

# Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

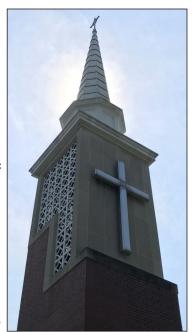
Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (www.aflc.org)

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 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 19, 2018

## Prelude:

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

(Dale Wood)

"Now Thank We All Our God" (Bach—Fox)

The Opening Hymn:

"Come, Thou Almighty King" (AMB135)

(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: Make haste, O God, to deliver me. Make haste to help me, O Lord.

C: Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my soul.

P: Let them be turned backward, and put to confusion.

C: That desire my hurt. (Psalm 70: 1-2)

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:**

**"My Jesus, I Love Thee"** (AMB193, vs 1 & 2)



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 continue to pray: Almighty and merciful God, of whose only gift it cometh that your faithful people do unto you true and laudable service. Grant, we beseech you, that we may so faithfully serve you in this life, that we fail not finally to attain your heavenly promises; 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 First Lesson: 1 John 1: 5-10 (NASB)

This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say that we have fellowship with Him and *yet* walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; <sup>7</sup> but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

# The Psalm: Psalm 133 (NASB)

P: Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!

C: It is like the precious oil upon the head, coming down upon the beard.

P: Even Aaron's beard, coming down upon the edge of his robes.

C: It is like the dew of Hermon coming down upon the mountains of Zion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing—life forever.

## The Epistle Lesson: (NASB)

## Ephesians 4: 1-16:

Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, <sup>3</sup> being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. <sup>7</sup> But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup> Therefore it says, "WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVE A HOST OF CAPTIVES, AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN." 9 (Now this expression, "He ascended," what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup> He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.) 11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. <sup>14</sup> As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; <sup>15</sup> but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, *even* Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

# Ephesians 4: 29-5: 2:

Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup> Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. <sup>32</sup> Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. **5** Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; <sup>2</sup> and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

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 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.

#### The Gradual

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord. The humble shall hear thereof and be glad. Alleluia, alleluia. Sing aloud unto God our strength. Make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob. Alleluia. (Psalm 34: 1-2; 81: 1)

The Alleluia (Sung in Unison)

#### Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel Lesson: John 3: 16-21 (NASB)

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

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

17 For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. 18 He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. 21 But he who practices the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God."

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.

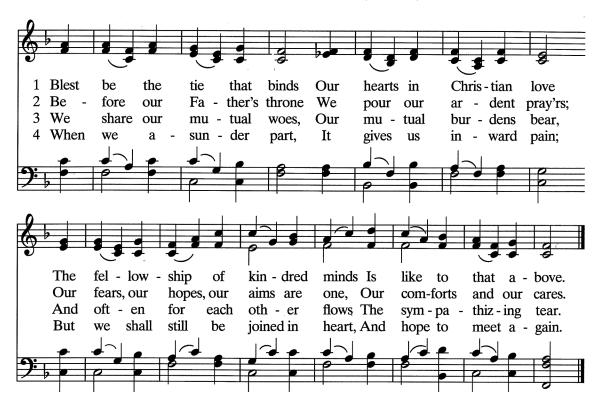
**The Announcements** (Please be seated)

# **The Special Music**

8:30 & 11:00 Jeen Harper—"Assurance" (arr. John Ness Beck)

## **The Sermon Hymn:**

# "Blest Be The Tie That Binds" (AMB245)



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:

"Walking in Unity in Christ" | Ephesians 4: 1-16; 4: 29-5: 2

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

"Praise To The Lord" (Max Reger)

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

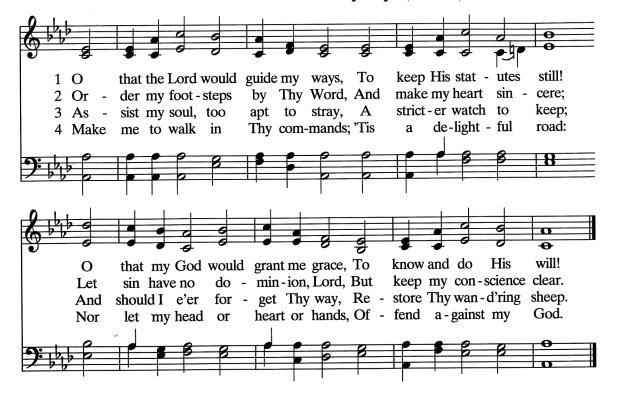
May he lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Numbers 6:24-26)

C: Amen.

## The Closing Hymn:

## "O That The Lord Would Guide My Ways" (AMB455)



# **The Silent Prayer & Chimes**

## The Postlude:

Finale on "Hymn To Joy" (Charles Callahan)

# **Announcements**

<u>The altar flowers</u> are presented by Greg and Annette Saul in honor of their 35th wedding anniversary on August 20th.

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

<u>Known to be hospitalized:</u> Tom Allsopp—St. Clair Hospital; Cheryl Schmidt—Healthsouth, Harmarville. Ruth Speer is now on hospice care. Judy Boyd is home.

<u>Men!</u> Plan on attending the August Men's Cookout this Tuesday, August 21st from 6-8 pm. Location will be Don Roose's house, 5527 Clarene Drive, Bethel Park (off of Logan Road close to Irishtown.)

The Knitting/Crochet Group has started! Our next meeting is this Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in the fireside lounge. We will meet the second and fourth Thursday of each month. The group is open to all women in the church and is geared for beginner knitters and crocheters as well as those very accomplished in these crafts, and everyone in between. If you are interested in being a part, come and bring a project you would like to make or bring something already in progress. We hope to see you here!

<u>Perhaps you should be in the choir!</u> Those involved in the handbell and senior choirs are wonderful and welcoming people who are involved because they enjoy Christian fellowship and value music in our worship services. It is exciting to serve the Lord through music. Basic music-reading skills are needed for participation in the handbell choir, while those interested in the senior choir should just come with pleasant singing voices. Rehearsals commence on Wednesday, August 29 at 7:30 PM for the senior choir and on Wednesday, September 12 at 6:30 PM for the handbell choir. Please pray about using your gifts for God's glory. Just try a rehearsal or two... we need more volunteers.

<u>Help Sought - Operation Christmas Child:</u> Anyone interested in coordinating or helping to coordinate this Samaritan's Purse shoebox project in October, please contact Jill Kurtz for details.

<u>More Help Sought:</u> Women's Ministries is looking for individuals, couples or groups to take on organizing a Christmas Giving Tree Project. These begin in November. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Jill Kurtz.

<u>Church Picnic Thank You:</u> We had a beautiful day with tons of fun and fellowship at the church picnic. Thank you to everyone who helped clean up so quickly. It takes the help of a lot of people to make the picnic a success. A huge thank you goes out to the following: The Cox family for the tents; Brian, the Moore Family, Cheri Underwood and Dylan Wente for setting up; Heather Gold for coordinating the food and helping set up; Cheri, Jill Huwe and Joann for help with the food; Eric for cooking those delicious hot dogs and coordinating the games; the praise and worship team and Dave Compel for the musical entertainment and Pastor Carlson for the devotions. Thank you all again. *Kris Wente* 

# SUNDAY SCHOOL, SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 2018

# **LARGE CLASS ROOM (Adult)**

VBS Video highlight clips and'
Maggie Lewandowski sharing about her experience at AFLBS
and being on a summer VBS team

# Sunday, August 26th and Sunday, September 2nd

Pastor Carlson continues with his 3-part series ... "The Soul Cravings of our Culture & The Challenging Solutions of the Church"

# **UPPER ROOM (Adult)**

Please join the Adult Large Sunday School Class Room

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Junior and Senior Confirmation Classes Begin on Wednesday, 9/5/18 (Parent & Student meeting @ 6:30 p.m. in the Large SS Class Room)

Morning and Evening JTTW, KidsTime and Children's Choir Begin on Wednesday, 9/12/18

Our next EVENING OF PRAYER AND PRAISE will be held THIS EVENING, Sunday, August 19th at 6:00 PM in the large Sunday School room. Prayers and meditations will focus on our hope, God's glory on earth and in heaven and will include a new time of faith sharing. 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! "And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." 2 CORINTHIANS 3:18

**Thank You Ruthfred,** for your cards, prayers, phone calls and notes which continue to provide much encouragement while I'm recuperating from knee replacement surgery. And a visit from Pastor Osier, who brought newly arrived Vicar Czymbor, was most welcome! Hope to see all of you soon. ~ *Ellie Williams* 

# **August Birthdays**

Happy **91st** Birthday to Bill Stewart TODAY, Sunday, August 19, 2018.

Happy **92nd** Birthday to George Powell on Monday, August 27, 2018.

Please remember Bill and George with birthday wishes and prayers.

# YOUTH NEWS

## TNT (9-12 Grade)

In the summer months our Tuesday night high school group meets in the homes of youth that have volunteered to host. This Tuesday we will be at Miss Bunny's House from 7pm to 9pm, address is:

796 Bebout Road, Venetia, PA 15367.

## 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. If your child is going from 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade this year they are officially invited to join our SWAP group.

## Brunch (9-12 Grade)

On certain Sundays we host brunch after Church 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 today, August 19<sup>th</sup>**.

## Video Scavenger Hunt (9-12 Grade)

On **Tuesday August 28**<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting our annual video scavenger hunt at the church. This event starts at 6pm and ends at 9pm. During this time teens will be divided into teams and given a list of things they need to record, the winning team gets a prize!.

#### Save the Date:

August 19 Brunch

**August 28** Video Scavenger Hunt

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

#### IN LOVING MEMORY OF STACIE KLICK

## **Youth Fund**

Susan Hughes Tom & Linda Eld Al & Kerry Macugoski Roz Goorin

The Balsinger family

Heather Bankovic

Bob & Dottie Obenour

Theresa Cullina

John and Theresa Giltinan

The Diamond Club Team at GABP

Tracy Schmidt, Stephanie McNichol & Maureen & Mike Helmle & family

Rick and Jeen Harper Barry and Carol Miller Tony & Nancie Ranalli Myrna Weise

## **Music Fund**

Rick and Jeen Harper

#### **Current Fund**

Robert, Lynn, Andrew and Jennifer Vogel

<u>Please note:</u> A gift was given by Erna Jochum to the Music Fund in memory of Stacie Klick. It was inadvertently listed in last week's bulletin under the Youth Fund.

## OTHER GIFTS TO OUR CHURCH...

#### **Current Fund**

Given by Robert Lynn, Andrew and Jennifer Vogel in memory of Joan Knefelkamp and Don Funk.

## **Music Fund**

Given by John and Elizabeth Stilley in memory of a dear friend, Joan Knefelkamp.

## Pastor's Fund

Given by the Wilson and Auld Families in memory of Joan Knefelkamp.

# This Week At Ruthfred

# Today (8/19) HERALD ARTICLE DEADLINE HAPPY BIRTHDAY BILL STEWART 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 Tuesday (8/21) 6:00-8:00 p.m.—Men's Cookout @ Roose's

# Thursday (8/23)

10:00 a.m.—Knitting Group 6:30 p.m.—SS Teachers' Workshop 7:00 p.m.—College & Career Group

# Friday (8/24

6:30 a.m.—Men's Prayer Group @ Panera's

Sisters and brothers in Christ, welcome to worship and Christian fellowship. May you find blessing and strength in your participation here this morning. During the announcements, please sign the Friendship Pad and return it to the center aisle.

Attendance for Last Week:
Church...344 Sunday School...97...Church Picnic...160

# **Prayer Requests**

| □ Plea | se kee | p this r           | equest          |      |
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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. 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

Ron Thorhauer | Business Manager (412) 835-7140 (ext. 224) RonThorhauer@ruthfred.org

Patricia Lutz | Administrative Assistant (412) 835-7140 (ext. 225) PatriciaLutz@ruthfred.org

**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

## Jen Carlson & Lauren Compel

Kid's Time Leaders

# **Ruthfred Lutheran Church**

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