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the wilderness,

C: "When your fathers tested Me, they tried Me, though they had seen My work.

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 5:1-8 (NASB)

¹ Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. ³ And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; ⁴ and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; ⁵ and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us. ⁶ For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

The Gradual

Arise, O Lord; let not man prevail; let the heathen be judged in Your sight. When my enemies are turned back they shall fall and perish at Your presence. To You I Lift up my eyes. O You that dwells in the heavens. Have mercy upon us O Lord, have mercy upon us. (Psalm 9:3, 19; 123:1, 3)

Following the Gradual reading, the congregation shall sing

The Sentence for Lent

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

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 Holy Gospel Lesson: John 4:5-26 (NASB)

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

⁵ So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph; ⁶ and Jacob’s well was there. So Jesus, being wearied from His journey, was sitting thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. ⁷ There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink.” ⁸ For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. ⁹ Therefore the Samaritan woman said to Him, “How is it that You, being a Jew, ask me for a drink since I am a Samaritan woman?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.” ¹¹ She said to Him, “Sir, You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep; where then do You get that living water?” ¹² You are not greater than our father Jacob, are You, who gave us the well, and drank of it himself and his sons and his cattle?” ¹³ Jesus answered and said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again; ¹⁴ but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.”

¹⁵ The woman said to Him, “Sir, give me this water, so I will not be thirsty nor come all the way here to draw.” ¹⁶ He said to her, “Go, call your husband and come here.” ¹⁷ The woman answered and said, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You have correctly said, ‘I have no husband’; ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly.” ¹⁹ The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you *people* say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.” ²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵ The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when that One comes, He will declare all things to us.” ²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am *He*.”

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

The Baptism of Elizabeth Ann Sovitski (11:00)

Today we are privileged to witness the sacrament of Holy Baptism. We believe that Baptism is God’s work. It is not merely a symbolic application of water, but water used according to God’s command and in connection with His Word (see Matt. 28:19-20). In Baptism God causes us to be born again through the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit (see Titus 3:5 and 1 Peter 3:21). For Elizabeth, Baptism marks the beginning of a new life in Christ that is nourished through a lifetime of continually hearing and learning God’s Word.

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 Anthems

8:30 Senior Choir—*More Love to Thee, O Christ* (G. Martin)

Andrew Vogel, cello

More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee!

Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee.

This is my earnest plea: more love, O Christ, to Thee,
more love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;
now Thee alone I seek, give what is best.

This all my prayer shall be: more love, O Christ, to Thee,
more love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Then with my final breath singing Thy praise;
this be the glorious cry my heart shall raise.

This still its song shall be: more love, O Christ, to Thee,
more love to Thee, more love to Thee!

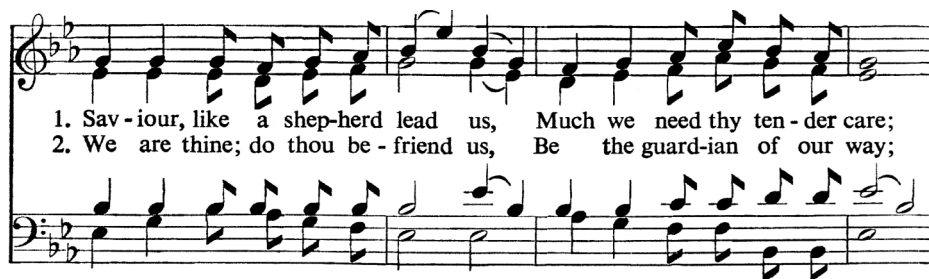
11:00 Children's Choir—*Seek Ye First* (K. Lafferty)

Isaiah Manzo, cello and Will Charlton, piano

The Announcements

The Receiving of New Members (8:30 and 11:00)


The Sermon Hymn: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" (SBH #524)



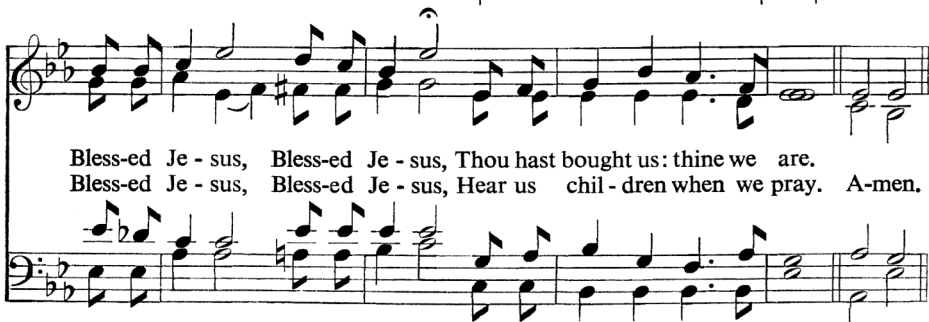
1. Sav-iour, like a shep-herd lead us, Much we need thy ten-der care;
2. We are thine; do thou be-friend us, Be the guard-ian of our way;



In thy pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, For our use thy folds pre-pare:
Keep thy flock, from sin de-fend us, Seek us when we go a-stray:



Bless-ed Je - sus, Bless-ed Je - sus, Thou hast bought us: thine we are.
Bless-ed Je - sus, Bless-ed Je - sus, Hear us chil-dren when we pray.



Bless-ed Je - sus, Bless-ed Je - sus, Thou hast bought us: thine we are.
Bless-ed Je - sus, Bless-ed Je - sus, Hear us chil-dren when we pray. A-men.

3 Thou hast promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse, and power to free:
Blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to thee.

4 Early let us seek thy favor,
Early let us do thy will;
Blessèd Lord and only Saviour,
With thy love our bosoms fill:
Blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.
Amen.

Dorothy Ann Thrupp, 1779-1847

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: "Peace with God, Through Jesus' Death" | Romans 5:1-8

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, Thy Dying Love"

(SBH #463)

The Silent Prayer & Chimes

The Postlude:

"Moderato"

(P. Kreckel)

1. Sav - iour, thy dy - ing love Thou gav - est me,
2. O'er the blest mer - cy seat, Plead - ing for me,

Nor should I aught with - hold, Dear Lord, from thee;
My fee - ble faith looks up, Je - sus, to thee;

In love my soul would bow, My heart ful - fill its vow,
Help me my cross to bear, Thy won - drous love de - clare,

Some of - fering bring thee now, Some - thing for thee.
Some song to raise, or prayer, Some - thing for thee.

3 Give me a faithful heart,
Likeness to thee,
That each departing day
Henceforth may see
Some work of love begun,
Some deed of kindness done,
Some wanderer sought and won,
Something for thee.

4 All that I am and have,
Thy gifts so free,
In joy, in grief, through life,
Dear Lord, for thee;
And when thy face I see,
My ransomed soul shall be,
Through all eternity,
Something for thee.

Sylvanus Dryden Phelps, 1816-95

Announcements

The altar flowers are presented by Brandon, Katie, Brycen, and Reid Morrow in celebration of Brandon and Katie's meeting 17 years ago in March, Brycen's birthday on March 11, and all of the great people at Ruthfred who have welcomed their family into the congregation.

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 has moved to a rehabilitation facility—North Strabane Rehabilitation & Wellness Center in Canonsburg. Lundy Castro—Asbury Heights. Bill VanKirk—St. Clair Hospital. Fritz Heilman—St. Clair Hospital. Nancy Jane Weighley (Jason's mother)—Shadyside Hospital. Please support them with your prayers and cards.

Prayers for Recovery and Healing: 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 (recent 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.

Condolences: Our pastors and congregation extend Christian love and sympathy to Rich Lindner and his family on the passing of his beloved wife, Becky, on Thursday, March 2, 2023. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Official Act: On Monday, March 6, at 11:00 a.m. Pastor Carlson and Pastor McMinn officiated at the "going up" service for Alfred "Fritz" Motzer here at Ruthfred. On Tuesday, March 7, Pastor McMinn officiated at the burial service at Mt. Zion Community Cemetery in Tionesta, PA.

Official Act: On Saturday, March 11, at 3:30 p.m. Pastor Carlson and Pastor McMinn officiated at a private memorial service for Rebecca Elizabeth (Norton) Lindner at the John F. Slater Funeral Home in Brentwood, followed by a private interment at St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery in Baldwin.

Benevolence Fund: Given by Dorothy Kratz in memory of Becky Lindner and Fritz Motzer.

Current Fund: Given by Dottie and George Barrett in loving memory of Fritz Motzer, a very dear friend.

Live Stream Fund: Given by Bob and Gladys Reith in memory of long-time friend Fritz Motzer.

Music Fund: Given by Joanne Salvetti in memory of Fritz Motzer and in honor of Grace. Given by Bill and Sue Rotz in memory of Fritz Motzer. Given by Joyce Bock in loving memory of Fritz Motzer and in honor of Grace.

Pastor's Fund: Given by Debby Skundrich in loving memory of Fritz Motzer and in honor of Grace and their family. Given by Fred and Sandy Pellegrino in loving memory of Fritz Motzer.

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.



Announcements (cont'd)

Craft & Sew: They will be meeting tomorrow, Monday, March 13, at 9:30 a.m.

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 the 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.

Young Adults: This group will meet on Sunday March 26th at 6:30 p.m. at Andrew and Cassie Vogel’s house. All young adults are welcome to join! For questions or further information, please contact Andrew at andrewvogel@ruthfred.org.

Youth Bible Camperships: \$100 Bible Camperships are available to our youth attending a Christian camp. All camperships must be approved by Church Council. Deadline to submit an application is Sunday, April 9, 2023, for approval at the April Council meeting. Please place applications in the Council Secretary mail slot in the Conference Room.

XYZers: The next meeting is Friday, March 24th. Our featured speaker will be Tomi Larson, leader of the Bethel Park Genealogy Group. Her talk is entitled “My Islands.” She will be sharing about how researching her family tree opened up a whole world of new family and adventures in the Aeolian Islands of Sicily. Peggy Cox will provide a delicious lunch. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the Library. Please join us!

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!

Farewell Receptions for Pastor Carlson and Family: Please join us for one of two receptions to honor Pastor Carlson and his family: after the Contemporary Worship Service on March 18th or after the 11:00 a.m. service on March 19th.

Benevolence Committee: We will be meeting on Monday, March 27, at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge. All members of the congregation are invited to come with any questions, input, or suggestions. We will be reviewing the ministry of the Schierkolks and Chosen People Ministries (Pastor Kipp).

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!

Parents’ Night Out Dinner at Church: Ruthfred Youth Ministry will be catering a dinner and providing entertainment for their parents THIS Friday, March 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please enjoy as your youth

Announcements (cont'd)

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.

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.

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.

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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.

New Members

These people are being received today by confirmation of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Kristy Lea Balzer
1503 Lucille Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15234

Samuel Robert Bostaph
344 Turngate Dr.
Bethel Park, PA 15102

Vincent Louis Conti & Deborah
Lea Klein-Conti
2805 Dwight Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15216

Santino Michael & Sydney Lauren Dalessandro
5643 Sandra Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Chris Lynn Desiderato
368 Fruitwood Dr.
Bethel Park, PA 15102

Kevin Frank Klein
200 Addie Ct.
Pittsburgh, PA 15234

Brandon Ryan & Katie Ann Morrow
1385 Morrow Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15241
Children: Brycen, Reid

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

Mark Arelt begins a new series today.

Bible Questions Answered?

Anyone who reads the Bible seriously is bound to run across certain passages that leave them thinking, "Hmm. Why is that in there?" or "How does that make sense?" or "What does that really mean?"

Join us as we discuss some of the questions YOU have asked about The Bible.



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 14th, 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

This Week At Ruthfred

Today (3/12) Third Sunday in Lent

2:00 a.m.—Clocks “Spring Forward”

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School

11:00 a.m.—Worship Service (Elizabeth Sovitski baptism)

New Members received at both services

Monday (3/13)

9:30 a.m.—JTTW Leaders Meeting

9:30 a.m.—Craft & Sew

7:00 p.m.—Elders' Meeting

7:30 p.m.—Council Meeting

Tuesday (3/14)

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

Wednesday (3/15)

9:15 a.m.—JTTW

2:00 p.m.—Lenten Service

5:45 p.m.—Children's Choir

6:00-7:00 p.m.—Soup & Sandwich Supper

6:30 p.m.—Jr. & Sr. Confirmation Classes; Bell Choir

7:00 p.m.—Senior Choir [continues after Service]

7:30 p.m.—Lenten Service

Thursday (3/16)

2:00 p.m.—Ruth

Friday (3/17) St. Patrick's Day

7:00 a.m.—Men's Prayer Group (Fireside Lounge)

6:30 p.m.—Parents' Night Out Dinner

Saturday (3/18)

6:00 p.m.—Contemporary Liturgical Worship

Farewell Reception for Carlson's after worship

Sunday (3/19) Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School

1 1:00 a.m.—Worship Service

Farewell Reception for Carlson's after worship

Herald Deadline

We gather at the well of worship, where Jesus, our Living Water, quenches our thirst for love, life, hope, peace. Welcome!

Attendance for Last Week:

Sunday Worship...304 Fellowship Breakfast...159

8:30 Live Stream...36

JTTW (morning)...50 Online...3

Lenten Services...168 Live Stream...14

Prayer Requests

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

[illegible]

Please keep this request
Private (to be kept amongst the
pastors 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
- ☐ 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