

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 10th, 2024

9:30 a.m. In-person and Livestream Worship



Atonement Lutheran Church

Invite • Prepare • Go into the World

1900 Westfall Road, Rochester, NY 14618

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Eternal Lord of Love

-F. Demer

***WELCOME**

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, † Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's steadfast love, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

God of mercy;

You know the way of good and evil. You know the things that tempt us, and the things which give us life. You know our nakedness, our shame, and our sin. We confess that we have disobeyed your word and turned from your ways. Forgive us, and shape us into the image of Christ, so that by your grace, we may confront the power of evil with the promise of eternal life with you. Amen.

This is the good news of God's grace: Though we are sinners, Christ died for us. Though we were enemies of God, God loved us. Christ has become our life and salvation; and in him, our sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

** Please Stand As You Are Able*

***APOSTOLIC GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

And also with you.

***KYRIE**

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Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

WORD

FIRST READING

Numbers 21:4-9

A reading from Numbers

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 2:1-10

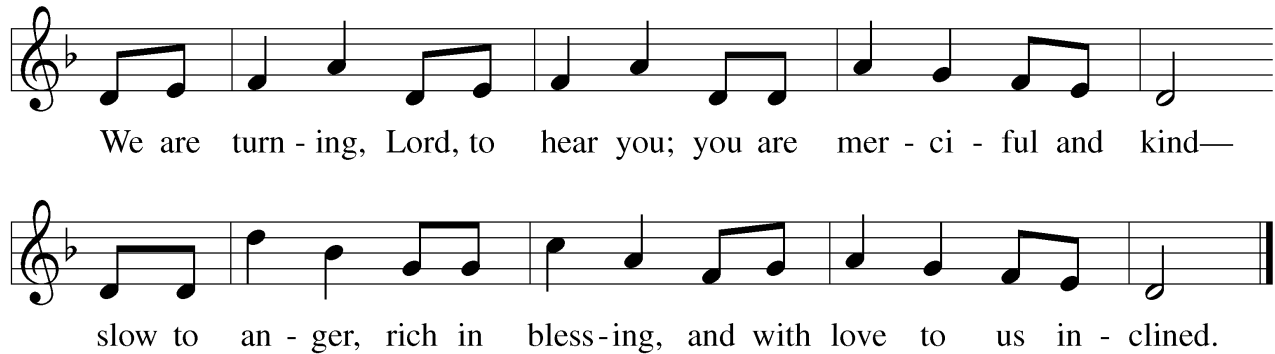
A reading from Ephesians

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***LENTEN VERSE**

We Are Turning, Lord, to Hear You



***HOLY GOSPEL**

John 3:14-21

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

***APOSTLES' CREED**

Let us confess our faith, and the faith of the church, with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS

In this season of repentance, let us turn our hearts to God,
who is gracious and merciful.

Lord, in your mercy; **Hear our prayer.**

Receive the prayers we offer, O God, in the name of the One
who endured the cross, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Whoever Would Be Great Among You

-Ron Nelson

*Offering gifts are gratefully received
in the plates located near the sanctuary doors as you exit.*

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we received from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PROPER PREFACE**

.... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



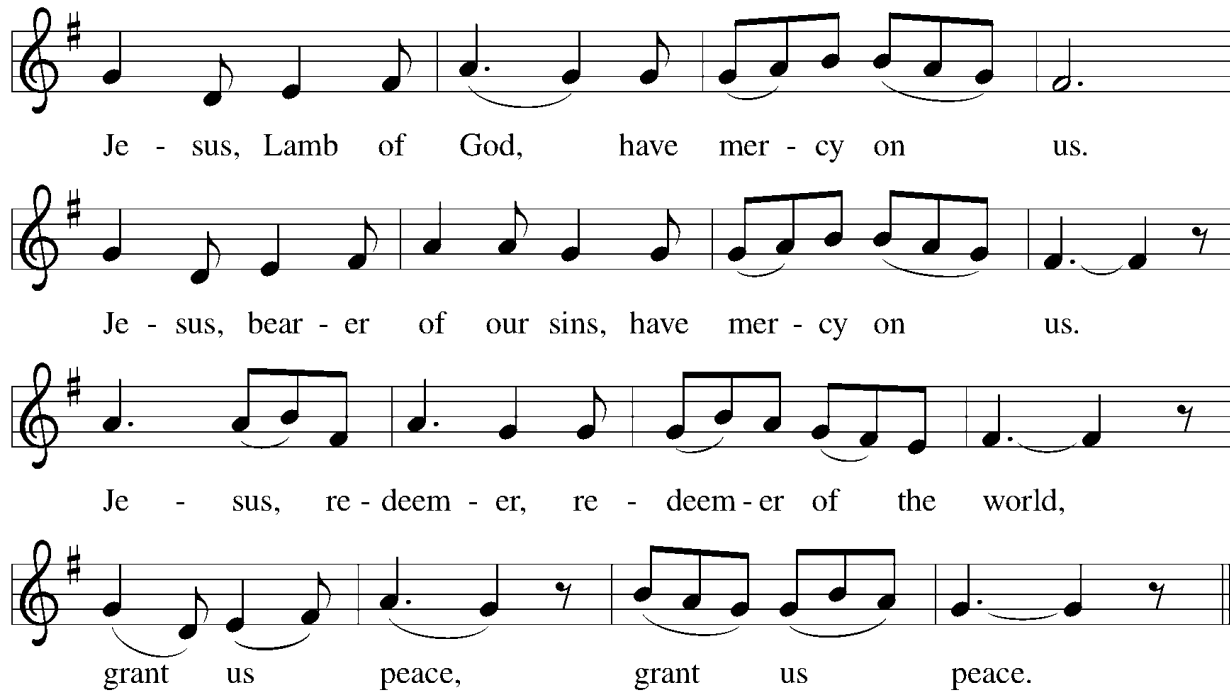
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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; and 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.



DISTRIBUTION

All are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, Christ's body and blood truly present in the bread and the wine.

~Come forward by the center aisle.

~Children are invited to come forward for a blessing.

~White grape juice and gluten-free wafers are also available.

~Dispose of the cup in the basket provided.

~Please tell an usher if you need communion elements brought to your pew.



SENDING

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks and praise, O God, for the abundant gifts of grace and mercy you have given us in Jesus Christ. Let the gift of our lives be a sign of our unending gratitude for your undying love; through Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

May the steadfast love of God the Father, † Son and Holy Spirit surround you throughout these forty days, and into everlasting life. **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace; led by the cross of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Theme and Variations in D Minor

*The congregation is invited to remain for the postlude;
and following it, to respond with "Amen!"*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Assisting Minister Matt McGill
Livestream Recorder..... Karen Goodyear
Offering Counters Amy Irish, Tom Thompson
Usher(s) Bob Heinig
Altar Care Judy Lazenby, Jean Seager
Fellowship Hosts Joanne & Pat Scanlon

AN EASY WAY TO GIVE YOUR OFFERING

Scan this QR code with your smartphone's camera, ->
tap on the link that pops up, and you will be taken
directly to Atonement's giving website.



If your phone doesn't automatically scan the code, you may need to download a QR code reader app. Many are available for free in the Google Play or Apple App store. Please contact Lindee Krapf if you have any questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE HOUR/ADULT FORUM

****TODAY* following worship in Reissig Hall***

Rev. Georgia Carney, founder of SewGreen Rochester will be sharing information with us about the twice-monthly *Repair Café* held at the Southwest Mission, and about SewGreen, a non-profit dedicated to rescuing for reuse everything to do with sewing, knitting, crochet, and needlework. They also offer low-cost classes to revive these skills.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FUN DAY

****TODAY* following worship in Founders Hall***

All children ages preschool through grade 5 are invited to join us directly after worship in Founders Hall. Join us for a Bible story, an art project, music, activities, and snacks. Our topic this month will be “Do Not Worry: God Is In Charge” *We ask that an adult stay with children under eight years of age to assist us.*

HEALTHY HEARTS FOOD COLLECTION FOR LENT

As we journey through Lent seeking new hearts to love God and our neighbor, join us in collecting ‘Heart Healthy’ food items for the Pittsford Food Cupboard. Some suggested items are:

Lower salt canned vegetables Low sugar/no syrup canned fruit
Oatmeal, plain Brown rice
Tuna packed in water

We will be collecting items through March 17th on the table in the narthex.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS IN LENT

Wednesdays at 7:00pm March 13, 20

Gather with us during Lent for a half-hour midweek service of renewal and reflection through prayer, hymns, scripture and candle lighting focused on the theme “Hearts of Flesh”: bring your heart as it is, and let God breathe into it the Spirit of Christ’s love.

*A new heart I will give you...and I will remove from your body a heart of stone
and give you a heart of flesh (Ezek. 36:26-27)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: *Meeting Jesus at the Table*

Final Tuesday: March 12 at 11:00am in the Conference Room (Library)

Like a great meal, this Lenten study book offers deep nourishment as we gather for four weeks at different tables in various places throughout Jesus' ministry. In a world of power struggles and food insecurity, this Lenten study reminds us that at God's Table, all are welcome and there is always enough.

GREEN TIP

Would you like to keep items out of the landfill and avoid buying new ones? Join ColorBrightonGreen to learn about the services offered by the SEAC Tool Shed, the South Wedge Mission *Repair Cafe*, and *SewGreen*: Tuesday March 12th at 6:30 p.m. at Brighton Memorial Library. You can also register for the *Zoom* link at bmlcurbsidepickup@gmail.com... or ... join us at today's Adult Forum to hear from *SewGreen* founder Rev. Georgia Carney.

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God Loved the World



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all
5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed

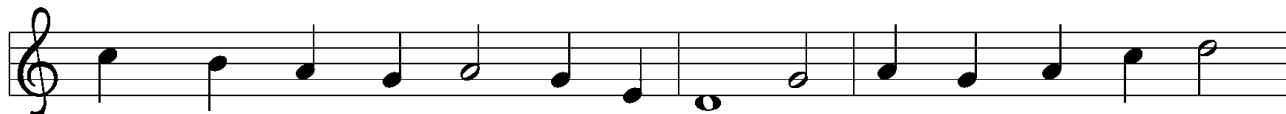


him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink-ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be-neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil-lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing

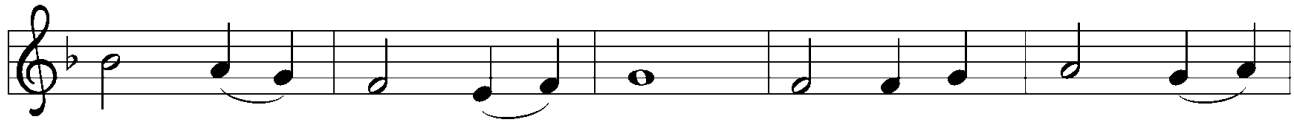


soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Atonement Lutheran Church

The Rev. Gail Swanson, Pastor

Email: pastorgails@aol.com

Office: (585) 442-1018

Cell: (614) 477-7863

David McCarthy, Director of Music Ministry

Becky R. Wiesmore, Administrative Assistant

Welcome to worship,

and a special welcome to those who are visiting with us today.

*If you are interested in becoming a member of our congregation
or learning more about our ministries,
please speak to our Pastor.*



MISSION STATEMENT

Atonement Lutheran Church is a gathering of God's people in Christ called to:

Invite all people into the presence of the living God,

Prepare for ministry in daily life and

Go into the world as disciples

Our Church Nursery is available
for parents to use with their children.

Thank you for joining us in worship today!

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:16



Visit our web site at: **www.atonementrochester.org**

Follow us on Facebook: **fb.com/atonementlutheranchurch/**

Contact us via Email: **office@atonementrochester.org**

Call us via phone at: **(585) 442-1018**

Office hours: **9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tues~Wed~Thurs**