



Midweek Message

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, October 24th at 9:30 a.m. In-person and Livestream Worship
In the Kingdom of God, poor widows are wealthy and rich scribes are sent away empty. How do we, as followers of Christ, balance spiritual and material riches in our own lives?

YOU ARE INVITED: PARENTS OF CHILDREN & YOUTH

Sunday, October 24th

4:00 p.m. via Zoom*: a conversation about an Outdoor Christmas Pageant for 2021, and Sunday School in 2022.



4:45 p.m. via Zoom*: Information about our Confirmation Program in 2022 for our 6th and 7th graders.

**The Zoom link will be Emailed to families this Saturday, October 23rd. We hope you can join our conversation!*

B & B BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday, Oct. 27th at 11:00 a.m. in Reissig Hall

Let's re-connect with God's Word, and each other! Bring a Bible and a beverage and join Pastor Gail for an informal Bible study. *Topic: 'Grieve Well'*

DONATE A BELL FOR OUR BELL BANNER



Our Bell Banner will be carried into worship on All Saint's Sunday (Nov. 7th) in remembrance of the life and witness of the saints who now live in everlasting glory.

If you would like to donate a small glass, ceramic, or metal bell (1-2 inches in size) in memory of a loved one, please bring it to the church office by Oct. 31st and fill out a Memorial Bell Form.



Atonement Lutheran Church

All Are Welcome

In-person worship in our Sanctuary, or Livestream worship via our Atonement Facebook page.

Join us for music and hymns, scripture, a sermon, prayers, and a Children's Moment.

You can follow us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. and for special services by going to our Atonement Facebook page at [fb.com/atonementlutheranchurch/](https://www.facebook.com/atonementlutheranchurch/)

A worship bulletin and hymns will be Emailed to our Atonement families, and posted weekly on our web site.

Stewardship

Thought

When two or three are gathered... always take an offering.

Habitat Pies

Sale Cancelled

Regretfully, due to staff shortage, Kelly's Apple Farm will not be supplying pies for the Habitat Thanksgiving Pie Sale this year. We hope to continue this tradition in 2022. We apologize for any inconvenience.

ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP DRIVE

Stewardship is... a way of life, and a way of discipleship, that leads us to become more grateful, more thankful, more generous, more loving, and more hopeful people.

We ask that you consider a timely and generous gift for this year's Stewardship Drive. Pledge cards will be mailed this week to our Atonement family; extra pledge cards are available in the narthex.

Please return your completed pledge card (via mail or drop off) to the church office by Sunday, November 7th.

Thank you... as we lift up our living, and our giving, to God.



MONEY TALK



Jesus did not shy away
From things that cause us shame,
The tools of bondage and conditions
That fracture our moral imagination.

Jesus spoke of money and debt
Without a hint of shy apology,
Because he came to release the captive,
To proclaim good news to the poor.

Jesus told stories of holy generosity
That seemed extravagant, even wasteful,
Because they didn't worry about defining fair,
Instead rejoicing in the surprise of enough.

-Meta Herrick Carlson

CLICK ON OUR MUSIC LINKS!

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

[What Wondrous Love](#) The old American folk tune "Wondrous Love" is known by most church-goers, I think. It's an odd tune, and it's not really clear where the central note (the "tonic") is, or if it's even major or minor. From a composer's point of view, it's a good one to arrange because being a little amorphous it works well in canon (where one part echoes another), like in this simple arrangement, performed beautifully by the St. Olaf choir.

[Rêverie](#) Claude Debussy was definitely not conventionally religious, but he wrote a lot of music that's very good for getting into a reflective, maybe even prayerful, mood. This piece isn't about anything in particular; I just like the rocking accompaniment, and the aimless little tune that comes in after a few seconds. I was reminded of this piece by the one above, as Debussy's melodies show some influence from ancient traditions, especially plainchant, and "Wondrous Love" would have been right up his alley.

BETTER TOGETHER

By Pastor Gail Swanson

On October 10th, our congregation had the opportunity to gather in-person and via Facebook Chat for a conversation around the topic “We Are Better Together.” The question was asked: “When you consider the changing needs of our congregation and our world, what are YOUR thoughts and ideas for how we can be better connected to each other; and better connected to Atonement?” Here are some of the responses.

Worship:

- Moving forward, will online worship be a temporary or permanent feature of Sunday morning gathering? What are the implications of continuing or discontinuing livestreaming our service?
- Can we offer opportunities during worship for a two-way interaction with those viewing online?
- Expand music opportunities in worship moving forward.
- Consider the potential of radio broadcast.
- Though there is concern over the smaller numbers of in-person and on-line worshippers, we are a holy force and a shining light in the world; doing things differently in small ways. And God is with us.

Congregational Outreach:

- Establish a focus on ways to be a “Healthy Community” as individuals and as a congregation.
- Increase opportunities for fellowship with our church family and those who may feel separated from Atonement. *Suggestions:* Online Coffee Hour after worship; connect with absent members through phone calls/cards/mailings.
- Christmas Caroling to older/homebound members.
- Engage with those who are “Sunday morning visitors” online.
- Continue to find ways to learn where our congregation is-how are they worshipping? What are their needs?
- Be attentive in asking *Why* Questions. (Ask the question ‘why?’ five times!)

Concerns:

- Pastors, church leaders, and congregations are struggling and disheartened by the continuing pandemic and its effects on life/health/work/school/church.
- How have church finances been impacted during this pandemic?
- Families with children and youth are largely absent from in-person worship or involvement with charting a path forward for Christian Education. Their youthful energy and intergenerational connection is truly missed.
- How can we offer support to our Atonement families with children and youth still waiting for vaccines and overburdened with online learning?
- Worship is a corporate experience. How are we adapting, and what will the impact be with a greatly reduced number of Sunday morning volunteers?

Not only are these and other responses helpful and beneficial, but we invite you to share additional ideas or concerns with our Board Members and Pastor Gail, who will be continuing this conversation to see where it might lead. Some of these ideas will be implemented as quickly as possible. Others will need more conversation and discernment. Yet we need to keep on asking questions, and keep on listening to the voices of our Atonement family. Because we are better together.

God of Healing

And Mercy

Send renewed health to all who are sick and recovering, especially Susan Touhsaent and Florence Wright;
Look with compassion on those who live with chronic pain or anxiety;
And be with those whose troubles are known only to you.
Amen.

Atonement

Lutheran Church

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Worship

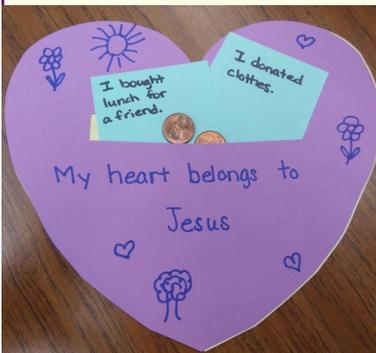
9:30 a.m. Sundays
in our Sanctuary

Livestream Worship

9:30 a.m. Sundays via the
Atonement Facebook page.

Church Office Hours

9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday



KIDS' PAGE: WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?

Stewardship/stewardship/Noun:

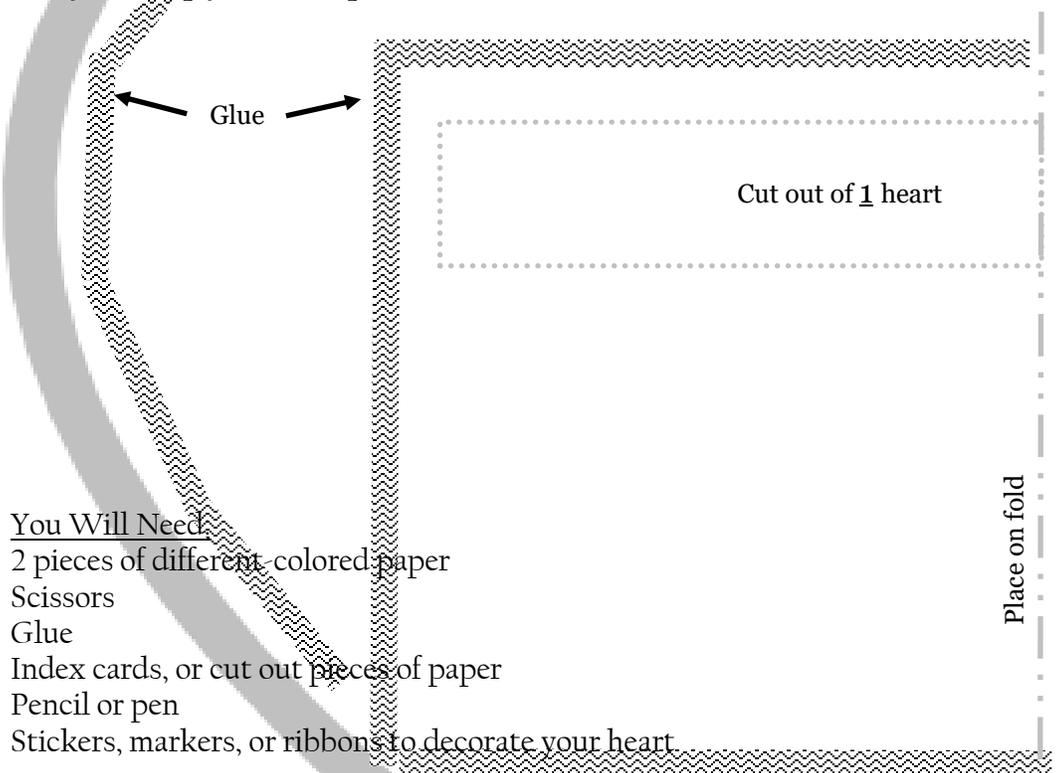
the job of supervising or taking care of something

"The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." -2 Corinthians 9:6-7

In other words, if you don't take time to listen to someone, or only use your talent for yourself, or never share the things you have, then you are not being a good steward for God's world. All members of the Church are stewards; God has asked us to take care of the Church, our world, and each other.

HEART POCKET CRAFT

A tithe is an offering (donation) of 10%. For example, if you have ten pennies, then giving 1 of them as a tithe. If you say prayers, say one of them for someone else. If you have a talent, offer to help teach others or do a job for someone else. Can you fill up your heart pocket with tithes?



You Will Need:

- 2 pieces of different colored paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Index cards, or cut out pieces of paper
- Pencil or pen
- Stickers, markers, or ribbons to decorate your heart

Instructions:

- Fold your two pieces of paper in half. Place the template on this page, with the dashed edge on the folds, on your paper. Cut out around the edges. You now have 2 hearts, folded in half.
- Take 1 of the hearts, and cut out the small rectangle shape.
- Unfold the hearts.
- Glue around the edges of your hearts, and around a square in the middle.
- When you stick them together, you will have a 'pocket' in the middle of your heart.
- Write "My heart belongs to Jesus" on your pocket and decorate it.
- Fill your heart pocket with coins to donate, written prayers, or write down things you have done for others to be a good steward.