



Midweek Message

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Sunday, December 22nd at 9:30 a.m.

Join us in person or via livestream on our Facebook page. As we listen to Elizabeth's greeting and Mary's song of praise, we hear a saving God who remembers, lifts up, and fulfills God's promises.

THIS SUNDAY: CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

"What Does Christmas Sound Like?"

Sunday, December 22nd during our 9:30 a.m. service



Join us for the sounds and re-telling of the Christmas Story by our children and youth!
Following worship, come to Reissig Hall for refreshments.

Needed: a few volunteers to bring a plate of Christmas cookies to share.

Atonement Lutheran Church

All Are Welcome

Join us in our Sanctuary,
or via Livestream on our
Facebook page on Sunday
mornings at 9:30 a.m. [fb.com/
atonementlutheranchurch/](https://fb.com/atonementlutheranchurch/)

A worship bulletin with
hymns is posted weekly
on our web site at
www.atonementrochester.org

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AT ATONEMENT



Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00 p.m.

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

O come, let us adore him!

Join us in worship as we sing familiar carols, hear the story of love born in a manger, and celebrate the birth of Jesus, who is *God with us*.

Wednesday, December 25th at 9:30 a.m.

Christmas Day Service with Reflections from Martin Luther

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!

God's word has come to live with us through the Babe born in Bethlehem.



Midweek Message

December Schedule

There will be one more
Midweek Message published this
year on Monday, December 23rd.

JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

4 John Tokoli
Dan Westervelt
6 Kathy Heinig
7 Desiree Wolfe
12 Andrew Spillane



18 Sarah Darder
22 Madison Hauck
24 Andrea Fleishman
26 Sarah Kelly
30 Judy Lazenby

LAST WEEK FOR ADVENT GIVING IN DECEMBER



This Sunday is the last week we will be collecting for our Advent Giving. 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. 22 - CATHOLIC FAMILY CHARITIES Refugee Resettlement - children's diapers are needed, especially in larger sizes

END OF YEAR GIVING

Through Offering

THANK YOU for your faithful giving and financial support of Atonement during this past year! Please be aware that all end-of-year offerings are still being gratefully received. In order to make sure your financial contribution is included on your giving statement for this year, all offering contributions must be received in the church office *by Sunday, December 29th*.

Through Amazon

Shopping online is another easy way to give to Atonement. We have compiled a list of items through Amazon.... things we're wishing for, and things we use every day, that would be a blessing to us. If you would like to gift us one of these wishes, you can view [Atonement's Wish List](#) here. A link to this list can also be found on our website under the 'Giving' menu.



CAN YOU DONATE A VACUUM CLEANER?

Atonement is in need of a gently used, easy-to-use vacuum cleaner. Please contact the church office to let us know if you have one to donate.

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

A few items have been found around our building, including water bottles, shopping bag, reading glasses, baseball cap, and more. Please be sure to check our lost and found basket on top of the coat rack across from Pastor's office to retrieve your treasures.

A NOTE OF THANKS



Many thanks to our Atonement Christmas Carolers for sharing their singing voices and cheerful spirits (in spite of rain) as they brought joy to the homes they visited!



A Blessing for

Beloved Christmas Hymns

*Advent was brief and flew away
with one, maybe two renditions.
Christmas is for all the verses,
a chorus of people gathered in
by forces of faith unseen, preaching
Joy to the World and Silent Night.
Christmas is for anthems that wait
all year long in the dark depths
of our lungs for a time such as this,
to revive the world with hope that sings.*

-Meta Herrick Carlson

CLICK ON OUR MUSIC LINKS

“Next to the Word of God, Music Deserves the Highest Praise” -Martin Luther

[Nat King Cole - O Come All Ye Faithful](#) You’ve probably heard this recording, but I liked the animated visuals, made by a variety of artists from all over the world.

[Welcome Christmas Highlights 2023](#) I just heard Vocalessence’s Christmas special on WXXI yesterday, and really liked it. This is a collection of highlights from last year’s version, featuring Vocalessence’s four choirs (children through “vintage”) from around Minneapolis. Not all the pieces will be familiar, but they’re interesting, and the choirs are as good as you’d expect in the heartland of American Lutheranism. If pressed for time, you might want to jump to the sing-along section of “Joy to the World” toward the end. Merry Christmas from me, Sherry, and Leah!

DECEMBER CHURCH OFFICE INFO

Church Office:

The church office will be OPEN Monday Dec.23rd and Monday, Dec.30th.

The office will be CLOSED Dec. 24th through 27th and Dec. 31st through Jan. 3rd

***Atonement
Lutheran Church***
1900 Westfall Road
Rochester NY 14618
(585) 442-1018

The Rev. Gail Swanson,
Pastor

Email:
office@atonementrochester.org

Website:
www.atonementrochester.org

Facebook:
fb.com/
atonementlutheranchurch

Worship
9:30 a.m. Sundays
in our Sanctuary

Livestream Worship
9:30 a.m. Sundays via the
Atonement Facebook page.

Church Office Hours
9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday

ANGEL TREE THANK YOU

Thank you for your generous donations to the Asbury Dining Center! We collected over 150 pairs of men and women's underwear, plus 10 T-shirts and 25 pairs of socks! Thank you!

MANY THANKS

A note of thanks from Andrea Fleishman:

I wanted to say thank you for the wonderful carolers Sunday night. The voices singing the wonderful music we love is a reminder of the love and happiness we share during the Christmas time. I could not go to church that morning and it was great hearing them. It was a reminder also of what we do for others, especially during the holidays.

God Bless you all.



A Child's Advent Prayer

*Oh dearest Jesus in the sky
born here in a manger, but raised so high;
do you live up past the clouds
gifting rainbow moments to our eyes?*

*Please, dear Lord, bless all my friends-
each one unique for the gifts you send.*

*Let us be kind to everyone
with acceptance to show our love, to mend.*

*Sometimes I wonder if I will see
your face one day as you look at me.
Will you shine so bright that I close my eyes?
How wonderful will your glory be?*

*I thank you Lord, for everything;
for joy, for the wonder of choirs that sing.*

*Dearest Jesus, we wait patiently
for you to come, your peace to bring.*

-B. R. Wiesmore