



Midweek Message

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

SUMMERTIME OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE AT ATONEMENT

Sunday, July 5th, 9:30 a.m.

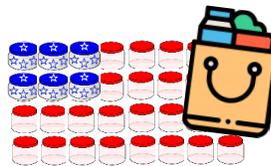
Join us as we gather together as a church family for worship in our church parking lot and on the lawn! Music, scripture, prayers, Children’s Moment, a sermon...and more!

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.

- Sit in your car for worship OR bring a lawn chair/blanket for socially distanced lawn seating, a sun hat, 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.
- In celebration of the July 4th weekend, we invite you to bring a RED or WHITE or BLUE non-perishable food item to donate to the Pittsford Food Cupboard.

If you are unable to join us in person this day, the service will also be livestreamed on our Atonement Facebook page.



We look forward to seeing you in person!

Please Note:

1. Church bathrooms will **not** be accessible during that morning.
2. In case of cancellation due to rain, we will activate our Atonement Phone Tree and post the information on our website.



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 Sundays at 9:30 a.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.

Prayer

May We Be Thankful

Merciful God, your healing power is everywhere about us. Strengthen those who work among the sick; give them courage and confidence in all that they do. Encourage them when their efforts seem futile or when death prevails. Increase their trust in your power to overcome death and pain and crying. May they be thankful for every sign of health you give, and humble before the mystery of your healing grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SHAPE OF OUR FAMILY

Pastor Gail Swanson

Everyone gets a family. You can't get into life without one. Families that are shaped and formed, known - and sometime unknown - in countless ways. You can have one parent, two, or more. You could be raised by your grandparents or be a part of a foster family, or call your next door neighbor "Aunt Jane". You could go to huge family reunions where you need name tags and a great-uncle to explain the family tree. Or you could have one precious niece for whom you'll never stop being grateful. Recently I saw a plaque which read, "A family is a circle of friends who love you." But it's also true that a circle of friends who love you is your family, too

The Bible shows us that there has never been only one kind of family: Adam and Eve and their tragic sons; the extended, drama-filled family of Jacob, Rachel and Leah; the gracious sisters and "back from the dead brother" Mary, Martha and Lazarus; and the family households, complete with slaves, baptized by Paul

"What is a family?" is not the crucial question. The harder question that confronts us, no matter how our families are shaped, is this: "What am I called to do and to be in my family?"

God created families so life could go on, and go on abundantly. Through families, God nurtures human life. Which means whenever you make a peanut-butter sandwich for your child, or teach a teen to drive, comfort an anxious grandparent, or support a beloved one through a crushing disappointment, God is nurturing life through you.

The truth is, all families are broken families. Not even the best ones live up to God's dreams for what they could be. But families can be where Christ brings us God's own love and unconditional acceptance, in spite of who we are.

We are blessed and sometimes not so blessed by our family. The people we count on most - and the people who can hurt us the most - are usually members of our family. No one can irritate us more than a family member. Yet families bring us our deepest earthly joy. Which means that families are prime places to practice forgiveness - over and over again - and to work at being merciful. Families are places where, by God's grace, we can give each other fresh starts and renewed hope for the future.

Mom, Dad, Uncle Matt, Aunt Joan, Cousin Christine, Grandpa George, five nephews, one step-brother: nurturing, accepting, forgiving, renewing. Yes, sometimes it hard to practice these things among the circle of people we name as family. And yet...

By God's grace, we are in this together - whatever the shape of our family

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.

[The Spirit's Work](#) Kim Andre Arnesen wrote the "Holy Spirit Mass" for the 500th anniversary of Luther's reformation in 2017. This is the third movement, and starts with some quasi-Vivaldi figuration in the strings, before switching gears toward something a little more Daft Punk/Hans Zimmer. After three minutes of this more active style, it settles down into a series of slower choral and solo ideas, before returning to the opening idea at around 7:20.

[This Is My Father's World](#) I like to sing creation-oriented hymns in the spring and summer, as we're rewarded in Rochester for having dealt with the cold and wet of winter! This hymn is well known among English-speaking protestants, and was apparently the source for the "Shire" music in the Lord of the Rings movies. This is a recent arrangement by Elaine Hagenberg, and features a nice violin solo. We'll be singing the hymn (824 in the hymnals) this weekend.

Summer Prayer

Lord, catch us off guard today. Surprise us with some moment of beauty or pain so that for at least a moment we may be startled into seeing that you are here in all your splendor, always and everywhere, barely hidden, beneath, beyond, within this life we breathe.

-Frederick Buechner

Prayers and Good Wishes

July Birthdays

- 2 Sharon Darder
- 4 Keith Condemi
Skip Waterstreet

Birthday blessings to Betty Browne in celebration of her 90th birthday on July 5th!

- 6 John Bartlett
- 9 Emerson LeVan
- 16 Barbara Granger
- 17 Sue Howe
- 18 Laura Bell
David McGill
- 20 Elizabeth Hanks
- 21 Timothy Baker
Dawson Brown
Savannah Brown
- 27 Lori Love
Jim Krapf

July Anniversaries

- 3 Russell Miller & Todd Graber
- 10 Harlan & Barb Granger
Jim & Lois Rau
- 20 Richard & Lynne Phelps
- 26 Bob & Kathy Heinig

Please be sure to leave us a note to update our records if you have a special date we've missed!