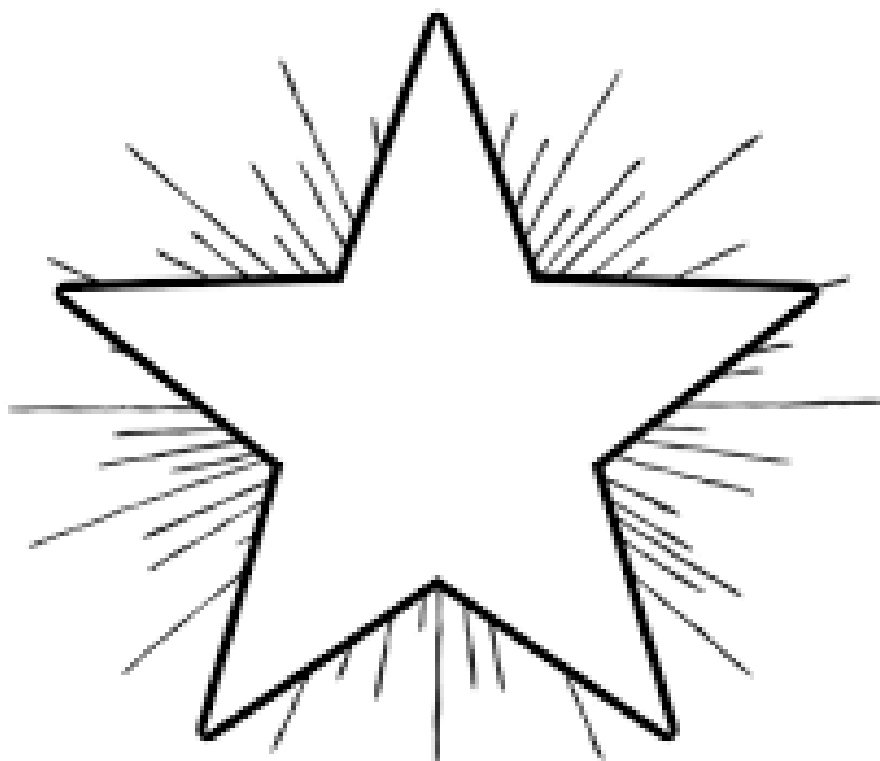


Seventh Sunday After Epiphany

February 23rd, 2025

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

Trio in B flat

***WELCOME**

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to greed and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their bondage. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and renew your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In † Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

**Please Stand As You Are Able*

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

***GATHERING HYMN**

Healer of Our Every Ill

612

***APOSTOLIC 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.**

***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**

O Lord Jesus,

make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 45:3-11,15

A reading from Genesis

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.' " ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

A reading from 1 Corinthians

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first but the physical and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, made of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As one of dust, so are those who are of the dust, and as one of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the one of dust, we will also bear the image of the one of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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



***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

When True Charity and Love (sung twice) # 642

Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,
God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there.

The image shows a musical score for a Gospel Acclamation. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system has the lyrics 'Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,'. The second system has the lyrics 'God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there.' The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and homophonic, with the bass line providing harmonic support. There are some triplets and slurs in the melody.

***HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 6:24-38

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

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ “But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; ²⁸ bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

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

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *In All Our Grief*

615

***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

Your Still, Small Voice

-D. Wagner

*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.

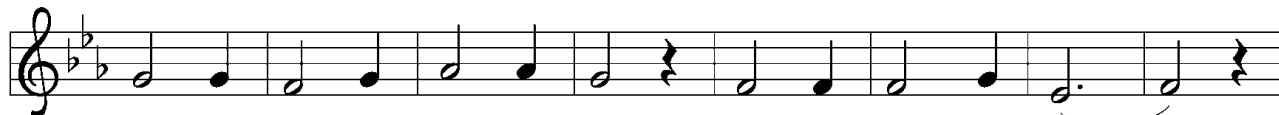
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

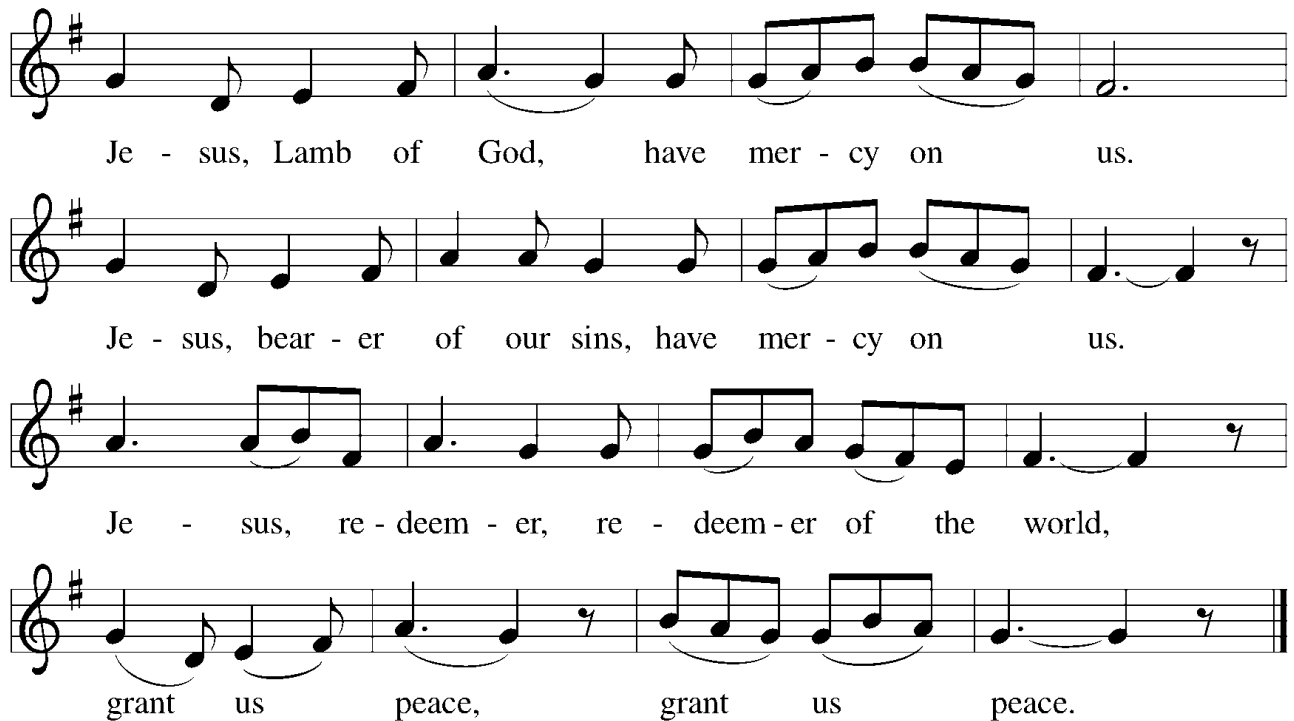
*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*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.

***BENEDICTION**

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**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

836

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, rejoicing in the light of God's love. **Thanks be to god.**

POSTLUDE

Allegro

-G. Nysetvold

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Assisting Minister	Rob White
Livestream Recorder.....	Dave Irish
Offering Counters	Norm Karsten, Desiree Wolfe
Usher	Karen Goodyear
Altar Care	Judy Lazenby
Fellowship Host	Joanne & Pat Scanlon

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELLOWSHIP/COFFEE HOUR

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

Join us for some conversation, beverages, and treats.

PICK UP YOUR LENTEN DEVOTIONAL TODAY

Prepare for the season of Lent by picking up your copy of *Life Renewed: Devotions for Lent 2025*, which provides devotions and prayer for each day from Ash Wednesday to Easter Vigil (March 5-April 19). You can find them in the basket on the table in the narthex.

SUPPORTING OUR FELLOWSHIP

We like to offer everyone time for conversation and enjoyment of a beverage and snack following worship each Sunday and during our Adult Forum sessions. Our *Fellowship Host* each week assists by setting up supplies (we have paper goods), providing a small snack, and cleaning up afterward.

***You can help by signing up to be a 'Coffee Host' (Sept through May)
or a 'Summer Sunday Host'. (June through August)***

The signup sheet is **on the table in the narthex.**

GREEN TIP

You can take action to save local Tonawanda Seneca natural lands from a proposed STAMP mega industrial site. Go to <https://alliesoftsn.weebly.com/> for more info and to make your voice heard.

Healer of Our Every Ill



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



- 1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
- 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
- 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your



peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Refrain

In All Our Grief



1 In all our grief and fear we turn to you.
2 Help us to put a - side the an - gry word,
3 You did not e - ven spare your on - ly Son.
4 God, when we suf - fer all that we can bear,



O God, you know all that we think or do,
the clench - ing fist, the wish and will to hurt.
He lived our griefs and bore all e - vil done,
then let us know that you in truth are near



you know the pain we put each oth - er through.
Teach us the way in which love best is served.
but through his cross, re - demp - tion has been won.
and will not leave us lost in all our fear.

Refrain



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, grant us peace.

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

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.

AN EASY WAY TO GIVE ~ SCAN HERE →

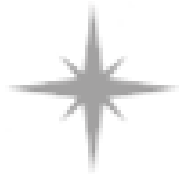
Scan this QR code with your smartphone's camera, tap on the link that pops up, and you will be taken directly to Atonement's giving website. If your phone doesn't automatically scan the code, you may need to download a QR code reader app. Many are available for free in the Google Play or Apple App store. Please contact Lindee Krapf if you have any questions.



Thank you for joining us in worship today!

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you."

Luke 6:37-38



Visit our web site at: **www.atonementrochester.org**
Follow us on Facebook: **[fb.com/atonementlutheranchurch/](https://www.facebook.com/atonementlutheranchurch/)**
Contact us via Email: **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.**