



# Midweek Message

## **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.**

Worship with us Livestream on our Atonement Facebook page as we “light one candle to wait for the Messiah...”

## **ADVENT GIVING OUTREACH ~ DEC 6<sup>TH</sup>-DEC 20<sup>TH</sup>**

### **“Warm Hands/Warm Heads/Warm Feet”**

Help us help our neighbors in need by donating to this year’s Advent Giving Outreach.

- Donate NEW socks, gloves, mittens or winter hats.
- All sizes for men, women and children.
- Other winter clothing will also be accepted (Must be new or clean and very gently used.)
- Donations will be received Wednesdays and Sundays in the bin placed outdoors by the Sanctuary (East) entrance.
- All donations will be given to Saint’s Place, Rochester, whose mission is to “Welcome the Stranger,” by providing needed items to newly-arriving refugees in Rochester.



## **LEAF RAKING HELP NEEDED**

We are looking for some assistance to rake leaves on **November 27th** (Black Friday) from 10:00 am-1:00 p.m. Bring your rakes and a good sense of fun so we can get this big job done! Thanks so much for your service.

*Rain date will be Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> following worship.*



## **All Are Welcome**

*Livestream Advent worship via our Atonement Facebook page.*

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

*You can follow us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. by going to our Atonement Facebook page at [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.

***Atonement Lutheran Church***

## December Celebrations

### *Happy Birthday to You!*

- 1 Kevin Thompson  
Rebecca Thompson
- 6 Norm Karsten
- 7 Michael Kruidenier
- 8 Mary Teter
- 9 Connor Krapf
- 12 Nancy Heise  
Joe Manthey
- 14 Betty Middlebrook
- 16 Alan Kaminsky
- 17 Caroline Bartlett
- 19 Meghan Domroes  
Phyllis Hennessey
- 25 Lindsay Lazenby
- 26 Nan Westervelt
- 28 Todd Bogumil
- 29 Lin Macholz

### *Happy Anniversary*

- 30 Amy & Joe Loporcaro

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

## **HAVE YOU RETURNED YOUR PLEDGE CARD?**

We invite you to prayerfully consider making a financial pledge of support for Atonement for 2021 as we live into our thanks to God, generous in our living and in our giving. Please return your pledge card to the church office by Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Extra pledge cards are available in the church office and the narthex.

## **STORY TIME SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**via Zoom Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:45 a.m.**

Storyteller Sarah (Sahara) Kruidenier will be reading *Fry Bread*, by Ken Noble Maillard this week, a picture book about Native American family culture. We hope you will join us! The Zoom link will be emailed to our Sunday School families every Saturday.



## **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.

[Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers](#) One of the many beautiful and interesting melodies I've learned at Atonement has been the Swedish tune “Haf trones lampa färdig,” used with the text “Rejoice, Rejoice Believers.” The composer Ronald A. Nelson takes that tune, normally in a staid 4/4, and turns it into a fun 7/8 dance in this setting. There's a quiet middle section with rich chords, a grand statement in the normal 4/4 but with a soprano descant, and a little tag back in 7/8.

[Haendel-Messiah-Comfort Ye My People](#) “Comfort Ye” and “Ev'ry Valley Shall Be Exalted,” from Handel's Messiah. There's an interesting introduction from Trevor Pinnock to each of them, and the American singer Kurt Streit does an amazing job. In “Ev'ry Valley,” look for lots of word-painting – the notes go up on “exalted,” for example, and (my favorite) zigzag a little on “crooked” before settling down to a long-held note on “straight.”

## **CHALLENGE FUND APPEAL SUCCESS!**

Good News! Our new boilers have been installed – with a few parts still to arrive - and we have heat in our church building!

More Good News! Through the generosity of our Atonement family and friends, we have exceeded our fundraising goal by \$2000, which means we can now borrow a significantly smaller amount from our Capital Reserve Fund to offset the cost of this project.

Our grateful thanks to each of our generous donors who have made this appeal a complete success for a warm winter indoors!

## **CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING**

**Sunday, December 13th at 10:30 a.m.**

Be sure to join us as we discuss the 2021 Church Budget.

This meeting will be conducted virtually via Zoom. A Zoom link will be Emailed to Atonement members prior to the meeting.

## **DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING CLOTHING DRIVE**

**Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at Atonement**

Do you have clothes and shoes at home that you are willing to donate? Bring them to church to support Habitat for Humanity.

- Donations of used clothing/shoes can be brought to Atonement on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> . Items will be picked up for delivery on Friday at 4:00pm.
- Please enter the church building through the office (West) entrance, using the keypad password.
- Please place all donations on the tables in Reissig Hall.
- Your donations will be delivered to the Habitat drop box.
- Thank you for your outreach to those in need during this Thanksgiving Weekend.

### **Items accepted for donation:**

Clothing/shoes/belts/purses  
Blankets/sheets/drapes/pillow cases  
Stuffed animals

### **Do not drop off:**

Pillows/rags/fabric scraps  
Household Items  
Books/Toys

## **Please Note**

### ***Change of Address***

Amy Loporcaro  
9 Ryder Cup Circle  
Pittsford NY 14534

## **WALKING INTO ADVENT**

**By Pastor Gail Swanson**

Four children have been sent from their home in London to the countryside to escape the bombing of the Blitz during World War II. One rainy day, when they're exploring the old house where they're staying, the youngest daughter finds a large wardrobe in an empty room. She opens the door and steps in – to find herself in the middle of snowy forest; and a whole other world on the other side of the wardrobe door.

If this story sounds familiar, then you've read the classic children's book *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C. S. Lewis. One of my favorite books since childhood, I invite you to consider reading this work of imagination and faith again with me this Advent. This story about the land of Narnia is a perfect fit for the season of Advent: light from a lamp post that shines through the darkness...a world waiting for the return of the one who will save them... temptation (in the form of Turkish Delight candy) and repentance... forgiveness and hope... the power of evil broken by the power of love.

Walking into Advent can be like opening a door and walking into a wardrobe – with a whole other world on the other side. Depending where you live, Advent might be like Narnia – cold, with snow under your feet, and a light to show you the way through the dark. But Advent is like Narnia in more ways than weather. It's a world set apart; and to truly enter that world as Christians, the door we must walk through is Christ. A door which leads to a newfound wonder at the depth of God's love and grace for his children. A door that will lead us to that world we long for; one that is kinder, more just, filled with warmth, goodness and a peace that causes lions and lambs – and all kinds of creatures – to dwell together in harmony.

Read with me this Advent. Who knows? Perhaps with a little time in Narnia, we will prepare for Christ's birth all the more richly for it.

***Atonement Lutheran Church***

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***Livestream Worship***

**9:30 a.m. via the  
Atonement Facebook page.**

***A Prayer When Covid Forces Us Apart on Thanksgiving***  
*by Kate Bowler*

*God of difficult times:  
Hard choices are causing so much  
heartache this Thanksgiving.  
We are lonely. They are lonely.  
Come to us, console us and guide us  
to stay safe and protect each other;  
so that love might be protected, too.  
Gather us into your grace.  
Comfort us by your loving presence.  
And free us to love each other unreservedly - and apart.  
Amen.*