

Midweek Message

February 04, 2026

Volume 26, Issue 2

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 8th at 9:30 a.m.

Join us in person or livestream via our Facebook page as Jesus reminds us that we are both salt and light needed for service in this world.

ADULT FORUM & FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, February 8th following worship

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.

ASH WEDNESDAY, 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.

“Did you not know what the Holy One can do with dust? So let us be marked not for sorrow, and let us be marked not for shame... but for claiming what God can do within the dust, within the dirt, inside the smudge we bear.”

-Jan Richardson, Blessing the Dust

THANK YOU, SNOW SHOVELERS!

Many thanks to our volunteers Tom Thompson, Dave Irish, Jim Krapf, and John Macholz for keeping our church sidewalks and door entrances shoveled and salted during these wintry weeks.

Atonement Lutheran Church

FEBRUARY OUTREACH

College Connection



Let's spread some love to our Atonement college students! We will be collecting items through **this Sunday, February 8th**, to be delivered to our students by Valentine's Day. We are collecting *small, individually wrapped sweets/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

This Sunday, February 8th 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!



ANNUAL REPORTS/UPDATES

For anyone wishing to submit 2025 Updates/Recaps/Annual Reports, please submit them to: office@atonementrochester.org drop off a copy in the church office **no later than February 8th**. Thank you.

CLICK ON OUR MUSIC LINKS

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

[Modest Mussorgsky - Meditation \(Album Leaf\) for Piano \(1880\) \[Score-Video\]](#) Modest Mussorgsky was one of the "Mighty Handful," a group of five Russian composers in the 19th century who tried to make a Russian classical music separate from slavish imitations of German styles. They were mostly self-taught, so their music can sound a little awkward and rough compared to, say, Brahms. But there are often really neat ideas that would never occur to someone with lots of training. This is a pretty little piece written soon before his early death from alcoholism.

[ELW 342, "There in God's Garden"](#) Mount Olive is an inner-city ELCA church in Minneapolis, with a combination of hard-core social justice work and high-level classical music (i.e., perfect). This recording of a favorite newish hymn is taken from a worship service there.

CHOIR PRACTICE

All are welcome to join us on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the choir loft.

PACKING DAY AT PCHO

When? Saturday, February 28th from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon, followed by lunch.

Where? PCHO, 60 Carlson Road, Suite 35, Rochester, NY, 14610

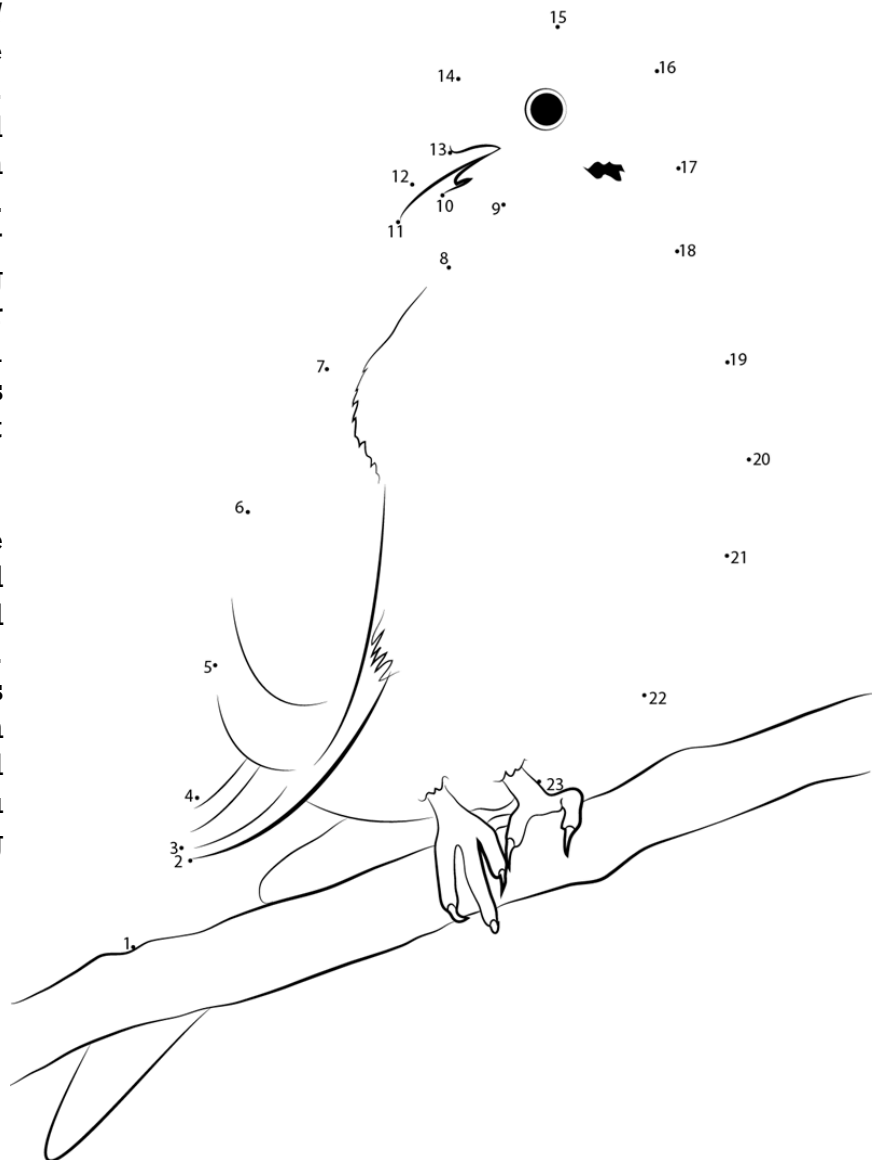
Please join us at Person Centered Housing Options of Rochester as we help our neighbors in need during this cold winter. Volunteers are needed to help assemble Winter Outreach Bags for distribution to unhoused/homeless persons in the Rochester area. Each bag contains supplies and personal items for living without permanent shelter. *Contact Pastor Gail if you can join us that day.*

KIDS' PAGE: FINDING JOY WITH THE MOURNING DOVE

The *mourning* (feeling sad when someone has died) dove is light grey with a pink belly. They have long, skinny tail feathers and their eyes have a bright blue ring around them. When they take off to fly, their wings make a soft, whistling sound! They are known for their sad-sounding call, which is often mistaken for an owl's hoot. [Click here](#) to hear what they sound like.

Many cultures believe that the Mourning Dove is a symbol that peace, happiness, and healing are coming their way. They are also seen as symbols of hope and messengers from angels. Look and listen around where you live to see if you can spot or hear a mourning dove!

Connect the dots and color the mourning dove!



Come Worship With Us ... Everyone Is Welcome!

9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship *Or Livestream on our Facebook Page*

Website: www.atonementrochester.org Facebook: fb.com/atonementlutheranchurch

SMALL WONDERS PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

This Saturday, February 7th from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Small Wonders is a secular, play-based program that welcomes families of all faiths, cultures, and beliefs. With years of experience as dedicated preschool teachers, Brooke DeMartin and Andra Smith have backgrounds in Special and Early Elementary Education, Early Childhood Mental Health, Child Psychology, and Child Development. They are passionate about fostering early childhood development through play-based learning.



Join us for a school tour, learn about our program,
and meet our teachers!

They are a strong team in the classroom and collaborate by pooling their knowledge, bringing different strengths and teaching styles to the classroom. Together, they create a balanced and enriched learning environment for students, designing and implementing engaging, hands-on activities that promote curiosity and problem-solving skills, catering to diverse learning styles and developmental needs.

***Visit smallwondersroc.com
for more information***

Looking Ahead

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Thursday	Feb. 5th	7:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal	Choir Loft
Saturday	Feb. 7th	10:00 a.m.	Small Wonders Preschool OPEN HOUSE	Founders Hall
Sunday	Feb. 8th	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Worship	Sanctuary
Sunday	Feb. 8th	10:30 a.m.	Adult Forum & Fellowship	Reissig Hall

1900 Westfall Road, Rochester NY 14618

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

Phone: (585) 442-1018 Email: office@atonementrochester.org

The Rev. Gail Swanson, Pastor