

# First Sunday in Advent

December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

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

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HOPE



**Atonement Lutheran Church**

**Invite • Prepare • Go into the World**

1900 Westfall Road, Rochester, NY 14618

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

*Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending*

## WELCOME

### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace. **Amen.**

Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of all time,

**we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In Jesus Christ † your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

**Amen.**

### **\*PEACE**

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

### **\*GATHERING HYMN**

*Prepare the Royal Highway*

# 264

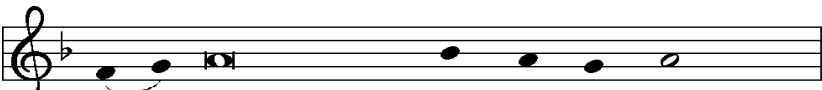
### **\*GREETING**

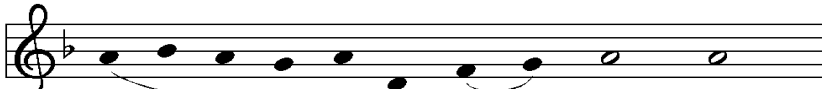
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**


*\* Please Stand As You Are Able*

**\*KYRIE**

*L=Leader C=Congregation*

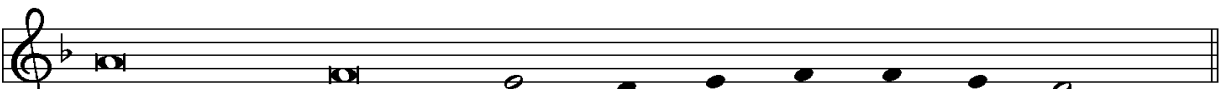
L:   
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C:   
Lord, have mer - cy.


L:   
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.

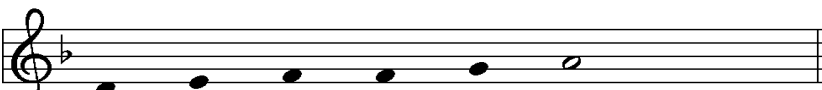
C:   
Lord, have mer - cy.

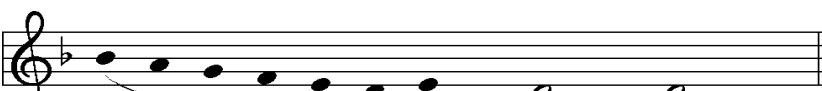
L:   
For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,


  
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.


C:   
Lord, have mer - cy.

L:   
For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,

  
let us pray to the Lord.

C:   
Lord, have mer - cy.

L:   
 Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

C:   
 A - men.

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Let us pray.

Praise to you, O God, for our salvation is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people into your light. **Amen.**

*The first candle is lit.*

*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah, verse 1*

*# 240*

  
 1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.

  
 He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING**                      *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

*A reading from Jeremiah*

<sup>14</sup> The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup> In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup> In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

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

### **SECOND READING**                      *1 Thessalonians 3:9-13*

*A reading from First Thessalonians*

<sup>9</sup> How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup> And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup> And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

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



**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**    *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, verses 1 & 2*    # 257



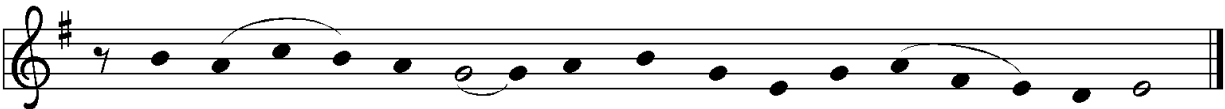
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
teach us your will and guide our way.    Re-joice!    Re-joice!



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

**\*HOLY GOSPEL**    *Luke 21:25-36*

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup> “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup> “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man.”

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

## **SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**      *My Lord, What a Morning*

# 438

### **\*NICENE CREED**

Let us confess our faith, and the faith of the Church, with the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS**

As we prepare for the coming of Christ, let us pray for all people according to their needs. Come, Lord Jesus; **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, as we await the presence of your Son, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**            *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*            *-M. Miller*

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

## **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. **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** *Stanzas 1, 2, 4*



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;  
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,  
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand  
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,  
veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.  
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.

“Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!”

## \*EUCHARISTIC 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.**

### LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

### 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;

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. **Amen.**

### **\*BENEDICTION**

May Almighty God, † who sends light to overcome all darkness, grant you grace, mercy, and peace. **Amen.**

### **\*SENDING HYMN**

*Savior of the Nations, Come*

# 263

### **\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, Christ is near. **Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

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

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## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Assisting Minister ..... Rob White  
Livestream Recorder..... Andrew Spillane  
Usher ..... Norm Karsten  
Counters ..... John Kruidenier, Desiree Wolfe  
Altar Care ..... Judy Lazenby  
Fellowship Host ..... *No Volunteer*

SAVE THE DATE!



**ADVENT LESSONS, CAROLS, and ORGAN RESPONSES**  
*Next Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.*  
*at Atonement Lutheran Church*

*Sponsored by the Rochester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists*

Please join us for familiar Advent carols and readings paired with selected organ works performed by several area organists and Eastman students.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FELLOWSHIP/COFFEE HOUR** *No Volunteer Today*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING

*Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> following worship in Reissig Hall*

*Topic: 2025 Budget*

### CONFIRMATION CLASS

***\*TODAY\* at 10:45 a.m.***

The Confirmation class will be meeting in the Conference Room today following worship.

### ANGEL TREE GIVING

The tree in the narthex entrance holds ornaments with gift ideas for children from five refugee families. The children range in age from 1 to 13; both boys and girls. Please choose a tag from the tree, shop for the requested gift, and return the gift, along with the tag, unwrapped, and place them under the tree. Gifts will be delivered Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, so the ***last day to return items will be Sunday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>***. We are happy to be coordinating this outreach with Meghan Domroes and World Relief. Questions? ...see Barb Sanko.

### ADVENT GIVING IN DECEMBER

In the spirit of the season, during Advent, we offer the opportunities below for you to bring gifts to benefit others in the community. Thank you for remembering and caring for these outreach ministries and the people they serve. A table will be set up in the Narthex for your donations.

Dec. 1 - CENTER FOR YOUTH - chunky soups, ramen noodles, mac 'n cheese

Dec. 8 - PITTSFORD FOOD CUPBOARD - brunch items: corned beef hash (canned), coffee, special jams (no grape, please)

Dec. 15 - ASBURY WAREHOUSE - men's and women's new underwear, all sizes

Dec. 24 - CATHOLIC FAMILY CHARITIES Refugee Resettlement - diapers are needed, especially larger sizes

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GREEN TIP

Even natural toothpastes have ingredients that can be toxic to humans, animals, and the environment; including SLS, glycerin, titanium dioxide, limonene, and sodium lauryl sulfate. The tubes are not recyclable, either. As an alternative, try mixing coconut oil and a little baking soda. The same recipe can be used to make deodorant, or you can buy toothpaste tablets in glass jars or paper bags.



IT'S TIME TO ORDER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS!

Red poinsettia plants are available to order in honor or in memory of a loved one. The plants will decorate the altar area on Christmas Eve and may be taken home after the 4:00 p.m. service.

*Deadline to order: **December 15th.***

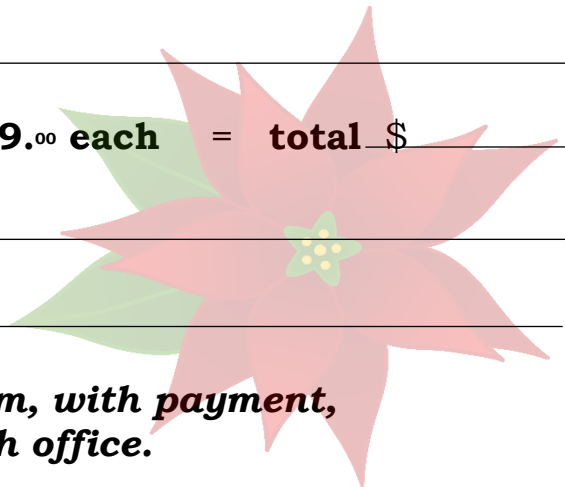
**Given By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of plants:** \_\_\_\_\_ @ **\$9.00 each** = **total \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

***Please return this form, with payment,  
to the church office.***



## Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

# My Lord, What a Morning

*Refrain*



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.



- 1 You will hear the trum-pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

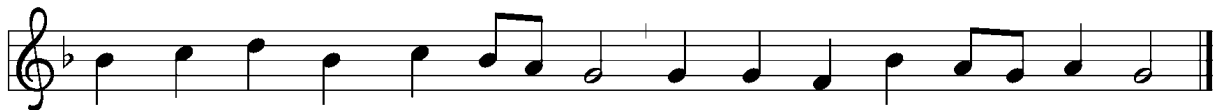


look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

# Savior of the Nations, Come



- 1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
- 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
- 3 Won-drous birth—oh, won-drous child—from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
- 4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path-way leads;



Mar-vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.  
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.  
Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!  
out to van-quisth death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,  
hallows night with newborn light.  
Night cannot this light subdue;  
let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,  
virgin's son, incarnate Word!  
To the holy Trinity  
praise we sing eternally!



# Atonement Lutheran Church

The Rev. Gail Swanson, Pastor

*Email: [pastorgails@aol.com](mailto: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.

**AN EASY WAY TO GIVE ~ SCAN HERE →**

*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.*

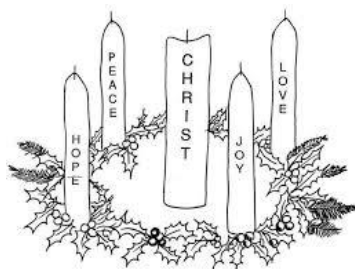


Thank you for joining us in worship today!

*"Heaven and earth will pass away,  
but my words will not pass away."*

-Luke 21:33

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Call us via phone at: **(585) 442-1018**  
Office hours: **9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tues~Wed~Thurs**