



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



Enjoying worship on the lawn together in the summer sun (above), and providing for those in need (right).



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

For Guidance

God of the Young; surround our daughters and sons with your gentle care. Encourage them in life and help them when they experience trouble or doubt. You know where the water is deep; keep them from temptation and danger, and guide them with your love to serve you all the days of their life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SIMPLY OUT OF LOVE

Pastor Gail Swanson

People have asked me to pray for them or for their loved ones all of my adult life. I take these requests seriously, but that doesn't stop me from wondering what I'm doing. Does something actually change when I pray? Doesn't God already know about Maggie's sister's liver disease before we ask for healing? Despite my questions, I try to be faithful to the practice of prayer, perhaps because I know that prayer changes me.

Among the books on the shelves of my office is a worn notebook with prayer petitions and intercessions I've written over the years. Intercessions for the seasons of the church year...*As we wait for the coming of Christ, give light to those who sit in darkness.* and for the cycles of life – births and baptisms, graduations and marriages ...*we rejoice in the birth of Evan David and give thanks for this gift of new life.* For friends and strangers and their network of cares.... *Dan, Todd, Mary, Kristina.* Tragic occurrences...*for those who suffer from the deadly force of this storms...* and a time capsule of current events...*Save us from the hatred, the racism, the abuse of power that divide our nation.* For health and strength and comfort...*Look with mercy upon every lonely heart, every hurting body, every troubled spirit.* And on behalf of those the world so easily forgets...*for those whose tears are their bread.*

It is easy to get overwhelmed praying in today's crisis...*Come to our aid in the midst of this terrible virus and lead us to safety.* It's hard to pray every day for peace in our communities... *Heal our world torn apart by destructive powers and people.* And it is increasingly painful to acknowledge the extent of suffering around us...*Lord, remind us that you will never forsake us.*

At one time or another, most people of faith confront the question: what are we doing when we pray for others? Will things change? Yes and no. Will we change? Absolutely. At the very least, perhaps through our prayers we are giving each person a shelter in which to rest for a moment in the presence of God. Praying for others teaches compassion and connection, concern – and love. Maybe that's reason enough to pray for others; simply out of love.

SHOPPERS: YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Are you a Costco/BJ's/Sam's Club shopper? As we prepare to welcome people back into our building, we are looking for affordable prices for needed health/disinfecting supplies:

- Gallon containers of hand sanitizer
- Clorox/Lysol disinfecting wipes
- Boxes of disposable gloves/masks

If you see a 'good price' for any of these items and can purchase one for the church-or pass on the information-please contact the church office.

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.

[Praise to the Lord](#) F. Melius Christiansen was a Norwegian musician who moved to the US at age 17. He eventually ended up as the founding director of the St. Olaf choir, and his style is a big influence on American Lutheran choral music. The original German hymn dates from 1680.

[Malawi Synod Song](#) I didn't know this song, but I thought it might be nice to see that the church exists all over the world, and is growing. There are now 20 million Lutherans in Africa, concentrated in Namibia (the only majority-Lutheran country outside Europe) and East Africa.

6TH ANNUAL BISHOP JOHN MACHOLZ GOLF OUTING

Come join us on Saturday, August 22nd at Victor Hills Golf Club North. All are welcome! You can [register here](#) before August 1st to play. There will be contests, prizes and awards. The cost is \$400 per foursome, \$30 for dinner only with a new menu! Mulligans can be purchased at registration at the event for \$10 each.

Proceeds of this tournament support the 2020 Bishop's Appeal to provide funding to assist in the support of Lay Leadership Development and new adventures in that ministry.



To be a sponsor or volunteer for this event, please call Karen Eadon: (315)299-4955.



Our parking lot is looking fresh and new! It received a much-needed face lift with new sealer and parking stripes.

The Power of Prayer

Romans 12:12

“Rejoice in hope, endure in troubles and continue steadfastly in prayer.”

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Livestream Worship

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

GOD HAS A SENSE OF HUMOR!

Jess McGill

The other day, my family made a visit to Atonement's garden to weed and inspect the progress of the tomatoes, basil, and peppers.

Firstly, thank you John Kruidenier for patching our broken beds. It looks great!

Second, the garden is flourishing! Blonde peppers are growing and will be harvested soon. Baby purple peppers are peaking out. Purple basil is vibrantly fragrant, and the heirloom tomato plants are towering over them all. God is good!

The harvest hopefully will be plentiful, but right now the workers are few. **We need help with weeding!** Our watering system has made the garden more self-sufficient on a day to day basis, but it has also helped weeds to permeate the garden beds, rock area, and along the fence line. *Please help us!*

We also found a special surprise. God certainly has a sense of humor.

Last year, when asked what produce they most needed, the Pittsford Food Cupboard requested garlic. Though fall is the prime planting time for garlic, we honored their request by planting garlic....a LOT of bulbs were planted last year along with our seedlings. To my dismay, only one sprout showed itself and it did not last to yield anything. Disappointed, but thankful to God for the generous bounty that did come, the seasons moved on.

In our timing the garlic did not grow. Now, in God's own time (and place), it grows through the rocks, in between the coils of hose, and along the fence. I felt exasperated and thankful seeing this. Do you sometimes feel like this in your lives? I do. I toil to do things in my own time and way with little to show for it. Then, God provides abundantly when I've given up. And it's always the perfect time (go figure). *Give thanks unto the Lord!*

CLEANING THE LORD'S HOUSE

We are looking for a carpet cleaning/shampoo machine to borrow for cleaning the nursery and Sunday School area rugs. If you have a machine we can borrow, or know of someone who does, please contact the church office at office@atonementrochester.org so that we can schedule a time for pickup. Thank you!