

# Midweek Message

March 5, 2025

Volume 25, Issue 3

## WADE INTO THE WATERS OF LENT

*Today we begin our dive into the deep waters of Lent. Through the waters of baptism, we are reminded of this forty-day journey as we are washed again with the grace of God in Jesus, and blessed for the journey to the cross, the tomb, and the empty grave.*

*Dive in...and experience Lent this year “through the waters.”*

## WADE INTO WORSHIP

**ASH WEDNESDAY: March 5th at 7:00 p.m.**

Service of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes. Special music includes oboe and cello. Join us in-person in our sanctuary or livestream via our Facebook page.

**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT: Sunday, March 9th at 9:30 a.m.**

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

## WADE INTO WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER

**Wednesdays, March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9 at 7:00-7:30 p.m.**

Join us for renewal and reflection through ‘water-themed’ prayers, hymns, scripture reading, candle lighting, and a fountain of flowing water.

## WADE INTO OUR LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Journey through this holy season with a copy of our new Lenten Devotional booklet, *Life Renewed*, which provides devotions and prayer for each day from Ash Wednesday to Easter Vigil. Copies are available on the narthex table.

## WADE INTO BIBLE STUDY

**Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:45 a.m. during Adult Forum**

“Through the Waters of Grace” (Old Testament), led by Pastor Gail

**Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 a.m. during Adult Forum**

“Through the Waters of Grace” (New Testament), led by Pastor John Macholz

*“He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters.”*

*2 Samuel 22:17*

# Atonement Lutheran Church

## WADE INTO SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS

Help us help others by donating water and food items for distribution to homeless members of the Rochester community through PCHO-Person Centered Housing Options. We will be collecting items listed below through April 6<sup>th</sup>. Items can be placed on the table in the narthex.

- \* Small (8 oz.) bottles of water
- \* Individually packaged protein bars, trail mix, dried fruit, and nuts



## FIRST FRIDAY FRIENDS



At our upcoming First Friday Friends gathering on **March 7<sup>th</sup>**, we will be creating small canvasses (6x6) to be entered into the annual 6x6 Art Show/Sale sponsored by the Rochester Contemporary Art Center. Details of this event can be found at [www.roco6x6.org](http://www.roco6x6.org) or speak to Susan Touhsaent, former participant.

The canvasses will be provided, but you need to *bring the supplies you wish to use*; paint, yarn, fabric, paper, wood, glue, markers, buttons, trinkets, clay, etc. *Note - the only banned medium is glitter!* You will be able to enter 4 canvasses into the show, if you wish. Let's get creative!



## CLICK ON OUR MUSIC LINKS

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

"O Love" by Elaine Hagenberg It's sometimes a problem for composers when the text they're setting is too short. In this case, it's only two stanzas, but Elaine Hagenberg just repeats phrases in different orders, giving it quite an ecstatic feel.

Yuja Wang Prokofiev Toccata It would be tempting to just send out slow, pretty pieces all Lent. But it might get a bit samey. Here's a piano showpiece that's just fast and mostly loud, played with aplomb by Yuja Wang, one of the top pianists today.

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



## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

Don't forget to turn your clocks one hour ahead when you head for bed on Saturday.

## **CONFERENCE COLLABORATION EVENT**

***Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> 2:00-5:00 p.m.***

Incarnate Word Lutheran Church

597 East Avenue

Rochester NY 14607

## **Cultivating a GRACE Mindset: Collaboration**



*Collaboration*

for Christ's Sake

### **2025 PRE-ASSEMBLY IN-PERSON EVENTS**

**SIX opportunities to embody Collaboration for Christ's Sake with others in the Upstate NY Synod.**

*In response to requests for more time to be together, the Synod has created in-person events at six locations throughout Upstate New York this spring. Be inspired by local ministries, network with other attendees, learn together, and bring specific ideas back to your congregations!*

#### **Who is invited?**

- Everyone! We invite all lay and rostered folks to come together around collaboration, with other ELCA congregations, ecumenical and inter-faith partners, and area agencies.
- We would love to see teams from congregations, as well as rostered ministers, and lay voters for our online Synod Assembly.
- Do not feel restricted by your conference – all are welcome at any event!

#### **What can I bring?**

- Your insight and imagination!
- Non-perishable food and other pantry items for a local outreach ministry.

#### **What is happening at each event?**

- Fellowship
- Words from Bishop Miller
- Presentation from Local Collaborative Partner
- Open Forum on Collaborative Opportunities.
- Live-streamed Communion Service with Affirmations of Baptism and Vocation

## Come Worship With Us ... Everyone Is Welcome!

9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship *Or Livestream on our Facebook Page*  
 Website: [www.atonementrochester.org](http://www.atonementrochester.org) Facebook: [fb.com/atonementlutheranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/atonementlutheranchurch)

### ADULT FORUM SCHEDULE: SUNDAYS AT 10:30 A.M.

Date	Presenter(s)	Topic
Mar. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Danielle Novara	Director of Development & Communications at Renaissance Academy Charter School of the Arts
Mar. 16 <sup>th</sup>	David McCarthy	Luther's hymnals ( <i>yes, plural!</i> )
Mar. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Pastor Gail Swanson	Bible study: "Through the Waters of Grace" (Old Testament)
Mar. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor John Macholz	Bible study: "Through the Waters of Grace" (New Testament)
Apr. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Gail Swanson	Sing With All the Saints in Glory: Planning Your Funeral Service
Apr. 13 <sup>th</sup>	David Sommerstein	Roving reporter for North Country Public Radio

### Looking Ahead

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Wednesday	5th	7:00 p.m.	Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes	Sanctuary
Thursday	6th	7:00-8:30 p.m.	Choir Practice	Choir Loft
Friday	7th	10:00 a.m.	First Friday Friends	Reissig Hall
Sunday	9th	9:30 a.m.	Worship	Sanctuary
	9th	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Hour & Adult Forum	Reissig Hall
Wednesday	12th	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Evening Prayer Service	Sanctuary
Thursday	13th	7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice	Choir Loft

1900 Westfall Road, Rochester NY 14618

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

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The Rev. Gail Swanson, Pastor