

RUTHFRED LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

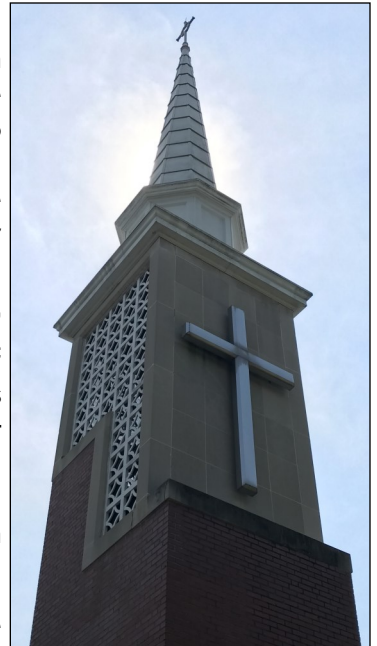
Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations ([www.aflc.org](http://www.aflc.org))

**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 rear 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 local artist Kathryn Carr. The artwork will reflect liturgical and Ruthfred-specific themes that occur throughout the year.

# The Divine Service of the Word

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, August 20, 2023

## Prelude:

### **"Air"**

(G. F. Handel)

### **"Voluntary"**

(G. F. Handel)

## The Opening Hymn:

### **"Nearer, My God to Thee"**

(SBH #577)

(Please stand as we  
join our hearts in  
song)

1. Near - er, my God, to thee, Near - er to thee,  
2. Though like a wan - der - er, The sun gone down,  
3. Then let my way ap - pear Steps un - to heaven;

E'en though it be a cross That rais - eth me,  
Dark - ness be o - ver me, My rest a stone,  
All that thou send - est me In mer - cy given;

Still all my song shall be, Near - er, my God, to thee,  
Yet in my dreams I'd be Near - er, my God, to thee,  
An - gels to beck - on me Near - er, my God, to thee,

Near - er, my God, to thee, Near - er to thee.  
Near - er, my God, to thee, Near - er to thee.  
Near - er, my God, to thee, Near - er to thee.

4 Then with my waking thoughts,  
Bright with thy praise,  
Out of my stony griefs  
Bethel I'll raise;  
So by my woes to be  
Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer to thee.

5 Or, if on joyful wing  
Cleaving the sky,  
Sun, moon, and stars forgot,  
Upward I fly;  
Still all my song shall be,  
Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer to thee.

*Sarah Flower Adams, 1805-48*

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. 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**

“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) (SBH p. 99)

P: God is in His holy habitation; God sets the solitary in families;

**C: The God of Israel is He that gives strength and power to His people.**

P: Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered;

**C: Let them also that hate Him flee before Him.** (Psalm 68: 1, 5, 6, 35)

**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: Lord, have mercy upon us.

**C: Lord, have mercy upon us.**

P: Christ, have mercy upon us.

**C: Christ, have mercy upon us.**

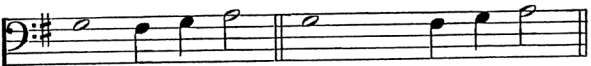
P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

**C: Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**The Hymn of Praise:**

**"The Gloria"**  
(SBH p. 19-21)

*Organ* *Minister*



Glory be to God on high!

*Congregation* *Old Scottish Chant*

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** (SBH p. 99)

P: The Lord be with you:

**C: And with thy spirit.**

P: Almighty and everlasting God, who is always more ready to hear than we to pray, and who gives more than either we desire or deserve: Pour down upon us the abundance of Your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

**C: Amen**

### **The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8** (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> Thus says the Lord, “Preserve justice and do righteousness, for My salvation is about to come and My righteousness to be revealed.”

<sup>6</sup> “Also the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to Him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be His servants, every one who keeps from profaning the sabbath and holds fast My covenant;

<sup>7</sup> Even those I will bring to My holy mountain and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar; for My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.” <sup>8</sup> The Lord God, who gathers the dispersed of Israel, declares, “Yet *others* I will gather to them, to those *already* gathered.”

### **The Psalm: Psalm 67**(NASB)

P: God be gracious to us and bless us, *and* cause His face to shine upon us— *Selah*.

**C: That Your way may be known on the earth, Your salvation among all nations.**

P: Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You.

**C: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy; for You will judge the peoples with uprightness and guide the nations on the earth. *Selah*.**

P: Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God, blesses us.

**C: God blesses us, that all the ends of the earth may fear Him.**

**The Epistle Lesson: Romans 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32** (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He? May it never be! For I too am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup> God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew.

<sup>13</sup> But I am speaking to you who are Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle of Gentiles, I magnify my ministry, <sup>14</sup> if somehow I might move to jealousy my fellow countrymen and save some of them. <sup>15</sup> For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will *their* acceptance be but life from the dead?

<sup>28</sup> From the standpoint of the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but from the standpoint of *God's* choice they are beloved for the sake of the fathers; <sup>29</sup> for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

<sup>30</sup> For just as you once were disobedient to God, but now have been shown mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup> so these also now have been disobedient, that because of the mercy shown to you they also may now be shown mercy. <sup>32</sup> For God has shut up all in disobedience so that He may show mercy to all.

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 Gradual** (SBH p. 99)

My heart trusts in God, and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly rejoices; and with my song will I praise Him. Unto You will I cry, O Lord my rock, be not silent to me. Hear the voice of my supplications. Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise waits for You, O God, in Zion, and unto You shall the vow be performed. Alleluia.

(Psalm 28: 1, 2, 7; 65:1)

"Alleluia" is Hebrew for "Praise the Lord."

**The Alleluia** (Sung in Unison)

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**The Holy Gospel Lesson: Matthew 15:21-28** (NASB)

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

<sup>21</sup> Jesus went away from there, and withdrew into the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> And a Canaanite woman from that region came out and *began* to cry out, saying, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is cruelly demon-possessed." <sup>23</sup> But He did not answer her a word. And His disciples came and implored Him, saying, "Send her away, because she keeps shouting at us." <sup>24</sup> But He answered and said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." <sup>25</sup> But she came and *began* to bow down before Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" <sup>26</sup> And He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." <sup>27</sup> But she said, "Yes, Lord; but even the dogs feed on the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus said to her, "O woman, your faith is great; it shall be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed at once.

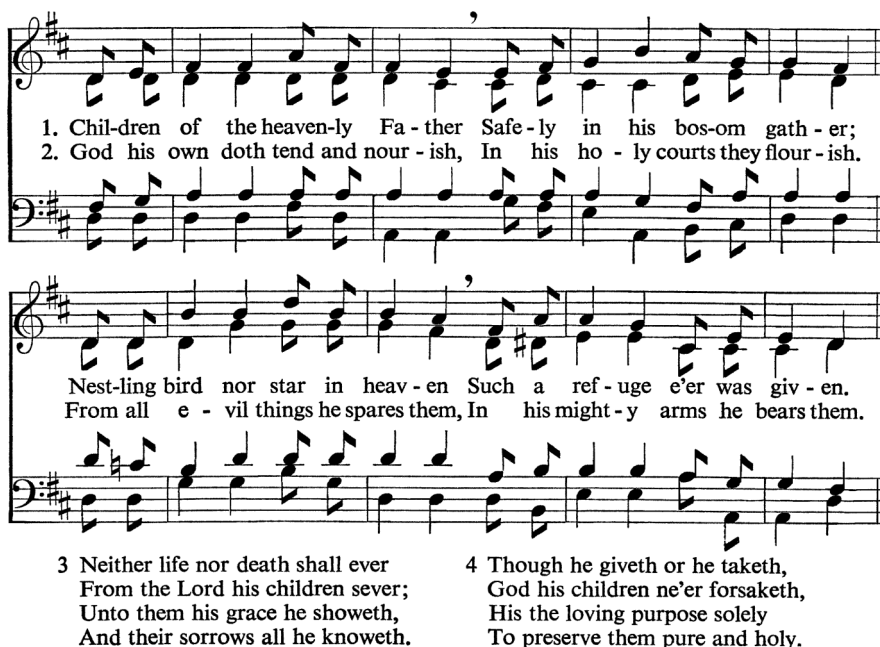
The Congregation shall sing, "**Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**"



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 Brycen Garrett and Reid Everett, 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 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 Baptismal Hymn:** (11:00) "Children of the Heavenly Father" (SBH #572)



1. Chil-dren of the heav-en-ly Fa-ther Safe-ly in his bos-om gath-er;  
 2. God his own doth tend and nour-ish, In his ho-ly courts they flour-ish.

Nest-ling bird nor star in heav-en Such a ref-uge e'er was giv-en.  
 From all e-vil things he spares them, In his might-y arms he bears them.

3 Neither life nor death shall ever  
 From the Lord his children sever;  
 Unto them his grace he showeth,  
 And their sorrows all he knoweth.

4 Though he giveth or he taketh,  
 God his children ne'er forsaketh,  
 His the loving purpose solely  
 To preserve them pure and holy.

*Caroline V. Sandell Berg, 1832–1903  
 Tr. Ernest William Olson, 1870–*

## **The Baptism of Brycen Garrett Morrow and Reid Everett Morrow** (11:00 a.m.)

### **The Confession of Faith:** The Apostles' Creed (Confessed in Unison) (p. 25/5)

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 Special Music**

8:30 & 11:00: Kerry Macugoski, Peggy Cox, & Pastor McMinn—*Oh How He Loves You and Me* (K. Kaiser/J. Purifoy)

### **The Announcements**

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

# The Sermon

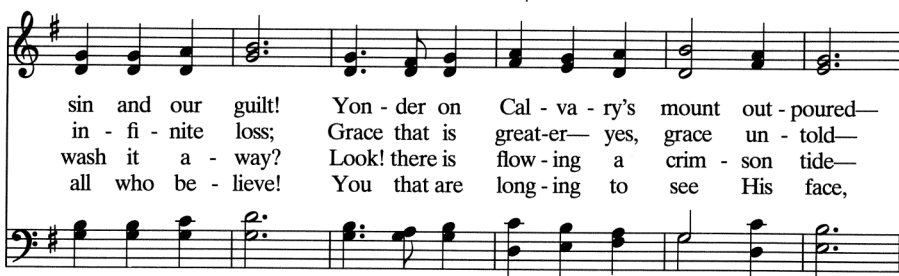
## Hymn:

### "Grace Greater Than Our Sin"

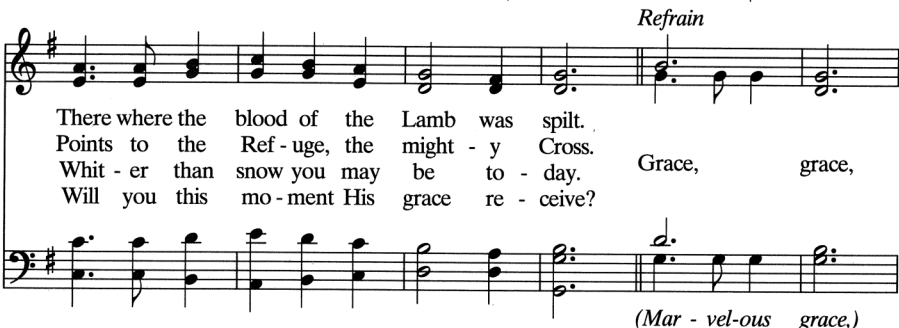
(AMB #522)



1 Mar - vel-ous grace of our lov - ing Lord, Grace that ex - ceeds our  
 2 Sin and de - spair, like the sea - waves cold, Threat-en the soul with  
 3 Dark is the stain that we can - not hide, What can a - vail to  
 4 Mar - vel-ous, in - fi - nite, match - less grace, Free - ly be - stowed on



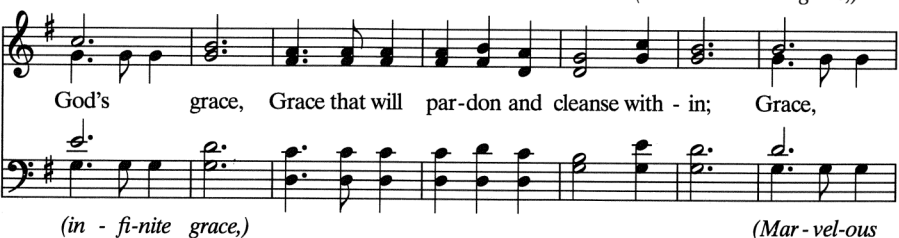
sin and our guilt! Yon - der on Cal - va - ry's mount out - poured—  
 in - fi - nite loss; Grace that is great-er— yes, grace un - told—  
 wash it a - way? Look! there is flow - ing a crim - son tide—  
 all who be - lieve! You that are long - ing to see His face,



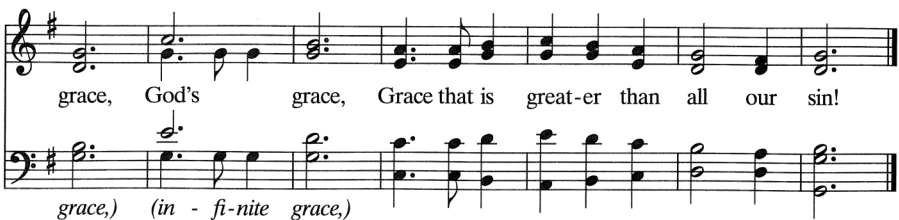
*Refrain*

There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.  
 Points to the Ref - uge, the might - y Cross. Grace, grace,  
 Whit - er than snow you may be to - day.  
 Will you this mo - ment His grace re - ceive?

(Mar - vel-ous grace,)



God's grace, Grace that will par-don and cleanse with - in; Grace,  
 (in - fi-nite grace,) (Mar - vel-ous



grace, God's grace, Grace that is great-er than all our sin!  
 grace,) (in - fi-nite grace,)

Text: Julia H. Johnston, 1849-1919  
 Tune: Daniel B. Townner, 1850-1919

GRACE GREATER THAN OUR SIN  
 99 99 w/refrain

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:** "God's Grace Has No Regrets" | Psalm 67

**Sermon Notes:**

**The Offertory Response** (Sung in Unison; Please Stand) (SBH p. 27)

**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) (SBH p. 28)

**The Lord's Prayer** (Prayed in Unison) (SBH p. 28)

**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** (SBH p. 28)

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: "Amazing Grace" (AMB #578)**

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re - lieved;  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I have al - read - y come;  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; His Word my hope se - cures;  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright shin - ing as the sun,

I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.  
How pre - cious did that grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.  
He will my shield and por - tion be As long as life en - dures.  
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

*Text: John Newton, 1725–1807*  
*Tune: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835*

NEW BRITAIN  
CM

**The Silent Prayer & Chimes**

**The Postlude: "Recessional" (G. F. Handel)**

# Announcements

**The altar flowers** are presented by Dale and Kathi Siciliano in thanksgiving for the many blessings God has bestowed upon us and with gratitude for 50 years of marriage.

**The chancel rail flowers** are presented by Russ and Linda Hafen in honor of the baptism yesterday of Winona May and Valerie Lynn Miller, our great granddaughters, here at Ruthfred.

**Special thanks** to Pete Huwe and Jason Weighley. They are reading Scriptures at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., respectively

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

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

**Prayers for Recovery and Healing:** Michelle Hopkins and her family as she continues to battle another illness. Dot Corbett—Room 294R at Concordia. Debbie Huffman—at home recovering from surgery. Jodie Riley—breast cancer. Dan Gill—broken hip. Bill VanKirk—skin cancer. Dee Coldsmith—Providence Point. Gene Hershberger—treatment for lung cancer. Amy Jones (Al Malone's daughter)—broken pelvis. Abby Stutzman—autoimmune disorders. Virginia DiSalvo. Please keep them in your prayers, as well as all those members of the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

**Official Act:** On Saturday, August 19, 2023, at 11:00 a.m., Pastor Bryce C. McMinn officiated at a memorial service for Donna Neil in the Ruthfred sanctuary. Please keep Donna's family in your prayers as they grieve the loss of their dear wife/mother/grandmother/sister.

**Official Act:** On Saturday, August 19, 2023, at 1:00 p.m., Pastor Bryce C. McMinn officiated at the baptism of Winona May and Valerie Lynn Miller in the Ruthfred sanctuary. They are the twin great-granddaughters of Russ and Linda Hafen.

**Current Fund:** Given by Bill and Jill Spencer in memory of Jim Segerdahl, Sr. Given by Barbara Watt in memory of Jim Segerdahl, Sr. Given by Debby Skundrich in loving memory of Jim Segerdahl, Sr. Given by John and Mary Clark in memory of Jim Segerdahl, Sr. Given by Elmer Schultz in memory of Donna Neil.

**Pastor's Fund:** Given by Greg Lindner and family in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Becky and Rich Lindner on August 11. Given by Pamela Lindner Ason in honor/remembrance of Rich and Becky Lindners' 50th wedding anniversary on August 11.

**Youth Fund:** Given by Gladys Constant in memory of her son Joseph.

**Bell Choir and Senior Choir:** Martin Luther said, "Music drives away the Devil and makes people joyful. Next to theology, I give music the highest place and the greatest honor." Both the Senior Choir and the Handbell Choir stand ready to welcome new members from ninth grade through retirement age. If you have basic music reading skills, consider trying the Handbell Choir, and if you have a pleasant singing voice, the Senior Choir may be a possibility for you. Please pray about attending a rehearsal to see if participation in Ruthfred's music ministry is right for you. Senior Choir rehearsals resume on Wednesday, August 30, at 7:30 p.m., and Handbell Choir rehearsals restart on Wednesday, September 6, at 6:30 p.m.

**Kids' Time Volunteers Needed:** Do you enjoy games and teaching kids about the Word of God? If so, we need you for **Wednesday night Kids' Time** starting September 13 to help spread the love of Jesus. For more information, or to sign up, please contact Mason Mitchell at [MasonMitchell@ruthfred.org](mailto:MasonMitchell@ruthfred.org). Thank you!

# Announcements (cont'd)

**Address Update:** Bob and Gladys Reith, The Waters of McMurray, 441 Valley Brook Rd., Apt. 423, McMurray, PA 15317. 724-942-8400.

**Wednesday morning Journey Through the Word:** It's time to look forward to the fall! We're excited to be studying the book of Ecclesiastes for the first seven weeks, starting September 13. Ecclesiastes has much to teach us about wisdom from the wisest person who ever lived, King Solomon. The Bible frequently contrasts the wise and the foolish. This book will help us understand how to live our lives in and with God's wisdom. Starting on November first, we'll finish this session with a four-week study of Ruth. Everyone is welcome! We have study groups for both women and men and an online discussion group. Please fill out a registration form and put it in the basket outside the sanctuary across from the elevator. Or check the church website ([www.ruthfred.org](http://www.ruthfred.org)) to register online.

**"Souper" September:** We are again going to hold our annual "Souper" September soup drive in memory of Pastor Dennis. It's hard to believe that it has been 15 years since he was called to his heavenly home! This year's donations will benefit S.H.I.M. (South Hills Interfaith Movement) located in Bethel Park, and also City Mission in Washington, PA. Any type of soup will be accepted, but they are especially in need of low-sodium soups. The container where you may place your donations will be in the Fireside Lounge beginning Sunday, 9/3, and the last day to drop off will be Sunday, 9/24. For questions please contact Carol Ward at (412) 559-2592 or [wardmail-box1@gmail.com](mailto:wardmail-box1@gmail.com). Thank you!

**Leaders of Youth Today Email (LYTE) Sign-Up:** This group is a monthly email chain for anyone who wants to stay up-to-date with current events in the lives of youth and youth culture, including the health and events of Ruthfred youth. LYTE will serve as a training and equipping resource for those who serve the youth of our church, both within the walls and outside the walls. If you have a desire for the youth in our congregation to know and love Jesus within the culture where they live, this group is for you. Please contact our Youth Director, Coltin Cox, if you would like to be added to the list: [ColtinCox@ruthfred.org](mailto:ColtinCox@ruthfred.org).

## **Employment Opportunity at Ruthfred:**

**Nursery Attendant:** Do you have a heart for the youngest in our Church family? We have a need for nursery workers. Please contact Shane Cox if you can help.

**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.

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

**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!

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

This Sunday Mason Mitchell and several of our youth will give a presentation about their experiences at the biennial FLY Convention in early July. This youth gathering of the AFLC aims to provide congregations with a tool for encouraging youth in their faith and discipleship. Please come support our youth and learn about their meaningful experiences!

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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 attend youth Sunday School classes. We plan to have the nursery staffed. If you can help with the nursery this summer, please contact Shane Cox.

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# **YOUTH NEWS**

### **SWAP (6-8 Grade)**

There is NO **SWAP** tonight.

### **TNT (9-12 Grade)**

TNT will meet on Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the McMinn's house (309 Patterson Rd., Bethel Park).

### **Questions/concerns?**

**Contact: Coltin Cox at [ColtinCox@ruthfred.org](mailto:ColtinCox@ruthfred.org), or  
(c) (724)-825-9790**



PLEASE JOIN US TODAY!

# RUTHFRED CHURCH PICNIC

GAMES | FUN | MUSIC



Get ready for Ruthfred's annual church picnic! We'll be cooking up hamburgers and hot dogs, you bring a side or dessert. Last names A-K please bring a salad, L-S please bring a side (not salad), and T-Z please bring a dessert.

..... SUNDAY, AUGUST 20TH .....

RUTHFRED BALLFIELD

3 PM - 7 PM



# Kids' Time

**Did you love VBS? Then come and join us Wednesday nights for some fun, friends, and fellowship—all while learning more about God's Love.**

**WHEN:** Wednesday nights, Sept 20, 2023 - Feb 21, 2024

**TIME:** 6:45-8:00 p.m.

**WHO:** All kids in grades Kindergarten-5th

**Register here:**

**<https://vbspro.events/p/events/ruthfredlutherankids-time2023>**

**NO Registration Fee**

Please contact Mason Mitchell with any questions: [masonmitchell@ruthfred.org](mailto:masonmitchell@ruthfred.org).

## This Week At Ruthfred

## Today (8/20)

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School

1 1:00 a.m.—Worship Service (Morrow baptisms)

3:00-7:00 p.m.—Church picnic with Praise Team

## Monday (8/21)

1:30 p.m.—Ruth Circle

## Tuesday (8/22) Mary, Mother of Our Lord

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

## Friday (8/25)

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

## Sunday (8/27) City Mission Food Sunday

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School

1 1:00 a.m.—Worship Service

Paul writes: "The gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable" (Romans 11:29). God has called you, so receive His gifts for you today: His love, His forgiveness, His life.

Attendance for Last Week:

Sunday Worship...236 Sunday School...47

8:30 Live Stream...37

## 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 (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  
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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**  
Organist

**Melissa Manzo**  
Children's Choir

**Annie Buzon** | Preschool Director  
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