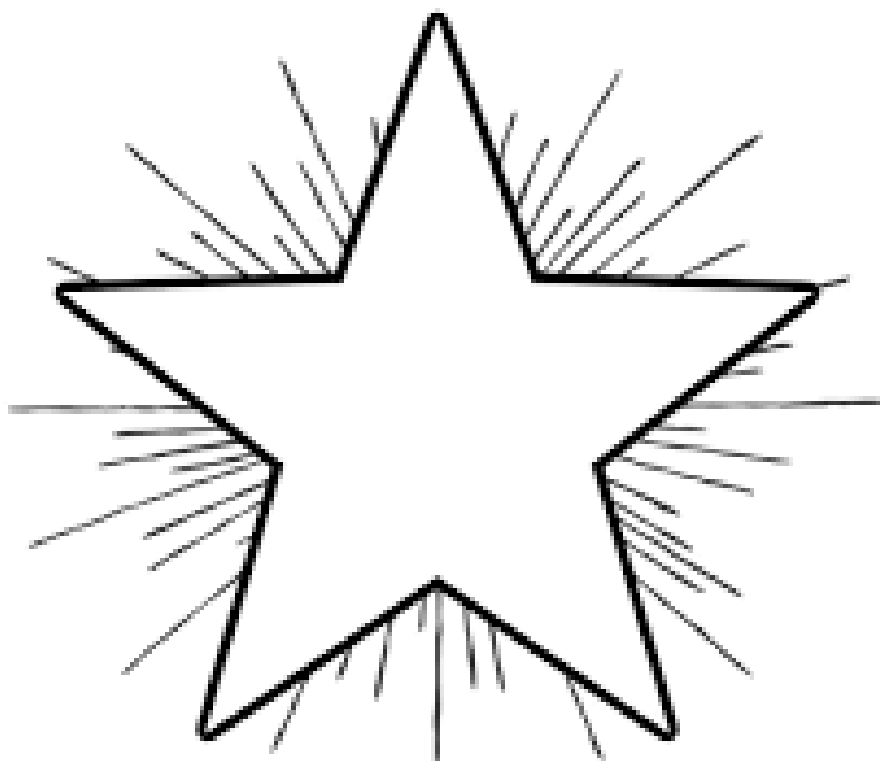


# **Fifth Sunday After Epiphany**

February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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

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**Atonement Lutheran Church**

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

1900 Westfall Road, Rochester, NY 14618

# **GATHERING**

## **PRELUDE**

*O Word of God, Incarnate*

## **WELCOME**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We have turned our hearts far from you. Forgive us and lead us back to your ways. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may live out your justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **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 Savior Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**\*KYRIE**

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**

Lord God,  
with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## WORD

### **FIRST READING**

*Isaiah 58:1-9a*

*A reading from Isaiah*

- <sup>1</sup> Shout out; do not hold back!  
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.
- <sup>2</sup> Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments;  
they want God on their side.
- <sup>3</sup> “Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day  
and oppress all your workers.
- <sup>4</sup> You fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.
- <sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?
- <sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?
- <sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them

and not to hide yourself from your own kin?  
<sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you;  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.  
<sup>9a</sup> Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

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

**SECOND READING**            *1 Corinthians 2:1-12*  
*A reading from Corinthians*

<sup>1</sup> When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup> My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup> Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. <sup>7</sup> But we speak God’s wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory <sup>8</sup> and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

<sup>10</sup> God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup> For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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

The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,  
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.  
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain  
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;  
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.  
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The first two staves correspond to the first two lines of lyrics, the next three staves to the next three lines, and the final staff to the last line. The music is a simple, melodic line in the treble clef, with lyrics printed below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

**\*HOLY GOSPEL**                      *Matthew 5:13-20*

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup> “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup> “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until

all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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

## **SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**      *What Is This Place*

# 524

## **\*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**

Rejoicing in the light of Christ that shines upon us, we pray for the church, the world, and all people according to their needs.

God, shining with grace, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O God, as we behold the light of Christ's presence, and rejoice in the brightness of his glory. **Amen.**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**      *Alleluia, Song of Gladness*      -D. McCarthy

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

## **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **Amen.**

## **MEAL**

## **\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

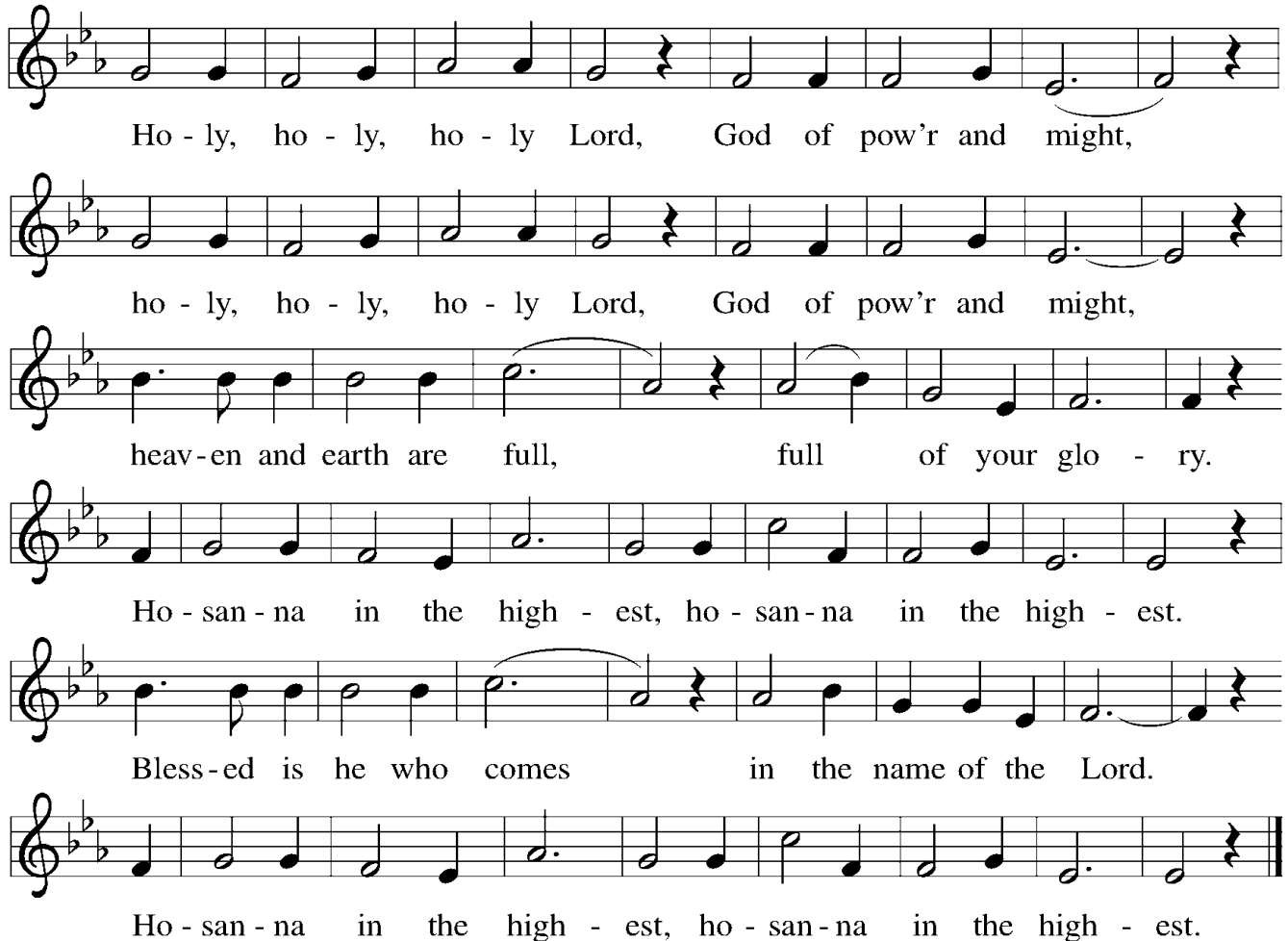
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## \*PROPER PREFACE

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

## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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.

## \*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



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er 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;

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,  
**Amen.**

### **\*BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

**Amen.**

### **\*SENDING HYMN**

*To Be Your Presence*

# 546

### **\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to god.**

### **POSTLUDE**

*Toccata in D Minor*

*-F. Rausch*

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

## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Assisting Minister .....	Jean Seager
Usher .....	Norm Karsten
Livestream Recorder .....	Dave Irish
Counters .....	Bob Touhsaent, Michelle Laraby
Altar Care .....	Judy Lazenby
Fellowship Hosts .....	<i>No Volunteer</i>

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ADULT FORUM & FELLOWSHIP**

#### ***\*TODAY\* following worship in Reissig Hall***

This week we will be hearing from Liz Toomey and Kim Niles, from the Monroe County Department of Public Health, speaking with us about *The Science of Addiction* and training us on how to reverse a drug overdose with Narcan.

#### ***Next Sunday, February 15th***

We'll be hearing from *Home Start Hope*, a Barbara Macholz Grimaldi Legacy Fund grant recipient.

### **VALENTINE'S DAY COLLEGE CONNECTION COLLECTION**

***\*TODAY\**** is the last day we'll be collecting individually wrapped sweets or chocolates and \$5.00 gift cards to those favorite beverage stops: Dunkin' Donuts, Starbucks, or Tim Horton's. Items can be placed on the table in the Narthex. Any questions should be directed to Barb Sanko.

### **SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY**

***\*TODAY\**** is our annual *Tackle Hunger* event. We will be collecting cans of soup and chili for the Pittsford Food Cupboard. Cans can be placed on the table in the narthex. Let's make a "team effort" to help our neighbors in need!

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ANNUAL REPORTS/UPDATES**

For anyone wishing to submit 2025 Updates/Recaps/Reports, please submit them to the church office (or via Email at [office@atonementrochester.org](mailto:office@atonementrochester.org)) ***no later than TODAY***. Thank you.

### **ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 18th**

Ash Wednesday is a time of confession, repentance, and renewal which sets us on a new path of discipleship for the season of Lent. Begin your Lenten journey with the sign of the cross traced on your forehead, a powerful symbol of dying to sin and rising to new life in Christ.

#### ***12:00-12:30 p.m. Ashes-to-Go***

- Drive into the church entrance on the sanctuary (East) side of the church building and continue through the parking lot to the West side of the building.
- Stop at the table to receive the Imposition of Ashes, and hear a brief scripture reading and prayer from Pastor Gail.
- Continue on your way, marked with the cross of Christ.

#### ***7:00 p.m. Service of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes***

Join us in-person in our sanctuary or livestream via our Facebook page.

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
***Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> following worship in Reissig Hall***

### **GREEN TIP**

A NYS law makes it convenient to recycle leftover paint and cans through drop-off sites at paint retailers. These locations are found at [www.paintcare.org](http://www.paintcare.org) or (855)PAINT09. There is no cost to drop off your unwanted paint for recycling. A small fee on the sale of new paint funds the program.

# O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with  
 2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -  
 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there  
 4 Al - mighty - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
 in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!  
 falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
 when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,  
 In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es  
 Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with  
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,  
 of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though  
 heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your  
 and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich  
 dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and  
 mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For  
 lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
 dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.  
 you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.  
 for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

- 5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!  
 Our joy be all with music crowned,  
 our voices gaily blending!  
 For Christ goes with us all the way—  
 today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!  
 His love is never ending!  
 Sing out! Ring out!  
 Jubilation!  
 Exultation!  
 Tell the story!  
 Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!
- 6 What joy to know, when life is past,  
 the Lord we love is first and last,  
 the end and the beginning!  
 He will one day, oh, glorious grace,  
 transport us to that happy place  
 beyond all tears and sinning!  
 Amen! Amen!  
 Come, Lord Jesus!  
 Crown of gladness!  
 We are yearning  
 for the day of your returning.

# What Is This Place



1 What is this place where we are meet-ing? On - ly a house, the  
2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, sparks that are sown in  
3 And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a



earth its floor. Walls and a roof shel - ter - ing peo - ple,  
us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs and won - ders  
liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing,



win-dows for light, an o - pen door. Yet it be-comes a bod - y that lives  
sent from the past are all we need. We in this place re - mem-ber and speak  
we are each oth-er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re - ceive



when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.  
a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem-ing word.  
what we need to in - crease: our jus - tice and God's peace.

# To Be Your Presence



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -  
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the  
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for  
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy  
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,  
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your  
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,  
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!  
love ex - pressed,  
church, re - joice,

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# 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!

*"Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."*

Isaiah 58:9a

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Visit our web site at: **[www.atonementrochester.org](http://www.atonementrochester.org)**  
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Contact us via Email: **[office@atonementrochester.org](mailto:office@atonementrochester.org)**  
Call us via phone at: **(585) 442-1018**  
Church Office hours: **Tues~Wed~Thurs 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.**