



# Midweek Message

*In place of our monthly newsletter, a weekly Midweek Message will be emailed and mailed to our congregation.*

## **ATONEMENT OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE** **SOMETHING NEW!**

**SATURDAY EVENING, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 p.m.**

Join us for worship in our church parking lot and on the lawn! Music, scripture, prayers, Children’s Moment...and more.

Helpful information:

Enter the church parking lot on the Sanctuary (East) side of the building and stop at the table to pick up a bulletin through your car window. Updated church directories will also be available for pickup.

- Sit in your car for worship OR bring a lawn chair/blanket for socially distanced lawn seating, a sun hat, or shade umbrella.
- Please wear a face mask if you leave your car.
- Out of consideration for the environment, we ask that you keep your car engine off during worship. Bring a hand-held fan and your water bottle to stay cool!
- A container will be available to drop off offering envelopes.

We look forward to seeing you in person! *This service will also be livestreamed on our Atonement Facebook page.*

**Please Note:**

1. For those with lawn chairs/blankets on the grass; please park your car in a ‘sunny spot’-allowing ‘shady spots’ for those who choose to stay in their cars.
2. In case of cancellation due to rain, we will activate our Atonement Phone Tree and post the information on our website.

## **AUGUST-SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

August 30	Outdoor Worship Service & Livestream	9:30 a.m.
September 6	Outdoor Worship Service & Livestream	9:30 a.m.
September 13	Outdoor Worship Service & Livestream	9:30 a.m.



### **Join us Online**

*Online worship from our Atonement sanctuary!*

Join Pastor Gail and David McCarthy for music and hymns, scripture, a sermon, prayers, and a Children’s Moment.

Follow us this Saturday Evening at 5:00 p.m. by going to our Atonement Facebook page [fb.com/atonementlutheranchurch/](https://www.facebook.com/atonementlutheranchurch/)

A worship bulletin with hymns will be Emailed to our Atonement families, and posted weekly on our web site.

## Grace

- *Anne Lamott*

*“When my pastor refers to the most difficult, annoying people in her life as “grace-builders”, I want to jump out the window.*

*I am so not there yet, but I understand what she’s talking about.”*

## THANK YOU NOTES

**Pastor Gail Swanson**

*That’s why, when I heard of the solid trust you have in Jesus, and the outpouring of love for all God’s people, I couldn’t stop thanking God for you...*

*Ephesians 1: 15 – 16*

My mother is a writer of thank you notes. I have no doubt, that over the years, she has written hundreds upon hundreds of handwritten notes; expressing appreciation for gifts and visits... for prayers lifted up... for bouquets of flowers... a homemade fruitcake... a crockpot of soup...for kindnesses extended. As the director of a food, clothing and outreach ministry organization for over 30 years, the long lists of thank you acknowledgements that needed to be written piled up on her dining room table, resulting in “midnight marathons” of note writing. Words of appreciation on small cards written by hand to countless volunteers who set-up & cleaned up, packed & unpacked, sorted, organized, picked up & dropped off, donated, supported, encouraged - and through these actions - loved their neighbors in need.

It has been through my mother’s example that I have learned the value of a thank you note. And though I have probably written many notes, I never write enough. I never say thank you enough. Not to God; and not to you, my family of faith.

In these five months of shut-downs, social distancing, restricted activities and stay-at-home decisions, the work of the Church has continued. The work of this church has continued - by the grace of God- and through the good works of this congregation. To which I offer a thank you from my heart. Thank you for caring words and deeds shared, tasks accomplished, prayers lifted up, phone calls made, donations given, support and encouragement offered.

If I were to write individual thank you notes to each of you who took part in these things, they would indeed be piled high on my dining room table! But perhaps today I can share this list, with many more names that surely should be added:

*THANK YOU TO...*

Our church staff – David, Becky, Janeen – who have kept ministry going with cheerful spirits

Karen Goodyear – for leadership in many ways

Andrew Spillane – our weekly “cameraman” in worship

Stew Stover – for keeping a careful eye on ongoing building maintenance projects

Our Offering Counters and Assistant Financial Secretaries – for

making sure all donations are accounted for  
Avis Hooper – for phone calls made, prayers uplifted, reading group begun, critical issues of conscience discussed  
Jean Seager – for oversight to the needs of building cleaning  
John Kruidenier – for outdoor care of our church grounds  
Barb Sanko – the maker of over 300 face masks  
Karan Thompson – for keeping us in good financial order  
Norm Karsten – for wall repairs & fresh look to the Founders Hall exit  
Judy Karsten - for nourishing tree watering  
Jess, Olivia and David McGill – for creating our webpage slide show and tending to our Atonement vegetable garden  
Wally and Regina Short – for attentive flower bed care  
Our Phone Call volunteers & Grocery Shoppers – for keeping connection with our church family  
Our Worship Assistants – for reading, praying and leading us in Children’s Moments  
Our Re-entry Committee – for preparing us, in detailed ways, for the future return to in-person worship  
Our Board of Ministries – for their leadership, and a sense of the common good for Atonement

*But I do more than thank. I ask the God of Jesus Christ, the God of glory, to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing him personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is he is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life he has planned. Oh, the utter extravagance of his work in us who trust him! - Ephesians 1: 17 – 19*

Like St. Paul, I never cease to thank God for all of you.

## **HELP US COLLECT: BABY BUNDLE ITEMS**

We are collecting these items for Baby Bundles for Bethany House:

- \*Onesies for boys and girls, size 3 – 6 months
- \*Socks for boys and girls, size 3- 6 months
- \*Baby Wash (full size bottles)
- \*Baby Lotion (full size bottles)

Items can be dropped off in the plastic bin at the sanctuary doors (East side) on Wednesdays and Sundays beginning August 16<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for caring and sharing.

## **Please Note**

### ***Updated Address***

Please make a note in your new directory for:

David Wilkinson  
5 Wesley Avenue  
N. Chili NY 14514

1900 Westfall Road  
Rochester NY 14618  
(585) 442-1018

[www.atonementrochester.org](http://www.atonementrochester.org)  
Email:  
[office@atonementrochester.org](mailto:office@atonementrochester.org)

### *Livestream Worship*

Sunday morning worship  
at 9:30 a.m. via the  
Atonement Facebook page.

## **THOUGHTS FROM BISHOP JOHN MACHOLZ**

“I was shopping at Wegmans yesterday afternoon with Lin (the world’s best grocery store but that doesn’t begin to do it justice). I was a bit ahead of her picking up an item. As she walked by a young couple in a check-out line, she heard the young man say: “Look at that white guy (me) wearing a Black Lives Matter shirt!”

Love this shirt! Sad about the results it produces sometimes.  
Tomorrow? It’s on to it’s companion shirt: “I Can’t Breathe.”

*Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words when necessary. – St. Francis of Assisi*

## **CLICK ON OUR MUSIC LINKS!**

### **“Next to the Word of God, Music Deserves the Highest Praise”**

This quote by Martin Luther reminds of the gift of music in our worship life, and in our life of faith. Our Director of Music, David McCarthy, will be providing weekly music links of sacred music to offer inspiration, solace and peace. Click on a title to hear the song.

Baba Yetu This setting of the “Our Father” prayer (translated into Swahili, an East African language) was written by Christopher Tin, an Asian American composer, for the video game Civilization IV in 2005. It’s in a vaguely African (or at least “Lion King”) style, and has become a beloved piece for choirs around the world. I love how this video, of a vibrant South African university group (at a Welsh choir festival, just to add another continent to the mix!), brings it to Africa, while showing some of the racial progress that country has made since apartheid ended.

Pater noster Jacobus Handl (not Handel, who wrote *Messiah*) was a late-Renaissance composer from Eastern Europe. He wrote for the Catholic church, and so this “Pater Noster” is in Latin, though there’s an English translation at the bottom of the screen. In the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, the trend for choral music was to have two groups of singers separated in space singing antiphonally (in a dialogue). This seems to have arisen in Venice, at St. Mark’s, where there are choir lofts facing each other across the nave. In Handl’s piece, it’s men versus women! But make sure you listen to the end, especially the last “Amen,” where the sides join forces.

## **RACIAL EQUITY READING & DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Wednesday, August 26th at Noon on the Atonement front lawn.*

Bring a lawn chair and whatever else you need. All are welcome to join us as we talk about what we are learning through books, movies, podcasts, and conversations with friend and family in hopes of becoming part of the healing and changes needed in our world. In the event of cancellation due to rain, you will be notified via email. For more information or to sign up for our email list, contact Avis Hooper at [avishooper@gmail.com](mailto:avishooper@gmail.com)