

# TRINITY SUNDAY



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 an offering basket at the back of the sanctuary.

## 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 *scherschnitte*, created specially for our church by Kathryn Carr. The artwork will reflect liturgical and Ruthfred-specific themes that occur throughout the year.

# The Divine Service of the Word

Trinity Sunday, June 4, 2023

## Prelude:

### **“Voluntary”**

(W. Ainley)

### **“O Lord Most Holy”**

(F. Abt)

### **“Holy, Holy, Holy”**

(R. Hughes)

## The Opening Hymn:

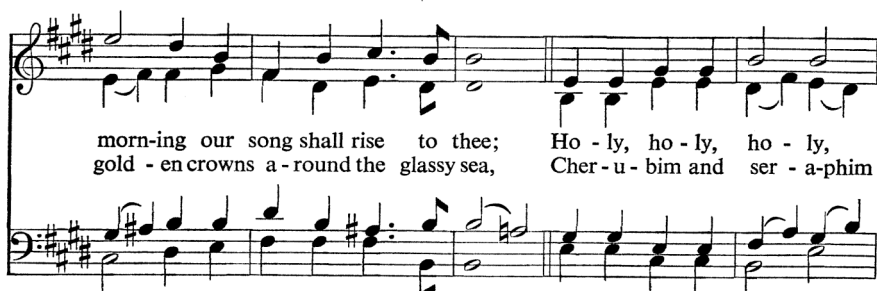
### **“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”**

(SBH #131)

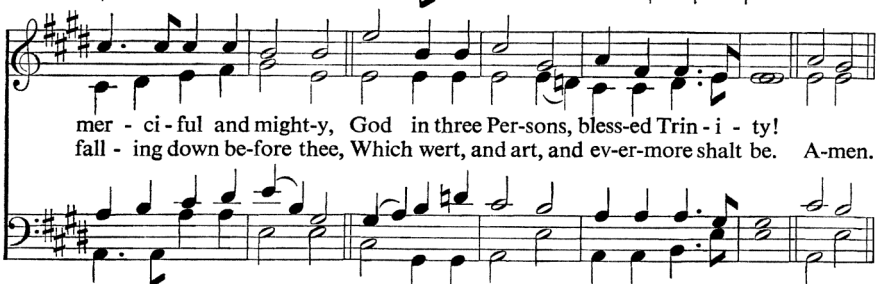
(Please stand as we  
join our hearts in  
song)



1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al-might - y! Ear - ly in the  
2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a-dore thee, Cast-ing down their



morn-ing our song shall rise to thee; Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,  
gold - en crowns a - round the glassy sea, Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim



mer - ci - ful and might-y, God in three Per-sons, bless-ed Trin - i - ty!  
fall - ing down be-fore thee, Which wert, and art, and ev-er-more shalt be. A-men.

3 Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

4 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three Persons, blessèd Trinity! Amen.

*Reginald Heber, 1783–1826*



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 Order for Public Confession** (SBH, p. 247)

**Unison: (U): Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord, Amen.**

P: Let us humbly kneel, and make confession unto God, imploring His forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**U: O God, our heavenly Father, I confess unto Thee that I have grievously sinned against Thee in many ways; not only by outward transgressions, but also by secret thoughts and desires which I cannot fully understand, but which are all known unto Thee. I do earnestly repent, and am heartily sorry for these my offenses, and I beseech Thee of Thy great goodness to have mercy upon me, and for the sake of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to forgive my sins, and graciously to help my infirmities. Amen.**

## **The Absolution, Admonition & Blessing:**

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and for the sake of the sufferings, death, and resurrection of His dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, forgives us all our sins. As a Minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare unto you who do truly repent and believe in Him, the entire forgiveness of all your sins. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

P: On the other hand, by the same authority, I declare unto the impenitent and unbelieving, that so long as they continue in their impenitence, God has not forgiven their sins, and will assuredly visit their iniquities upon them, if they turn not from their evil ways, and come to true repentance and faith in Christ, ere the day of grace be ended.

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you 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.

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 Introit** (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity,

**C: And the undivided Unity.**

P: Let us give glory to Him because He has shown His mercy to us. O Lord our Lord.

**C: How excellent is Your Name in all the earth.** (Ps. 115:1, Ps. 8:1)

### **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.**

### **The First Lesson: Genesis 1**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. <sup>3</sup> Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day. <sup>6</sup> Then God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." <sup>7</sup> God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. <sup>8</sup> God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day. <sup>9</sup> Then God said, "Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas; and God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, *and* fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them"; and it was so. <sup>12</sup> The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> There was evening and there was morning, a third day. <sup>14</sup> Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years; <sup>15</sup> and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; *He made* the stars also. <sup>17</sup> God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup> and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day. <sup>20</sup> Then

(continued on next page)

## **The First Lesson: Genesis 1** (cont'd)

God said, "Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens." <sup>21</sup> God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind; and God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." <sup>23</sup> There was evening and there was morning, a fifth day. <sup>24</sup> Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind"; and it was so. <sup>25</sup> God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good. <sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <sup>27</sup> God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. <sup>28</sup> God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth." <sup>29</sup> Then God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you; <sup>30</sup> and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to every thing that moves on the earth which has life, *I have given* every green plant for food"; and it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

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:**

Blessed are You, O Lord, who beholds the deep and who dwells between the Cherubim. Blessed are You, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven and greatly to be praised, and glorified, and highly exalted forever. Alleluia, alleluia. Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers and greatly to be praised and glorified forever. Alleluia.

(Trad. Liturgical Prayer)

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

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**The Holy Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:16-20** (NASB)

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

<sup>16</sup> But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated. <sup>17</sup> When they saw Him, they worshiped *Him*, but some were doubtful. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

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

**The Confession of Faith:** The Athanasian Creed (Confessed responsively)

The Athanasian Creed proclaims that its teachings concerning the Holy Trinity and our Lord's incarnation are the catholic (universal, Christian) faith. In other words, this is what the true church of all times and all places has confessed. More than 15 centuries later, the church continues to confess this truth, confident that the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, has given Himself for our salvation.

P: Whoever wishes to be saved must, above all else, hold the catholic faith.

**C: Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish for eternity.**

P: Now this is the catholic faith: We worship one God in trinity and the Trinity in unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the divine being.

**C: For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Spirit is still another.**

P: But the deity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one, equal in glory, coeternal in majesty.

**C: What the Father is, the Son is, and so is the Holy Spirit.**

P: Uncreated is the Father; uncreated is the Son; uncreated is the Spirit.

**C: The Father is infinite; the Son is infinite; the Holy Spirit is infinite.**

P: Eternal is the Father; eternal is the Son; eternal is the Spirit:

**C: And yet there are not three eternal beings, but one who is eternal; as there are not three uncreated and unlimited beings, but one who is uncreated and unlimited.**

P: Almighty is the Father; almighty is the Son; almighty is the Spirit: and yet there are not three almighty beings, but one who is almighty.

**C: Thus the Father is God; the Son is God; the Holy Spirit is God: and yet there are not three gods, but one God.**

P: Thus the Father is Lord; the Son is Lord; the Holy Spirit is Lord: and yet there are not three lords, but one Lord.

**C: As Christian truth compels us to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord, so catholic religion forbids us to say that there are three gods or lords.**

**The Confession of Faith:** The Athanasian Creed (Confessed responsively)

P: The Father was neither made nor created nor begotten; the Son was neither made nor created, but was alone begotten of the Father; the Spirit was neither made nor created, but is proceeding from the Father and the Son.

**C: Thus there is one Father, not three fathers; one Son, not three sons; one Holy Spirit, not three spirits.**

P: And in this Trinity, no one is before or after, greater or less than the other; but all three persons are in themselves, coeternal and coequal; and so we must worship the Trinity in unity and the one God in three persons.

**C: Whoever wants to be saved should think thus about the Trinity.**

P: It is necessary for eternal salvation that one also faithfully believe that our Lord Jesus Christ became flesh.

**C: For this is the true faith that we believe and confess: that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man.**

P: He is God, begotten before all worlds from the being of the Father, and He is man, born in the world from the being of His mother—existing fully as God, and fully as man with a rational soul and a human body; equal to the Father in divinity, subordinate to the Father in humanity.

**C: Although He is God and man, He is not divided, but is one Christ.**

P: He is united because God has taken humanity into Himself; He does not transform deity into humanity.

**C: He is completely one in the unity of His person, without confusing His natures.**

P: For as the rational soul and body are one person, so the one Christ is God and man.

**C: He suffered death for our salvation.**

P: He descended into hell and rose again from the dead.

**C: He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

P: He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**C: At His coming all people shall rise bodily to give an account of their own deeds.**

P: Those who have done good will enter eternal life, those who have done evil will enter eternal fire.

**C: This is the catholic faith. One cannot be saved without believing this firmly and faithfully.**



### **The Anthem**

11:00: Senior Choir—*O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High* (arr.  
Schalk)

O love, how deep, how broad, how high,  
How passing thought and fantasy,  
That God, the Son of God, should take  
Our mortal form for mortals' sake.

For us to wicked men betrayed,  
Scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,  
He bore the shameful cross and death;  
For us gave up His dying breath.

For us He rose from death again,  
For us He went on high to reign;  
For us He sent His Spirit here  
To guide, to comfort, and to cheer.

All glory to our Lord and God,  
For love so deep, so high, so broad,  
The Trinity whom we adore  
Forever and forevermore.

### **The Announcements**

**The Sermon Hymn: "Father Most Holy, Merciful and Tender"** (SBH #134)

1. Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and ten - der; Je - sus our  
2. Trin - i - ty sa - cred, U - ni - ty un - shak - en; De - i - ty

Sav - iour, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it all - kind - ly,  
per - fect, giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Light of the an - gels,

Ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, Light nev - er wan - ing;  
Life of the for - sak - en, Hope of all liv - ing. A - men.

- 3 Maker of all things, all thy creatures praise thee;  
Lo, all things serve thee through thy whole creation:  
Hear us, Almighty, hear us, as we raise thee  
Heart's adoration.
- 4 To the all-ruling triune God be glory:  
Highest and greatest, help thou our endeavor,  
We too would praise thee, giving honor worthy,  
Now and for ever. Amen.

*Latin Hymn, cir. X cent.  
Tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936*

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.

On the first Sunday of each month, as well as on other special occasions, we have the privilege of receiving Holy Communion together. We do not require membership to participate in this. However, we do ask that those coming to receive Communion would be baptized believers in the saving work of Jesus Christ, who are of confirmation age (completed 8th grade), and who are in agreement with the biblical teaching of Christ concerning it.

**The Sermon:** "Be Going, Making Disciples! | Matthew 28:16-20

### **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 First Holy Communion of the 2023 Confirmation Class** (11:00)

### **The Service for Communion**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And with thy Spirit.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

**C: It is meet and right so to do.**

### The Service for Communion (cont'd)

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God...Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; ever more praising thee, and saying:

**C: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of thy glory; Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### The Words of Institution

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night in which He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you; This do in remembrance of me.

After the same manner also, He took the cup, when He had supped, and, when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in my Blood, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; this do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.

### The Lord's Prayer

P: 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;

**C: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And with Thy spirit.**

### The Agnus Dei

**C: O Christ Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us;**

**O Christ Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us;**

**O Christ Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

We believe and teach that Holy Communion is a Sacrament in which we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and the wine, that it was instituted by Christ Himself, and that it is given to us Christians to eat and to drink.

We believe and teach that the benefit for Christians receiving Communion is expressed in the words "given" and "shed for you for the forgiveness of sins" (See Matthew 26:26-29). As described by Martin Luther in his *Small Catechism*, these words show us that "forgiveness of sin, life and salvation" are given to us in Communion.

Luther formulated a list of 20 questions with appropriate responses to guide the believer to prepare their hearts for Communion. We include a selection of those questions on page 15 for the purpose of aiding you in the same way.

# "This is the Feast"

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
 Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength, and  
 hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.  
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -  
 lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of  
 God and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:  
 Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.  
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the  
 Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -  
 le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## The Distribution

During Communion we shall sing: "Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray" (SBH #265)

*Devotionally*

1. Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray, Re - fresh thy  
2. Our trem - bling hearts cleave to thy word, All thou hast

The first system of the hymn features a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics for two parts. The first part begins with 'Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray, Re - fresh thy' and the second part with 'Our trem - bling hearts cleave to thy word, All thou hast'.

peo - ple here to - day; Be - neath these forms of bread and wine,  
said thou dost af - ford; All that thou art we here re - ceive,

The second system continues the melody. The lyrics are 'peo - ple here to - day; Be - neath these forms of bread and wine, said thou dost af - ford; All that thou art we here re - ceive,'.

En - rich us with thy grace di - vine.  
And all we are to thee we give. A - men.

The third system concludes the hymn. The lyrics are 'En - rich us with thy grace di - vine. And all we are to thee we give. A - men.'.

3 One bread, one cup, one body, we,  
United by our life in thee,  
Thy love proclaim till thou shalt come,  
To bring thy scattered loved ones home.

4 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray  
To keep us steadfast to that day,  
That each may be thy welcomed guest  
When thou shalt spread thy heavenly feast.  
Amen.

*Henry Eyster Jacobs, 1844–1932, a.*



**Do you believe that you are a sinner?**

Yes, I believe that I am a sinner.

**Are you sorry for your sins?**

Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.

**Do you desire to be saved?**

Yes, such is my desire.

**In Whom do you trust?**

In my dear Lord, Jesus Christ.

**What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?**

He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

**Do you believe that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?**

Yes, I believe it.

**What induces you to believe this?**

The Word of Christ, "Take, eat this is My body; This is My blood, drink of it all of you."

**Why ought we to remember and proclaim His death?**

That we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins but Christ, true God and man; and that we may learn to look with terror at our sins, and to regard them as great indeed, and to find joy and comfort in Him alone, and thus be saved through such faith.

**Finally, why do you wish to go to receive Holy Communion?**

That I may learn to believe that Christ died for my sin out of great love, as before said; and that I may also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.

## **The Nunc Dimittis**

**U: Lord now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the Glory of Thy people Israel. 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 Prayer**

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

**C: And His mercy endureth forever**

## **The Closing Prayer** *(after which the congregation shall sing **Amen.**)*

P: The Lord be with you.

**C. And with thy spirit**

P: Bless we the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **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 Living Bread from Heaven" (SBH #285)

1. O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, How hast thou fed thy guest!  
 2. My Lord, thou here hast led me With - in thy ho - liest place,

The gifts thou now hast giv - en Have filled my heart with rest.  
 And there thy - self hast fed me With treas - ures of thy grace;

O won-drous food of bless - ing, O cup that heals our woes,  
 And thou hast free - ly giv - en What earth could nev - er buy,

My heart, this gift pos-sess - ing, In thank-ful song o'er-flows!  
 The Bread of Life from heav - en, That now I shall not die. A-men.

3 Thou givest all I wanted,  
 The food can death destroy;  
 And thou hast freely granted  
 The cup of endless joy.  
 Ah, Lord, I do not merit  
 The favor thou hast shown,  
 And all my soul and spirit  
 Bow down before thy throne.

4 Lord, grant me that, thus strengthened  
 With heavenly food, while here  
 My course on earth is lengthened,  
 I serve with holy fear;  
 And when thou call'st my spirit  
 To leave this world below,  
 I enter, through thy merit,  
 Where joys unmingled flow. Amen.

*Johann Rist, 1607-67*

*Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-78*

## The Silent Prayer & Chimes

## The Postlude: "Fuga" (C. Zeuner)

# Announcements

**The altar flowers** are presented by Steve and Peggy Cox in honor of their 46<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**Nursery Today:** 8:30—Donna Weighley; 11:00—Claudia Patalong.

**Special thanks** to Eric Wentz, Kurt Ziegler, and Al Macugoski. They are reading Scripture and assisting with Holy Communion today at the 8:30, 11:00, and 6:00 services, respectively. Thank you also to Tom Glasser, who is assisting with Holy Communion at 11:00 today.

**Known to be hospitalized:** None known.

**Prayers for Recovery and Healing:** Joanne Salvetti is NOW HOME! Susan Boehme—ankle surgery. Gene Hershberger—treatment for lung cancer. Sue Dawson—knee replacement surgery. Sylvia Fitzgerald—broken leg. Amy Jones (Al Malone's daughter)—broken pelvis. Her address is 1216 Valley St., McKees Rocks, PA 15136. Abby Stutzman—autoimmune disorders. Virginia DiSalvo is now at a rehab facility recovering her strength. Heather Weighley—medical tests. Mark Pugh—received heart monitor. Please keep them in your prayers, as well as all those members of the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

**On Hospice Care:** John Coldsmith. Please support them with your prayers and cards.

**Condolences:** Our pastor and congregation extend Christian love and sympathy to Erna Jochum's family and friends. Erna passed away on May 30, 2023, having turned 96 one week earlier. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

**Education Fund:** Given by Chris and Marcia Clark in memory of Garnett Wasson.

**Music Fund:** Given by Chris and Marcia Clark in honor of Bob Vogel.

**Address Update:** Dan Gill has moved to Country Meadows, 3570 Washington Pike, Room 462, Bridgeville, PA 15017.

**Sincere Thank You:** Thank you for your birthday cards, get well cards, and visits from Pastor McMinn and all of you. It took two broken legs and knee caps to wake me! I have been nursing them and really appreciate your prayers. *Caryl Hansen*

**Special Thank You:** I send special thanks to Pastor McMinn for all his hospital visits! Also, my deepest gratitude and thanks to all of you who prayed for me and sent many cards and made many hospital visits. Ruthfred is very dear to me! I can't wait to get back. Our church is truly one foundation of God! *Joanne Salvetti*

**Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (AFLC) Annual Conference:** Our church body, the AFLC, will hold its Annual Conference June 14<sup>th</sup>—17<sup>th</sup> at the Best Western Inn & Ramkota Conference Center in Sioux Falls, SD. Ruthfred Church Council has agreed to cover airfare, meals, and hotel expenses for up to 6 Ruthfred members to attend. Visit [aflc.org/about-us/conferences/](http://aflc.org/about-us/conferences/) for more information. Contact John Morden if you plan to attend. Register ASAP.

**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, June 11, 2023, for approval at the June Council meeting. Application forms are available on the table at the bottom of the stairs near the Fellowship Hall or by calling the church office. Please place completed applications in the Council President mail slot in the Conference Room.

# Announcements (cont'd)

**For the summer months,** the double oak doors leading to the back parking lot will be unlocked for scheduled events, but they will be locked at all other times for security purposes. Please use the South Park entrance (across from Ruthfred Market) when entering the church Monday through Saturday.

**Fellowship Breakfast Survey:** If you did not have a chance to fill out a survey last weekend, you can pick one up from an usher today. Please complete it and place it in one of the marked baskets at the back of the sanctuary by today. Thank you!

**Meals on Wheels Collection:** Our neighbors at Meals on Wheels, located at Grace Lutheran Church in South Park, need bottled salad dressings. Donations will be accepted until today. Their preferred purchase places are Aldi's or The Dollar Store. Please place these items in the appropriate bin outside the kitchen. They are grateful for any donation! If you have any questions, please contact Carol Ward. Thank you!

**Volunteer Guidelines:** Please note that **all volunteers age 18 and older must have current clearances** in order to serve with children and youth at VBS, Sunday School, and youth events. Clearances are good for 5 years. Contact Felicia Rieck in the church office for more information.

**VBS 2023:** Dates are July 24-28. The theme this year will be "Twists and Turns." Come and learn how following Jesus will help you through life's twists and turns. Registration is open at: <https://www.myvbs.org/RuthfredLutheran/>. This link allows parents to register their children for this fun event and also allows volunteers to sign up to help make VBS a success! Volunteer sign-up sheets are also available on the interior window outside the Fellowship Hall entrance. Please note that all volunteers age 18 and older must have current clearances.

**VBS Decorating 2023:** This year decorating will be an in-house project. We meet each Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. These meetings will continue until the decorations are completed. Please consider supporting this important ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Jason or Donna Weighley.

**Post-Secondary Graduates:** It is that time of year when we want to recognize our graduates. Please let us know (via email to [sallyondrejko@ruthfred.org](mailto:sallyondrejko@ruthfred.org)) of any college or graduate school students who will be graduating this Spring. Please include name of student, name of college, date of graduation, and degree. We will be highlighting these students in future bulletins.

**High School Graduates:** Ruthfred will celebrate our high school graduates next Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. We hope you are able to join us that day to receive a blessing from the church as well as a special, personalized gift. We would also like to recognize each graduate in an upcoming "*Ruthfred Reflections*" article. If you would like your senior to be recognized, please forward the following information to Melissa Bostaph at your earliest convenience: student's full name, mailing address, high school they are graduating from, plans after high school (college; trade school; travel/time off; entering the workforce; military), Please also include a senior picture or photo of their choice.

**Donations for Allegheny County Jail:** From now until June 11, we will be collecting the following items for the Allegheny County Jail: jigsaw puzzles (new and used), shampoo, conditioner, body wash, 2-in-1 shampoo/body wash, 3-in-1 shampoo/conditioner/body wash, deodorant (men's and women's), bar soap, and toothpaste. Please note that these items should be regular size only, with no pump bottles or travel sizes. Items can be placed in the marked bin in the Fire-side Lounge. Thank you for your support! Please contact Jill Kurtz if you have questions.

## Announcements (cont'd)

**Craft & Sew:** In June, the **Crafters only** will meet, on Mondays June 5 and June 19. Please join us at 9:30 on those Mondays before we take a break for the summer!

**New Member Class:** Many people have expressed interest in joining Ruthfred lately, so we'd like to schedule another New Member class to begin soon. If you, or someone you know, is interested in joining Ruthfred or in attending a New Member class (current members are allowed, and even encouraged, to do so), please contact Melissa Bostaph (contact information on back of bulletin) to let her know.

**2023-2024 Preschool Registration** is now open online at [ruthfred.org](https://ruthfred.org). Contact [AnnieBuzon@ruthfred.org](mailto:AnnieBuzon@ruthfred.org) with any questions or to schedule a tour. Spaces are available!

**Save the Date—Parents' Date Night:** Mark June 16<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., in your calendars! This is a babysitting event, so parents are able to go out and have fun!!! We play games, sing songs, have a Bible lesson, feed the kiddos dinner, and have a snack while watching a movie. Register online at: <https://www.myvbs.org/RuthfredParentsDateNight>. Volunteers are needed for the event, and they can register on the same website.

**Open Church Council Position:** The position of Secretary is currently open. The primary duty is to record minutes from the monthly meetings. If you have an interest in serving in this capacity, please contact Mark Riley, Council President, at [markriley@ruthfred.org](mailto:markriley@ruthfred.org).

**Ruthfred 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Request:** Next April, Ruthfred will celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its incorporation. Planning has begun for celebrating this milestone. If you would like to join the planning committee, please contact Becky Evans. In the meantime, please be thinking about your happiest memories of Ruthfred. If you are willing to share a memory or memories, there is a collection box on the table near the elevator on the lower level. Or, feel free to send an email to [ruthfred@ruthfred.org](mailto:ruthfred@ruthfred.org). Thank you for blessing us with your memories!

**Visitors Next Sunday:** We will be honored next Sunday to have the Rev. Dr. Brent Olson and the Rev. Dr. Nathan Olson as guests. Brent will be preaching at both services, while Nathan will be leading the Adult Sunday School. Please help us welcome both of them and come to be blessed by their teachings.



## First Holy Communion

Today, the Confirmation Class of 2023 is receiving their first Holy Communion at the 11:00 service. We ask God's blessings upon their lives.

Joshua Raymond Cimarolli

Jonathan Reid Tarrant



### For The Month of June

**Acolytes:** 8:30 a.m. (6/4, 6/25) Asher Manzo  
(6/11) Jonathan Tarrant  
(6/18) Elliot McMin

11:00 a.m. (6/4, 6/25)	Ryan Handshue
(6/11)	Josh Cimarolli
(6/18)	Evan Gusky

**Crucifers:** 8:30 a.m. (6/11) Courtney Felicetti

11:00 a.m. (6/4) Holly Miller

**Altar Guild:** Rich Kleiser

<b><u>Scripture Readers:</u></b>	8:30 a.m. (6/4)	Eric Wente
	(6/18)	TBD
	(6/25)	Eric Wente

11:00 a.m. (6/4)	Kurt Ziegler
(6/4) Communion Assistant	Tom Glasser
(6/18)	Rory Smith
(6/25)	TBD

6:00 p.m. (6/4) Al Macugoski

**Counters:** 8:30 a.m. Chris Clark, Neil Wagner

11:00 a.m. Marty Rieck, Tom Sanders

**Ushers:** 8:30 a.m. Bernard Paterra, John Ruzicka

11:00 a.m.	TBD
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**Coffee Hour:** Weighley family

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**OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE:** Today, we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. Today, by means of bread and wine, Jesus Christ gives Himself to each communicant. This is His Word and promise. We accept His Word. If you are not a member of a Lutheran church, we ask you to speak to our pastors at any time about the meaning of Holy Communion and a person's desire to receive it. When we come to the altar we must come with believing and repentant hearts. As we return we always bow or kneel in prayer in thanksgiving to God for what Jesus Christ has given unto us. We do not practice the communion of children who are not instructed and confirmed, but the children are encouraged to come to the altar rail for a family blessing.



## **Adult Sunday School Class In Large Classroom**

Why is Ruthfred part of a national church body called the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (AFLC)? What's the AFLC, what's a congregation, and why does that matter to me? Pastor McMinn and others will guide the adult Sunday School class through a series called "*The Gospel in The Congregation*," written in part by Pastor James Molstre, a former pastor at Ruthfred. Join us for this series, which includes great videos and a short, helpful workbook. Don't assume you already understand the Biblical role of a congregation and your part in it.

Come and see for yourself what it's all about.

Please note that **next week** we will welcome the **Rev. Dr. Nathan Olson** as our Adult Sunday School teacher. His topic will be "A Corinthian Ecclesiology." Translation: He will be reflecting on how God has a plan for His Church and its members. Come hear about how God works in and through the body of Christ and the theology of the congregation!

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## **Journey Through the Word Summer Session**

**Wednesdays, June 14–August 9 (except July 26)**

**10:00-11:30 a.m.**

### **"The Great Journey Through the Word Summer Film Festival"**

Many excellent Christian movies have been released through the years. A variety of old and new, fiction and documentary, will be shown for your viewing pleasure! See the complete list of movies and brief summaries in the May issue of *The Herald*. Come for one; come for all! No registration is necessary, and **all** are welcome!

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## **Summer Sunday School for Kids**

Miss Bunny (Barger) and Miss Susan (Wholey) will continue their wonderful Sunday School class for 4- & 5-year-olds through the summer. Jason Weighley & Friends will offer a special Sunday School series for kids ages 6–5<sup>th</sup> grade featuring the Torchlighters' animated films about heroes of the Faith. Students in grade 6 and up will join Mason for youth Sunday School classes. If you can help with the nursery this summer, please contact Shane Cox.

# YOUTH NEWS

## SWAP (6-8 Grade)

There is a **SWAP** meeting tonight at Ruthfred, 6-7:30.

## TNT (9-12 Grade)

TNT will meet on Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Church, 7-9 p.m.

**Save the Date:** SWAP and TNT Summer Kick-Off, June 13, 5-9 p.m. at Ruthfred

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**Questions/concerns?**

**Contact: Mason Mitchell at [MasonMitchell@ruthfred.org](mailto:MasonMitchell@ruthfred.org), or  
(c) (412)-926-8698**



## This Week At Ruthfred

## Today (6/4) Trinity Sunday

8:30 a.m.—Communion Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School)

11:00 a.m.—Communion Service & First Holy Communion for 2023 Confirmands

6:00 p.m.—Communion Service

## City Mission Food Sunday

## Monday (6/5)

9:30 a.m.—Craft & Sew (Crafters only)

7:00 p.m.—Elders' Meeting

## Tuesday (6/6)

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

## Friday (6/9)

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

## Saturday (6/10)

9:30 a.m.—Mary Bible Study (Fireside Lounge)

**Sunday (6/11) St. Barnabas, Apostle**

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service (Rev. Dr. Brent Olson)

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School (Rev. Dr. Nathan Olson)

11:00 a.m.—Worship Service (Rev. Dr. Brent Olson)

High School Graduates' Recognition (both services)

## VBS Planning Meeting after 11:00 service

Today is Holy Trinity Sunday, so fittingly, we welcome you to worship in the name of God the Creator, Jesus the Savior, and the Holy Spirit, who sustains our faith and empowers us for discipleship. Amen.

Attendance for Last Week:

Sunday Worship...249    Sunday School...81

Live Stream...41

## Prayer Requests

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

[illegible]

☐ Please keep this request private (to be kept for the pastor 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. Bryce C. McMinn** | Pastor  
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 226)  
[PastorMcMinn@ruthfred.org](mailto:PastorMcMinn@ruthfred.org)

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**John Morden** | Accounting Manager  
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**Mason Mitchell** | Interim Director of Youth Ministry  
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**Felicia Rieck** | Administrative Assistant  
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**Brian Lyskava** | Custodian

**Andrew Vogel** | Multi-Media Coordinator  
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**John Sperandio** | Live Stream & Social Media Asst.  
[JohnSperandio@ruthfred.org](mailto:JohnSperandio@ruthfred.org)

**Robert Vogel**  
Senior & Bell Choirs

**Essi Efthimiou**  
Interim Organist

**Melissa Manzo**  
Children’s Choir

**Annie Buzon** | Preschool Director  
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