

RUTHFRED LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Welcome to Ruthfred Lutheran Church!

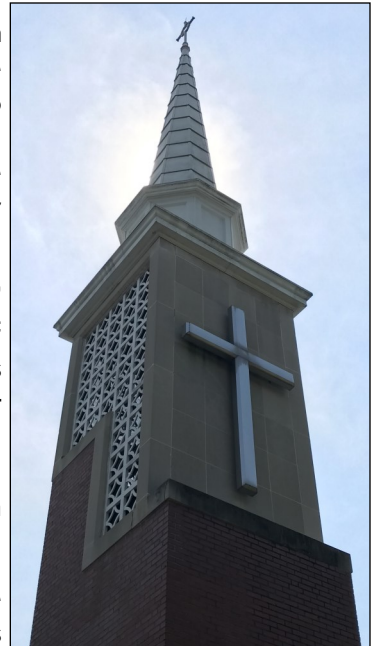
Member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations ([www.aflc.org](http://www.aflc.org))

**We are delighted to have you with us this morning as we gather to worship the Lord Jesus Christ.**

If you are visiting today, we are glad you are here! Whether you are visiting from out of town, seeking a new church home, or for any other reason, thank you for choosing to worship with us. We would love to get in touch with you. Please fill out your contact information in the red folder at the end of your pew, or fill out the information on the back cover of this bulletin, and place it in the offering plate as it passes before you.

## About Us:

- ◆ Since her opening service on Christmas Eve in 1948 and her charter the following year, Ruthfred Lutheran Church has been a congregation rooted in the conviction that the Bible is inspired by God, living and active, capable to produce faith in its hearers, and true and faithful in all its parts. As such, our preaching and teaching aim to be faithful to its correct interpretation and is central to our worship of God.
- ◆ Our Divine Service, called the “Common Service,” possesses a rich history that stems from the early days of the Lutheran Reformation. It is centered upon God’s Word, and proclaims the realities of God’s abundant grace in Jesus Christ from its start to its close. If this is a new form of worship for you, this bulletin will serve as a welcome companion. The order of service begins on page 3.
- ◆ The Divine Service begins as our organist begins the Prelude. When the music starts, please quiet your hearts as you prayerfully prepare for worship.



Our cover is a paper cut, or *scherenschnitte*, created specially for our church by our very own Kathryn Carr. The artwork will reflect liturgical and Ruthfred-specific themes that occur throughout the year.

# The Divine Service of the Word

The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost, November 13, 2022

## Prelude:

"Ayre"

"Bouree"

"Toccata"

(J. Kimball)

## The Opening Hymn:

"Jesus Shall Reign"

(SBH #307)

(Please stand as we join  
our hearts in song)

1. Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Doth his suc -  
2. To him shall end - less prayer be made, And prais - es

ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from  
throng to crown his head; His Name like sweet per -

shore to shore, Till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
fume shall rise With ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.

3 People and realms of every tongue	4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns;
Dwell on his love with sweetest song;	The prisoner leaps to lose his chains,
And infant voices shall proclaim	The weary find eternal rest,
Their early blessings on his Name.	And all the sons of want are blest.

5 Let every creature rise and bring  
Peculiar honors to our King;  
Angels descend with songs again,  
And earth repeat the loud Amen.

*Isaac Watts, 1674-1748*

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 Call to Worship and Invocation**

Pastor (P): We open this service in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation (C): Amen**

## **The Confession of Sins** (SBH, p. 41)

Pastor (P): Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord

**Congregation (C): Who made heaven and earth.** (Psalm 124:8)

P: I said, "I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**C: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.** (Psalm 32:5)

P: Let us bow or kneel for the confession of our sin.

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto thee, that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring thy grace, for the sake of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

(Silent Prayer of Personal Confession)

**Together:**

**O most merciful God, who hast given thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us, and for his sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by thy Holy Spirit, increase in us true knowledge of thee, and of thy will, and true obedience to thy Word, that by thy grace, we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Absolution 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).

"Introit" means "to enter into," and is a responsive reading meant to lead God's forgiven children into the worship of Him. The words are from Scripture, and relate to the theme of the day in the liturgical calendar.

"Kyrie" is Latin for *Lord*, which is the first word of the prayer. Distinct from the confession of sin, it is a prayer for God to grant His mercy in every aspect of our lives and to supply us with all our needs, personally, corporately and for the whole world.

### **The Absolution:**

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

**C: Amen**

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

P: If Thou, Lord, should mark iniquities

**C: O Lord, who shall stand?**

P: But there is forgiveness with Thee,

**C: That Thou may be feared.**

P: Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord,

**C: Lord, hear my voice.**

(Psalms 130:1-4)

### **The Gloria Patri** (Sung in Unison; SBH p. 43)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world  
without end. Amen.**

### **The Kyrie** (Sung in Unison; SBH p. 48)

P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

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

P: Christ, have mercy upon us.

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

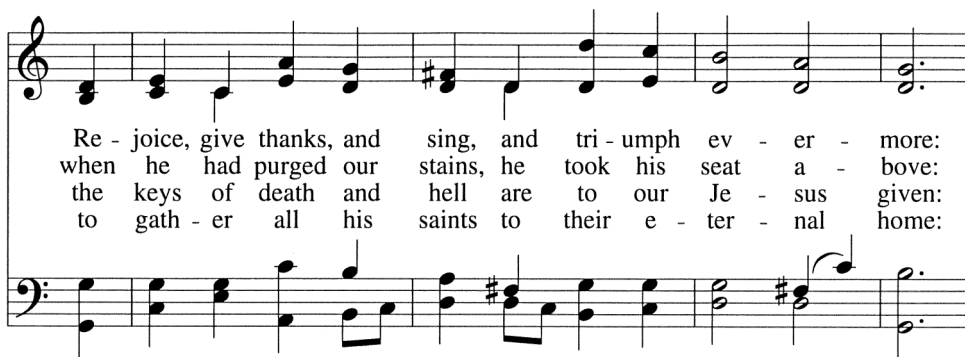
P: Lord, have mercy upon us.

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

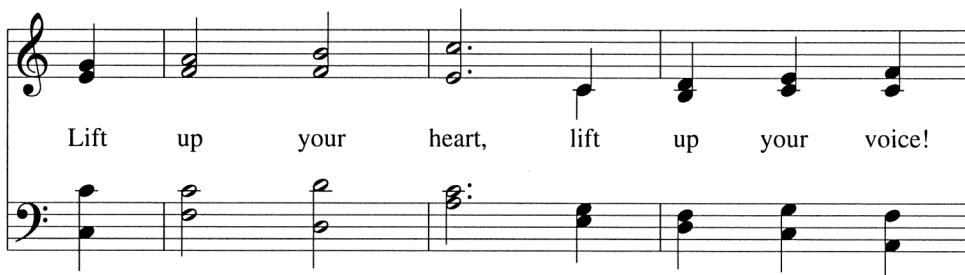
**The Hymn of Praise: "Rejoice, the Lord is King"** (Worship & Rejoice #342)



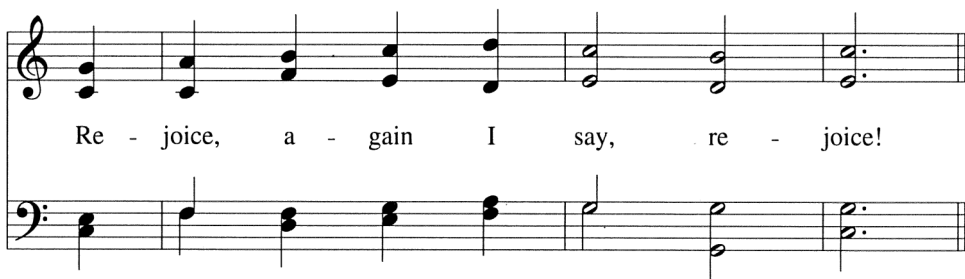
1 Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!  
2 Our Sav - ior, Je - sus, reigns, the God of truth and love;  
3 His King - dom can - not fail, he rules both earth and heaven;  
4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope for Christ the Judge shall come



Re - joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:  
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:  
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus given:  
to gath - er all his saints to their e - ter - nal home:



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!



Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

WORDS: Charles Wesley (1707-1788); para. Philippians 4:4  
MUSIC: John Darwall (1731-1789)

DARWALL'S 148th  
6.6.6.6.8.8.

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: O God, our refuge and strength, who art the author of all godliness. Be ready, we beseech Thee, to hear the devout prayers of Thy Church; and grant that those things which we ask faithfully, we may obtain effectually; through Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

**C: Amen**

### **The Old Testament Lesson: Malachi 4:1-6** (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> "For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be chaff; and the day that is coming will set them ablaze," says the LORD of hosts, "so that it will leave them neither root nor branch." <sup>2</sup> "But for you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall. <sup>3</sup> You will tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day which I am preparing," says the LORD of hosts. <sup>4</sup> "Remember the law of Moses My servant, *even the* statutes and ordinances which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel. <sup>5</sup> "Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD. <sup>6</sup> He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to *their* fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse."

### **The Psalm: Psalm 98** (NASB)

P: O sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done wonderful things, His right hand and His holy arm have gained the victory for Him.

**C: The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

P: He has remembered His lovingkindness and His faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**C: Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth; break forth and sing for joy and sing praises.**

P: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout joyfully before the King, the LORD.

**C: Let the sea roar and all it contains, the world and those who dwell in it.**

(continued on next page)

**The Psalm: Psalm 98** (NASB) (cont'd)

P: Let the rivers clap their hands let the mountains sing together for joy before the LORD.

**C: For He is coming to judge the earth; He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.**

**The Epistle Lesson: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13** (NASB)

<sup>6</sup> Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us. <sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined manner among you, <sup>8</sup> nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with labor and hardship we *kept* working night and day so that we would not be a burden to any of you; <sup>9</sup> not because we do not have the right *to this*, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you, so that you would follow our example. <sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread. <sup>13</sup> But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good.

**The Gradual:**

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. The Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore. Alleluia, alleluia. Praise the Lord, O my soul, while I live will I praise the Lord. I will sing praises unto my God. Alleluia. (Psalm 132:1,3; 146:1-2)

**The Alleluia** (Sung in Unison)

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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 Holy Gospel Lesson: Luke 21:5-28** (NASB)

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

<sup>5</sup> And while some were talking about the temple, that it was adorned with beautiful stones and votive gifts, He said, <sup>6</sup> "As for these things which you are looking at, the days will come in which there will not be left one stone upon another which will not be torn down." <sup>7</sup> They questioned Him, saying, "Teacher, when therefore will these things happen? And what *will be* the sign when these things are about to take place?" <sup>8</sup> And He said, "See to it that you are not misled; for many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and, 'The time is near.' Do not go after them. <sup>9</sup> When you hear of wars and disturbances, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end *does not follow* immediately." <sup>10</sup> Then He continued by saying to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, <sup>11</sup> and there will be great earthquakes, and in various places plagues and famines; and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. <sup>12</sup> "But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and will persecute you, delivering you to the synagogues and prisons, bringing you before kings and governors for My name's sake. <sup>13</sup> It will lead to an opportunity for your testimony. <sup>14</sup> So make up your minds not to prepare beforehand to defend yourselves; <sup>15</sup> for I will give you utterance and wisdom which none of your opponents will be able to resist or refute. <sup>16</sup> But you will be betrayed even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and they will put *some* of you to death, <sup>17</sup> and you will be hated by all because of My name. <sup>18</sup> Yet not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> By your endurance you will gain your lives. <sup>20</sup> "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near. <sup>21</sup> Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city; <sup>22</sup> because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which are written will be fulfilled. <sup>23</sup> Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days; for there will be great distress upon the land and wrath to this people; <sup>24</sup> and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. <sup>25</sup> "There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth dismay among nations, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, <sup>26</sup> men fainting from fear and the expectation of the things which are coming upon the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING IN A CLOUD with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

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

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 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 Anthem**

8:30: Senior Choir—*"Praise the Lord" (Handel/Hopson)*

Praise the Lord. Let songs of joy break forth.  
Sing alleluia. Praise His name forevermore.  
Shout, sing, and dance, come dance and celebrate.  
Rejoice, let all within us praise His name.  
Shout, sing, let songs of joy break forth.  
Praise the Lord, O praise Him.  
Sing alleluia. Sing for joy.  
Rejoice. O praise His holy name forevermore.

### **The Special Music**

11:00: Sue Swan—*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

### **The Announcements**

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

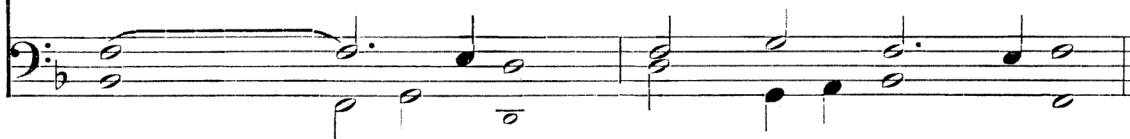
**The Sermon Hymn: "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" (SBH #281)**



1. Let all mor-tal flesh keep si-lence, And with fear and trem-bling stand;  
2. King of kings, yet born of Ma-ry, As of old on earth he stood,



Pon-der noth-ing earth-ly - mind-ed, For with bless-ing in his hand  
Lord of lords in hu-man ves-ture, In the Bod-y and the Blood



Christ our God to earth de-scend - eth, Our full hom-age to de - mand.  
He will give to all the faith - ful His own self for heaven-ly food. A-men.



3 Rank on rank the host of heaven  
Spreads its vanguard on the way,  
As the Light of light descendeth  
From the realms of endless day,  
That the powers of hell may vanish  
As the darkness clears away.

4 At his feet the six-winged seraph;  
Cherubim with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the presence,  
As with ceaseless voice they cry,  
'Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Alleluia, Lord most high!' Amen.

*Liturgy of St. James  
Tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829-85*

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:** "Jesus Christ Is Coming" | Luke 21:25-28

### **Sermon Notes:**

### **The Offertory Response** (Sung in Unison; Please Stand)

**Create in me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence: and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation: and uphold me with Thy free Spirit.** (Psalm 51:10-12)

### **The Closing & Silent Prayer** (Please bow or kneel in prayer)

### **The Lord's Prayer** (Prayed in Unison)

**Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And, forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Benediction**

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May He make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you

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

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

(Numbers 6:24-26)

**C: Amen.**

**The Closing Hymn: "All Creatures of Our God and King"** (SBH #173, 2 pages)

1. All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and  
2. Thou rush-ing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in

with us sing Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
heaven a - long, O . . . praise him, al - le - lu - ia!

Thou burn-ing sun with gold-en beam, Thou sil-ver moon  
Thou ris-ing morn, in praise re-joice, Ye lights of eve-

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass staff for the voice and a grand staff (treble and bass) for the piano accompaniment. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The tempo is marked 'Moderato'. The score is divided into three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn. The second system contains the third and fourth lines. The third system contains the fifth and sixth lines. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands, providing a harmonic support for the vocal melody.

*Refrain*

with soft - er gleam: O praise him, O praise him,  
ning, find a voice:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

3 Thou flowing water, pure and clear,  
Make music for thy Lord to hear,  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou fire so masterful and bright,  
That givest man both warmth and light:

5 And all ye men of tender heart,  
Forgiving others, take your part,  
O sing ye, alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and on him cast your care:

4 Dear mother earth, who day by day  
Unfoldest blessings on our way,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,  
Let them his glory also show:

6 And thou, most kind and gentle death,  
Waiting to hush our latest breath,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Thou leadest home the child of God,  
And Christ our Lord the way hath trod:

7 Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship him in humbleness;  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One:

*St. Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226  
Tr. William H. Draper, 1855-1933*

*By permission of J. Curwen and Sons, Ltd.*

### The Silent Prayer & Chimes

### The Postlude: "Postlude on 'Darwal'" (M. Sobaje)

# Announcements

**The altar flowers** are presented by the entire Fife gang in gratitude to our Lord Jesus Christ for 90 loving years with Mom.

**Nursery Today:** 8:30—Jenna Schwartz & Sadie Carlson; Sunday School—Jenna Schwartz; 11:00—Claudia Patalong.

**Substitute Organist:** Please welcome Essi Efthimiou as our long-term substitute organist during Fred's absence. Thank you, Essi!

**Known to be hospitalized:** Fred Schell (broken ribs)—Montefiore Hospital. (Fred's home address is: 103 South Grandview Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15205.) Mary Ann Scott—St. Clair Hospital ICU. Derrick Fouks (father of Brandon) was in a car accident on October 9th and sustained serious injuries. (Address: 2463 County Rd. H, Deer Park, WI 54007.) Please keep them in your prayers and support them with cards.

**Prayers for Recovery and Healing:** Joe Cawley is now home. Larry Sheatsley has moved to Concordia, Room 350 in Personal Care. Joan Reagan (knee replacement) is home recovering. Judy Bender is at home recovering (fractured ankle). Lundy Castro (Jen Carlson's dad) is battling Stage 4 Metastatic Melanoma. His mailing address is: 49196 N. Grosse Pointe Shores Rd., Hancock, MI 49930. Please keep them in your prayers, as well as all those members of the Ruthfred family who are facing health or other challenges.

**Condolences:** Our pastors and congregation extend Christian love and sympathy to Cheryl Massack and her family and Ron Godava and his family upon the death of their mother/sister, Shirley Watson. Shirley passed away on Friday, November 4, 2022. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

**Condolences:** Our pastors and congregation extend Christian love and sympathy to Martha Dick and her family upon the death of Martha's sister, Eleanor Powell. Eleanor passed away on Monday, November 7, 2022, at age 84. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

**Pastor's Fund:** Given by Dorothy Kratz in honor of the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of her good friend Anne Fife.

**Official Act:** On Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 2 p.m., Pastor McMinn officiated at the funeral of Shirley A. Watson in the sanctuary at Ruthfred.

**Christmas Giving Tree:** A tree outside the elevator is decorated with small red & green envelopes to benefit the Adopt-A-Family program. This program benefits local families who cannot provide meals, or gifts, for their family at Christmas. The holidays are one of the most expensive times of the year for families—especially those who are struggling to make ends meet. Your generosity can help alleviate this burden. Last year this program helped over 200 local families to enjoy Christmas.

If you can possibly donate a gift card to Giant Eagle, Shop N Save, Walmart, Aldi's, Eat 'N Park, or Target, it would help provide food, and possibly a small gift, this Christmas. Please include the gift card receipt, or write the dollar amount on the envelope, and then either place it in the weekly offering basket or take it to the office where there is a decorated collection bin. All gift cards must be turned in by Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. I will deliver them the next day. Thank you!  
Carol Ward (412) 559-2592

# Announcements (cont'd)

**Herald deadline correction:** Please note that the deadline for the upcoming December issue will be November 28th, NOT the end of December as printed in the current issue.

**XYZers:** The next meeting is this coming Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. We will be welcoming consumer advocate Mary Bach. She will speak about protection your money and your identity, because if you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam. Peggy Cox will provide a delicious lunch. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the Library. Please join us!

**2023 Calendars:** The calendars which Paul Henney Cremation & Tributes so generously provides each year have arrived. There are stacks at each of the church entrances. Feel free to pick one up on your way out today! We are grateful to Paul Henney for providing these beautiful, Christian-themed calendars every year.

**Annual Congregational Meeting:** This meeting will be held on November 20<sup>th</sup>. There will be two sessions—one after each of the morning services. At these sessions, Council will present the 2023 Budget to the congregation for a vote of approval. Please plan to attend!

**Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection:** It's hard to believe that it's time to be thinking of Christmas gifts, but Samaritan's Purse, run by Franklin Graham, will begin collecting filled shoeboxes and shipping them to children in need all over the world, including Native Americans living on reservations, before Thanksgiving. These shoebox gifts are filled with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items and for many of these children, this shoebox gift is the only gift that they will receive.

Please take a shoebox from the "Operation Christmas Child" table on the Sanctuary level, by the elevators. Inside each shoebox will be "How to Pack a Shoebox" instructions, along with the Boy/Girl label that you will attach to the lid of your shoebox. Gift ideas are available on the display table. Fill a box and return it to the Fireside Lounge no later than noon on Sunday November 20th. The shipping fee has increased to \$10 this year, which can be paid online at [www.samaritanpurse.org/occ](http://www.samaritanpurse.org/occ) or enclose your check inside the enclosed envelope and make it payable to "Samaritan's Purse" and write "Operation Christmas Child" in the memo section.

**NOTE: SHOEBOXES CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER SUNDAY NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> BECAUSE THEY MUST BE DELIVERED THE NEXT DAY.** Please contact Carol Ward with any questions at (412) 559-2592 or [wardmailbox1@gmail.com](mailto:wardmailbox1@gmail.com). Thank you!

**Family Sunday School Advent Day:** On Sunday, November 20th, we will celebrate Advent together with a Family Sunday School. Come and enjoy food, fellowship, and an Advent lesson. We will be crafting ADVENTure boxes for you to use during the season of Advent. Please plan to attend this special Sunday School as a family.

**Light of Life Thank You:** A big thank you to everyone for helping us surpass our goal of 150 boxes of turkey stuffing!

**Additional Christmas Giving Tree:** This year we will be collecting items for the January opening of a new emergency shelter for female survivors of sex trafficking and/or sexual violence/exploitation—Refuge for Women, a faith-based ministry. They will provide temporary housing, crisis intervention, and support services. The shelter will have 10 bedrooms. They are in need of hair dryers, sweatshirts, and sweatpants. (Any size and any color for the clothing.) Tags are available on the tree in the Fireside Lounge. Please return your donations to the lounge by December 18<sup>th</sup>. Contact Jill Kurtz with any questions.



## Announcements (cont'd)

**Sign-up Sheet for Family Sunday School Advent Day Food Donations:** There is a sign-up sheet located on the table outside the Fellowship Hall, at the bottom of the stairs. We are hoping for contributions of donuts, breakfast casseroles, fruit, or juice. Your help is greatly appreciated!

**Attention All Parents:** Our Christmas program has been on hiatus, but this year it is back! It will be on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. A congregational potluck supper will follow. We would love to have all involved, from the littlest to the biggest, so all children from preschool through high school are invited to participate. Rehearsal times for children in grades one and up will be: 12:30–2:30 p.m. on Sundays November 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>; during Sunday School on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. Lunch will be provided on the first three rehearsal days. If you have questions, please contact Kerry Macugoski, Donna Weighley, or Erin McMinn.

**Pledge Cards and Time and Talent Sheets:** Last week Pastor Carlson's stewardship letter, along with pledge cards and time and talent sheets, was mailed. Please prayerfully complete your pledge card and time and talent sheet and return them by Sunday, December 4, 2022. Your faithfulness is a blessing!

**Our Thanksgiving Service** will be at 10:00am on Thanksgiving Day. The entire offering received at that service will be given away equally to the City Mission and to Voice of the Martyrs (VOM). The City Mission ministers to the needy in our immediate communities. VOM ministers to suffering Christians around the world whose homes have been burned down and family members killed this past year because of their faith in Jesus.

**2023 Offering Envelopes** are in the Conference Room. Please pick up your envelopes this morning!

**New Member Class:** We are still gathering names for a new member class to be offered in the near future. If you, or someone you know, is interested, please let Melissa Bostaph, our Parish Assistant, know. Email: [melissabostaph@ruthfred.org](mailto:melissabostaph@ruthfred.org).

**2023 Flower Chart** is now available on the bulletin board by the water fountain in the Patterson hallway. We are blessed by all of the people who help to provide this beauty in our sanctuary! Please note that there is a price increase for altar/chancel rail flowers starting January 1, 2023. They will be \$50 rather than \$40 because of price increases that Donati's has experienced over the last couple of years.

**Journey Through the Word:** Both morning and evening sessions are up and running, but you can still join one of these Wednesday studies. The morning group is studying *1 Corinthians*, using N. T. Wright's study guide. Contact Sue Swan if you would like more information: 412-708-3535 or writing [cygnet@gmail.com](mailto:cygnet@gmail.com). The evening group is studying Dr. David Jeremiah's The Book of Signs. Each lesson stands alone, and there are plenty of books. The lesson for November 16<sup>th</sup> will be "Babylon: The Collapse of the Global Financial Market (Revelation 18)". Please contact Jodie or Mark Riley if you need more information: 412-401-9137.

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

Pastor Carlson is teaching a series on the book of I Thessalonians for the Adult Sunday School Class. The little book of I Thessalonians is perhaps the earliest canonical writing of St. Paul. It's focus is "**The Life of the Christian Congregation.**" It is a gem of a book, filled with "an unmingled sweetness" of Christian love. In it we will be learning about sharing our faith, serving one another, living godly lives, understanding the end times, and how to live out the Gospel in the community of the congregation. You are invited!!! It will be wonderful to study and discuss this book together!



## **YOUTH NEWS**

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

There is **SWAP** tonight for the middle school students! 6-7:30 p.m. at the Church.

**All 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students:** Registration for the AFLC Free Lutheran Youth ( FLY) Convention, slated to be July 3-8, 2023, at the YMCA in Estes Park, Colorado, opened on October 20<sup>th</sup>. This biennial convention brings approximately 2,000 AFLC youth from across the nation together for an unparalleled opportunity for spiritual, emotional, and relational growth! The theme will be "Restored," based on **Rev. 21:5-7**. Contact Jill Huwe or Kris Wentz for more information. You can review information at <https://www.flyconvention.org>. An informational letter has been sent to your homes!

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

TNT will meet at Ruthfred on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 7-9 p.m.

### **Questions/concerns?**

**Contact: Any member of the Youth Committee** (Pete & Jill Huwe; Eric & Kris Wentz; Jon & Denise Stutzman; or Shane & Kate Cox)

## This Week At Ruthfred

## Today (11/13) Veterans' Day Service

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School

11:00 a.m.—Worship Service

**Monday, (11/14)**

9:30 a.m.—JTTW Leaders

9:30 a.m.—Craft and Sew

7:00 p.m.—Elders' Prayer Time

7:30 p.m.—Council Meeting

**Happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, Anne Fife!**

**Tuesday (11/15)**

7:00 p.m.—Worship Team

### Wednesday (11/16)

9:15 a.m.—Journey Through the Word (JTTW)

5:45 p.m.—Children's Choir

6:00 p.m.—Forkless Dinner (All welcome, but please pre-register)

6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir

6:45 p.m.—Confirmation; Evening JTTW; Kids' Time

7:30 p.m.—Senior Choir

### Thursday (11/17)

2:00 p.m.—Ruth

**Friday (11/18) St. Simon & St. Jude**

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

Noon—XYZ

**Happy 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday, Raymond Feller!**

### Saturday (11/19)

6:00 p.m.—Contemporary Liturgical Worship Service

**Sunday (11/20) Christ the King Sunday**

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

9:45 a.m.—Sunday School

1 1:00 a.m.—Worship Service

## Annual Congregational Meetings after services

6:30 p.m.—Young Adult Bible Study @ A.&C. Vogels'

Friends, I welcome you to worship this autumn day.

Let us bless the Lord and open our hearts to His guidance and grace. Amen.

**Attendance for Last Week:**

Church...349 Sunday School...82

8:30 Live Stream...28

JTTW (morning)...49 JTTW (evening)...58

Kids' Time...27

## Prayer Requests

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

[illegible]

☐ Please keep this request Private (to be kept amongst the pastors only).

☐ Please make this request known to the Ruthfred prayer team and announce it to the congregation when appropriate.

# Visiting with us?

Please use this tear-off section to help us get to know a little bit about you and how we may best serve you.

If you have a specific concern or prayer request, please use the space on the other side of this fold.

Date:

Name:

Children:

Address:

Phone (indicate home, cell, etc.)

Email:

I am a/an:

- ☐ 1st-Time Visitor
- ☐ 2nd-Time Visitor
- ☐ Out-of-Town Visitor
- ☐ Regular Attendee

I would like to learn more about:

- ☐ What It Means To Be a Christian
- ☐ Church Membership
- ☐ Ruthfred's Ministries or Groups
- ☐ Ways To Share My Gifts

# Ruthfred Staff

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Senior & Bell Choirs

**Frederick Schell**  
Organist

**Melissa Manzo**  
Children's Choir

**Denise Stutzman** | Preschool Head Teacher  
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