



FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 2nd at 9:30 a.m.

Join us in person or via livestream with us on our Facebook page. Love is patient, love is kind... and so much more! The incredible depth, breadth, and width of God's love is for all people.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, February 2nd following worship in Reissig Hall
Refreshments will be provided

ANNUAL REPORT

*You can pick up a copy of the Annual Report on Thursday, January 30th after 2:00 p.m.
Copies will be on the narthex table and in the church office.*

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED FOR PASTOR DEBBIE JOHNSON

Sunday, February 2nd During Our 9:30 a.m. Service

Please join us in offering Farewell & Godspeed to Debbie Johnson as she moves to Sacramento, CA in February. Pastor Debbie has been a blessing to our Atonement Family and to a wide circle of congregations, colleagues, pastors, and friends in the Rochester community and Synod. May God's Spirit guide, bless, and be present with her in the journey ahead.



VALENTINE'S DAY COLLEGE CONNECTION COLLECTION

Let's spread some love to our Atonement college-attending students! We will be collecting items to be included in care packages ***through Sunday, Feb. 2nd***. Packages will be delivered to our students in time for Valentine's Day.

In order to keep the cost of postage to a minimum, we are proposing the packages include a few individually wrapped sweets/chocolates and also some \$5.00 gift cards to those favorite beverage stops, Dunkin' Donuts, Starbucks, or Tim Horton's. Please place your donations of candy and gift cards on the table in the Narthex. Any questions should be directed to Barb Sanko.



[LINK TO SUNDAY, JANUARY 26th SERMON](#)

In response to numerous requests, click on the sermon title below to read a copy of Pastor Gail's sermon from Sunday, January 26th entitled [Speak Up...for Mercy](#). Or go to our website at www.atonementrochester.org. Under our 'Worship Info' menu, select 'Bulletins' and then click on the button labeled 'January 26, 2025 Sermon'.



[FAREWELL AND GODSPEED](#)

We offer our Farewell and Godspeed to Matt, Jess, Olivia, and David McGill as they transfer their membership to a Lutheran congregation nearer to their home. As they have been a blessing to our Atonement Family, may they be a blessing to others in their new faith community.

[LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER](#)

Draw near, O God, to all in need of help, protection, or healing this day, especially:

Judy Karsten

Refugees, immigrants, and migrants facing injustice and persecution,
LGBTQ community, people of color, women, people with disabilities,
and other minorities facing oppressive policies.

[CLICK ON OUR MUSIC LINKS](#)

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

[Arcangelo Corelli: Concerto in D Major Op. 6 No. 4, complete. Voices of Music; original instruments](#) Corelli was a bit like Chopin, specializing in writing for one instrument (in his case, the violin and other strings), and completely mastering its possibilities. In this Middle Baroque style, a little before Bach (who was a fan of Corelli's), the movements are shorter and simpler, full of simple but fun ideas.

[The Rumor of a Secret King - by John Mackey](#) John Mackey is an American composer who doesn't write much choral music (more band, I think). But here's a setting of a poem which talks about a king's coming in questioning terms. It must be really hard to pull off, but the BBC Singers (for whom the piece was written in 2017) make it sound easy.

Choir: our choir meets on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. for practice. All are welcome! See David McCarthy for details.

A LETTER FROM BISHOP LEE MILLER II, UPSTATE NY SYNOD, ELCA

Dear Church,

I write the letter below to you, but I also want to let you know that I will be sharing the letter publicly with print media outlets across our synod. Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel. Thank you for your proclamation in word and in deed. Thanks be to God who forms us in love, redeems us by grace, and sends us into the world activated by love to share in God's justice and joy.

*"The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."*

Psalm 103:8

*"But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us
⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ*
by grace you have been saved."*

Ephesians 2:4-6

Why is an invitation to mercy so controversial?

The Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde's sermon for the Inaugural Prayer Service focused on unity. She said striving for unity is a sacrificial act, one that requires seeing dignity in every individual. The bishop concluded with a request of the president, "to have mercy" when enacting the policies of his administration.

As bishop of the Upstate New York Synod of the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#) I support Bishop Budde in her call for mercy. We believe that the Divine Creator made human beings in their image. We believe that every person is created in this image of loving-kindness, with inherent value, dignity and worth, as stated in the Psalms. We believe God creates humanity in diversity, capable of sharing love and showing mercy to one another.

Our diversity encompasses a variety of ethnicities, cultures, identities, and expressions, including sex, gender, and sexuality. Our church is committed to advocating for and supporting laws, policies, and practices that respect diverse bodies, rejecting those which discriminate, objectify, or devalue.

Founded by immigrants, this church "advocates for and supports legal reforms, humane policies, and adequate services for migrants, immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers, especially those who experience intersecting forms of oppression." ([ELCA Faith, Sexism, and Justice](#)). Advocacy is what love for our neighbors looks like.

We join with people of faith to stand with, and show mercy to those who are afraid, working together for freedom, dignity, and equity for all.

The Rev. Lee M. Miller II, Bishop

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

THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

On Sunday, February 8th we will hold our annual *Tackle Hunger* event as we collect cans of soup and chili for the Pittsford Food Cupboard. Catch the spirit of giving by bringing in a can- or two -or more -for the next two Sundays, placing it on the table in the narthex.



OUTREACH/DISCIPLESHIP MEETING

Tuesday, February 4th at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room

The agenda will include planning a spring BBQ, Lenten season outreach project, and summer happenings. We hope to see you then!

FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

- 1 Adam Darder
- 8 Tom Thompson
- 10 Rev. Gail Swanson
- 12 Olivia McGill
Ann Patterson
- 14 John Hanson
- 22 Amy Loporcaro
- 24 Elaine Vangellow

Anniversaries

- 8 Karen Goodyear & John Kruidenier
- 24 Stew & Suzanne Stover



Looking Ahead

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Wednesday	29th	6:00 p.m.	Board of Ministries Meeting	Conference Room
Thursday	30th	7:00-8:30 p.m.	Choir Practice	Choir Loft
Sunday	2nd	9:30 a.m.	Worship	Sanctuary
	2nd	10:30 a.m.	ANNUAL Congregational MEETING	Reissig Hall
Tuesday	4th	1:00 p.m.	Outreach Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Thursday	6th	7:00-8:30 p.m.	Choir Practice	Choir Loft
Friday	7th	10:00 a.m.	First Friday Friends	Reissig Hall
Saturday	8th	9:30-11:30 a.m.	Small Wonders Preschool Open House	Founder's Hall

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 Church Office Open: 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on Tuesday ~ Wednesday ~ Thursday
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 The Rev. Gail Swanson, Pastor