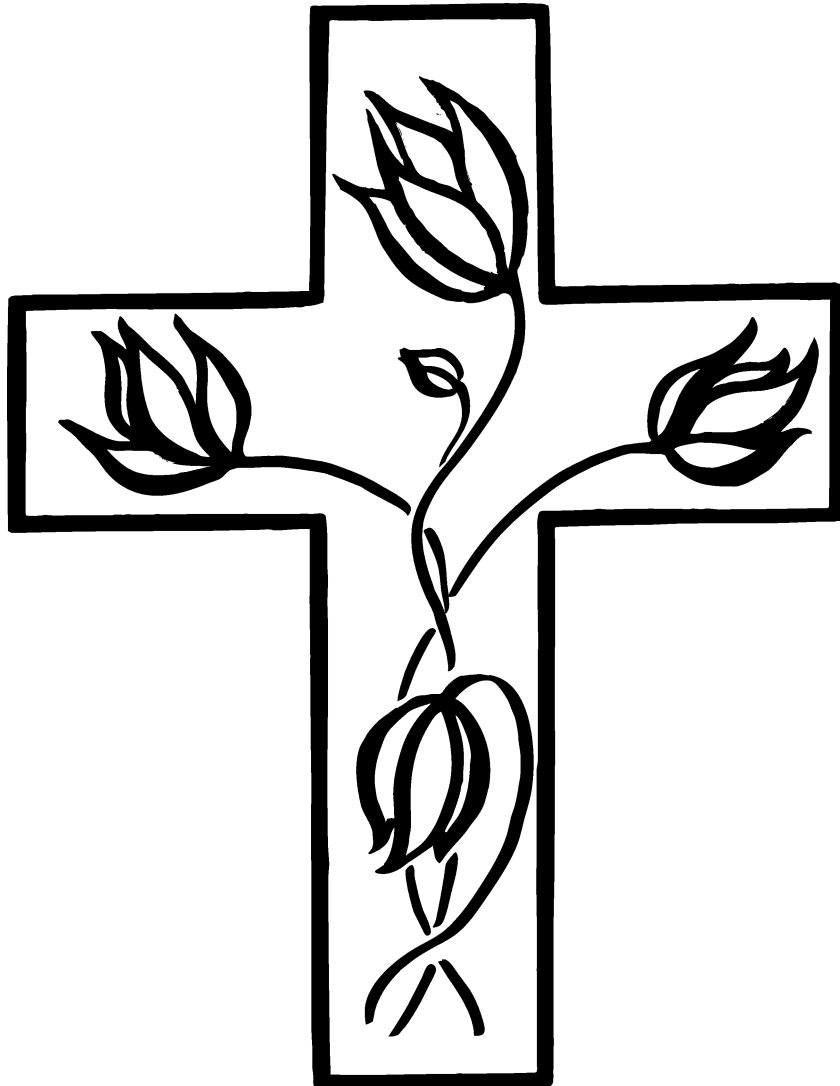


Ascension of Our Lord

May 17th, 2026

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

Herzlich Lieb

-B. Schmid

***WELCOME**

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of God the Father †, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Jesus tells us that repentance and forgiveness is to be offered in his name. Therefore, let us confess our sins to God, who assures us of new life through the power of Christ's redeeming love.

Living God,

We confess that our faith is sometimes weak, our love for others can be faint, our prayers are often timid, and our gratitude is frequently unconvincing. When we stand, looking toward heaven, yet feel far from you, you draw near in mercy to forgive us, and fill us with your power, through the grace of Jesus, our resurrected Savior. Amen.

Sisters and brothers, as Christ is our witness, God's power to pardon is immeasurable. Therefore, proclaim this good news to the ends of the earth: through the mercy of Christ, our sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

632

** Please stand as you are able*

***APOSTOLIC GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always. **And also with you.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God of glory,
your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 1:6-14

A reading from Acts

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

SECOND READING*1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**A reading from 1 Peter*

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATIONLord, Keep Us Steadfast*

517



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
 Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
 u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

***HOLY GOSPEL**

John 17:1-11

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

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

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

SERMON

***NICENE CREED**

Let us confess our faith, and the faith of the Church, with the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS

Let us unite our hearts in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need: God of resurrection, **Hear our prayer.**

As your Son promised to grant us whatever we ask in his name, grant that our ministry may testify to what we pray, showing forth your glory through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Come Sing Unto the Lord

-H. Purcell

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

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray;

God has given us the gift of Christ, risen and ascended for the life of the world. Therefore, let us offer our gifts in return, that others may know this glorious news. **Amen.**

MEAL

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: *Congregation:*




The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Presider: *Congregation:*



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: *Congregation:*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is



right to give God thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

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

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

190

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

.... We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*LORD'S PRAYER

With all the saints in everlasting light, we 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



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, 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**

Gracious God,

In you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love through service, mercy, and compassion, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

May the glory of God † fill you with praise,
The beauty of Christ strengthen you in service,
And the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace. **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN**

The Head That Once Was Crowned

432

***DISMISSAL**

Go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Andante religioso

-E. MacDowell

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Assisting Minister	Kathy Wilkinson
Usher	Skip Waterstreet
Livestream Recorder.....	Andrew Spillane
Offering Counters	John Kruidenier, Tom Thompson
Altar Care	Judy Lazenby
Fellowship Host	<i>No Volunteer</i>

WELCOME

In the spirit of #churchtogether, Rev. Keith Patterson,
Episcopal priest, presides at God's table today
with the thanks of, and authorization by, the bishop of the
Upstate New York Synod.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE AND PRUNE

****TODAY* following worship***

Join us after worship for a time of outdoor gardening and weeding around the church property to spruce up our lawns. Refuse bags and refreshments will be provided!

UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORY NOW AVAILABLE

You will find updated Church Directories on the narthex table.

Please throw away your old Directories to avoid confusion.

THIS SATURDAY: CHICKEN BBQ

Saturday, May 23rd from 4:00 p.m. until sold out

You can skip cooking dinner! Come to our easy, drive-through Chicken Barbecue and get a full, delicious meal of BBQ chicken, along with corn, broccoli salad, a roll with butter, and a cookie for dessert. The cost is just \$15 per meal, and all proceeds will benefit the Brighton Habitat Coalition of Churches. Volunteers are needed to help with this event. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the narthex.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW BULLETIN BOARD: SHARE YOUR PHOTOS!

All Things Bright & Beautiful

We're asking all pet owners and pet lovers to share a photo of their furry, finny, amphibian, or feathered friends! You can **bring a photo in to post on the board**. Please be sure to use a small index card –there are some on the board to use– with your pet's name and who their 'parents' are, or even a fun fact about your pet or something they like to do. We can't wait to see the board filled with your photos!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHO DO I ASK?

During this time of adjustment and transition, questions are sure to arise. Here is a list of people to contact if you have any questions. Phone numbers and Email addresses can be found in the updated Church Directory; copies are available on the narthex table.

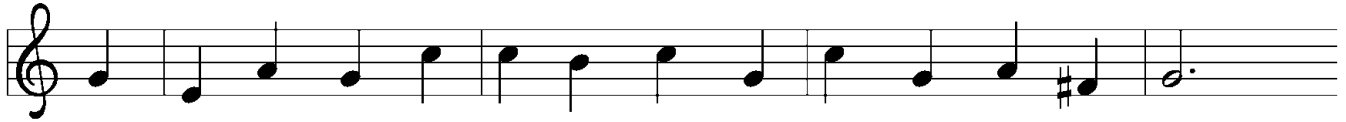
- Pastoral Care: Pastor Doug Stewart
- Worship and Music questions: David McCarthy
- Building and property questions: Tom Thompson
- Cleaning Services questions: Jean Seager
- Midweek Message, bulletins, and office matters: Becky Wiesmore
- Leadership and oversight: Joanne Scanlon or Margy Peet
- Mutual Ministry Committee: This is a “listening post” for concerns or conflicts during this time of transition and beyond. Committee members can offer support through affirming, listening, clarifying, advising, and making recommendations as needed for the well-being of the current pastor, staff, and congregation members.

Eric Domroes ~ Amy Irish ~ Nan Westervelt

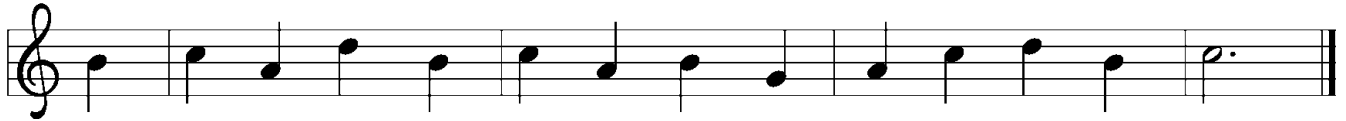
GREEN TIP

Join ColorBrightonGreen and master gardener John Nelson to learn about gardening with native plants. Thursday, June 4 at 6:30pm at the Brighton Library or online. For the zoom link: <https://bml.libcal.com/event/16472740>

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



- 1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
- 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
- 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
- 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

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Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart



1 Lord, thee I love with all my heart; I pray thee, ne'er from me de-part;
2 Yea, Lord, thine own rich boun-ty gave my bod - y, soul, and all I have
3 Lord, let at last thine an-gels come, to A-br'ham's bos-om bear me home,



with ten-der mer-cy cheer me. Earth has no plea-sure I would share,
in this poor life of la - bor. Lord, grant that I in ev - 'ry place
that I may die un-fear - ing; and in its nar - row cham-ber keep



yea, heav'n it - self were void and bare if thou, Lord, were not near me.
may glo - ri - fy thy lav - ish grace and serve and help my neigh - bor.
my bod - y safe in peace-ful sleep un - til thy re - ap - pear - ing.



And should my heart for sor-row break, my trust in thee can noth-ing shake.
Let no false teach-ing me be-guile, let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.
And then from death a-wak-en me, that these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; thy pre - cious
Give strength and pa - tience un - to me to bear my
O Son of God, thy glo - rious face, my Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and Lord,
cross and fol - low thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and Lord,
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at - tend,



my God and Lord, for - sake me not! I trust thy word.
my God and Lord, in death thy com - fort still af - ford.
my prayer at - tend, and I will praise thee with - out end!

The Head That Once Was Crowned



- 1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;
- 2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords is his by sov-'reign right,
- 3 The joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low
- 4 To them the cross, with all its shame, with all its grace, is giv'n;



a roy - al di - a - dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.
the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heav'n's e - ter - nal light.
to whom he man - i - fests his love, and grants his name to know;
their name, an ev - er - last - ing name, their joy, the joy of heav'n.

Atonement Lutheran Church

Transitional Pastor Doug Stewart

Email: daugstewart@incarnatewordelca.org

Office: (585) 442-1018

Cell : (585) 319-8848

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!

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."

-John 3:16



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.**