



**Come  
to  
terms  
quickly.**

Matthew 5:25

ATONEMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ONEONTA, NY

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
HARTWICK SEMINARY, NY

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH  
LAURENS, NY

The Rev. Paul R. Messner, S.T.S., Pastor  
The Rev. Robert Mansbach, Pastor Emeritus

+ **Sixth Sunday after Epiphany** +  
(WOV)-Service of Word & Prayer  
February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

(\* = stand as you are able; LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship-green book;  
+ = hymn requests; WOV = With One Voice Hymnal-blue book)

## GATHERING

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Parish News**

**Gathering Song**

*God Is Here!*

WOV #719

**\*Greeting + Dialogue**

*In the Beginning . . .*

pg. 46

**\*Scripture Song**

*Salvation Belongs (W st 1, M st 2)*

pg. 47

**First Prayer** (*7th Century Gelasian, revised*)

**O Lord, graciously hear the requests of your people. May we who are afflicted for our sins / be mercifully relieved for the sake of your glory / to find new life through the love of Jesus Christ, your Son. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Musical Offering**

## WORD

**First Lesson: Deut. 30:15-20** A lesson from Deuteronomy

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. [16] If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. [17] But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, [18] I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. [19] I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, [20] loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

**Psalmody: 119:1-8** (Tones: Single 1 or Double 31)

Happy are those whose / way is blameless,\*

who walk in the law / of the Lord.

**Happy are those who keep / his decrees,\***

**who seek him with / their whole heart,**  
who also / do no wrong,\*  
but walk / in his ways.

**You have command- / ed your precepts\*  
to be kept dil- / igently.**

O that my ways / may be steadfast\*  
in keep- / ing your statutes!

**Then I shall not be / put to shame,\*  
having my eyes fixed on all / your commandments.**

I will praise you with an / upright heart,\*  
when I learn your / righteous ordinances.

**I will ob- / serve your statutes;\*  
do not utter- / ly forsake me.**

**Glory to the Father, and / to the Son,\* and to the / Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the begin- / ning, is now,\* and will be forev- / er.**

**Amen.**

**Second Lesson: 1 Cor. 3:1-9** A lesson from First Corinthians:

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. [2] I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, [3] for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? [4] For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

[5] What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. [6] I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. [7] So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. [8] The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. [9] For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

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

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

*Word of Life Jesus Christ  
Glory to you, O Lord*

WOV pg. 48

**\*Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37**

"You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' [22] But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. [23] So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something

against you, [24] leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. [25] Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. [26] Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. [27] "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' [28] But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. [29] If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. [30] And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

[31] "It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' [32] But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

[33] "Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' [34] But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, [35] or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. [36] And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. [37] Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**\* Gospel Response**

*Praise to you, O Christ*

**Children's Sermon/Homily**

Deb Lawyer (A/St.M)  
Pastor Paul Messner (E/St.J)

**\*Hymn of the Day**

*We Are Marching in the Light of God*

WOV #650

**\*Sharing the Peace**

**RESPONSE to the WORD**

**\*Apostles' Creed**

WOV pg. 49

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

WOV pg. 49-50

**Offering**

**\*Offertory**

*Glory to you God (Stanza 1)*

WOV pg.50

**\* Offertory Prayer:**

WOV pg. 51

O Lord, we have experienced a fraction of the glory of your vast creation. Accept our offerings as a prayer to discover a better life for all, that we may have new reasons to praise you for your power and love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**\*Prayers of the Church**

## **First Intercession:**

Eternal God, your ways are beyond us so that we mostly fail to understand. You taught your law to explain how love should make us live, but we are weak and fear the loss of what we choose. Nevertheless, we thank you for all that your Jesus taught before he died for us: the rule of love by grace for righteousness through faith to live in the kingdom he brings to us. In him we not only have an example of your love in practice, but reason to worship you forever for such a great redemption. Increase the glory of your love by helping us to be taken up into it by its power so that we also will not pass away but endure with you.

**\*Lord's Prayer**

pg. 52

## **SENDING**

**\*Blessing**

pg. 53

**\*Recessional Hymn**

*Be Thou My Vision*

WOV #776

**Dismissal**

Go in Peace, Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

## **+ Pastors Pericope Paragraph 2/12**

The sermon on the mount continues in our Sunday Gospel readings: "You have heard that it was said..." - anger, faithlessness, divorce, false witness and swearing - all these realities come under Jesus' critique. Jesus' contrast between the past and His radical reframing of the Law (Torah) intends to get us back to life as God intended it (Gospel). The Israelites are given a choice by Moses to choose life and prosperity over death and adversity. "Loving the Lord your God, obeying Him, and holding fast to Him, for that means life to you...", is the climax of Deuteronomy's reaffirmation of Israel's covenant with YHWH (1<sup>st</sup> Lesson). We remain infants in the faith as long as we divide ourselves into factions. Rather we must remember "we are God's servants, working together..." (2d lesson).

## **Weekly Worship Practice:**

When hymns have more than 3 or 4 stanzas we often employ a "varied singing" approach, so that not all stanzas are sung by everyone. This can be fun and helps us to hear and "sing" hymns differently (even when we're not singing but listening as we follow the text-the story- the poetry of the hymn). Singing in this antiphonal way (men/women; organ side/pulpit side, etc.) helps us to hear a hymn in a new way. When we are asked to sing in "harmony" most of us will sing the melody tune, but others the alto, tenor and bass parts so we have a nice 4 part harmony. If you have internet access, Google "singing with Lutherans" by Garrison Keillor to re-learn why we are often called "The Singing Church"

**In the OCLP We Practice The "Reserved Sacrament".** When laity “preside” at Holy Communion, they will use elements (bread and wine) previously consecrated by Pr. Paul, or another ordained pastor, at a prior worship service. Reserved elements are kept in an ambry for subsequent use in worship and distribution to the sick and shut-ins.

**All baptized Christians are welcome to God's Table of Grace.** All the baptized may commune in the OCLP with no age restriction; baptized children may begin communing after parents have consulted with Pastor. Those not yet communing of any age and for any reason may come forward to receive a verbal blessing. Indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest. The Lutheran Church believes, teaches and confesses that in, with and through the elements of bread and wine, Our Lord gives us His true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sin and the salvation of our lives. Anyone who has a legitimate impediment to receiving either element of the meal may receive in one kind only (bread or wine) and trust the Lord's grace that they are receiving full communion. Members, please fill out a “Voice From the Pew” folder to record your communion at least once a year. This is a constitutional requirement to determine our "Active" Voting” membership roster.

Thank You.

Serving Today	Atonement	Evangelical	St. Matthew
Asst. Minister			Dave Forbes
Comm. Asst.			
Lector	Christine Brown	Len P	Rod Klafehn
Cantor	Christine Brown		
Altar Care	Eli England	Carol B & Dorothy	
Ushers/Greeters	John M & Victor G	Lane	
Coffee Hour			
Acolyte	Ethan Temming		
Sound System		Brunner	
Bell Ringer			
Church Cleaner			

+ + +

+OCLP+

We welcome Deb Lawyer to lead worship at Atonement and St. Matthew.

Next Sunday Sandy Shear will lead worship at Evangelical and St. John.

### Readings Through This Week

See website: <https://www.otsegocountylutheranparish.com>

## +Prayers of the Church+

(Please take this prayer list home and use with your personal devotion time)

### **+Atonement+**

For healing in body, mind and spirit in our own congregation: Joan Lambiaso, John Laitsch, Rebecca Pollack (Joan Carman), Juan Perez (D. Sherrill), Bridgette Shepardson (Thompson), Rene Prins, Heather Mendoza, Grace & Chuck Dietzman, Rita Nelson, Thoranne Winkler, Monica Koulis (Winkler), TJ Dwyer (Sherrill), Barbara Loitsch, Sue (M. Messner); Carleen (M. Messner), Valerie England, Alice Burdick, Jennifer Carman, Jaelen (M Messner), Lisa Cooper (Syvertsen), Martha Messner, Penny Baumann, Frank Bagnardi (Mansbach), Lucy (Richardson), Barbara Gee, Joan Carman

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Thoranne & Tony Winkler

For young adult: Tom King

### **+Evangelical+**

For healing in body, mind and spirit in our own congregation: Kathi Yule (C. Butts), Yvonne Cornell, Alex Reynolds (C. Butts), Marilyn Urbiss (Burda), Roz Winne (C. Butts), Janet Underwood (Burda), Gloria Hendricks, Susan Howard, John & Pam Miller, David Glynn, Bill Jacobson (D. Brown), Kenny Medor (Butts), Joan Ackerman (Butts), Chuck Scorzafava, Martha Messner, Ansley (Butts)

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Len & Diann Price

For Young Adult: Alex Reynolds

### **+St. Matthew+**

For healing in body, mind and spirit in our own congregation: Scott Forbes, Tina Keator, Sherrie Roy (Lawyer), Barbara Gesile (Lapp), Gina Pywar, Melissa McLaughlin (S. Eggers), Triston (Hahn), Cathy Walsh (Stevens), Mary Hartmann (Nelson), Owen Basher (Marsh), Rennie Brown (Janet), Jason Hahn, Kathy & Rich Parsons, Maureen McAndrew (Greenleaf), Mike McAndrew (Greenleaf), Bernie Sitts Jr. (Klafehn), Jack Anthony (Stevens), Troy Lutz (Bush), Alan Peeters, Isabell Tophoven, Bev Lapp, Corinne Pollak, James Wikoff (Hulbert), Wayne Bush Sr (Bush), Vicky Vesely (Bush), Martha Messner, Helmut Boehl, Frank Wood, Ray Gilmore (Winslow)

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Jo-Ann & Ed Winslow

For Young Adult: Gabrielle Bush

**+Beyond the Parish+**

For healing in body, mind and spirit: Jackie Hesse (Lawyer), Rosemary Pepe (Eggers), Dorothy Fernandez, (Eggers), Dick Armstrong, Helga Lange (Winkler), Gina Utter (Thompson), Cathy Deleski (Thompson), Alicia Biesler (Thompson), Margie Ortega (Thompson), Amy Cooper (Messner), Pr Lynn Ash, Cathy Carroll Ziemba (Messner), Joanne Wilms (Mansbach), Jean Ercole (Crouthamel), Deacon Tom Collins, George Robert, those in hospice care or living in long-term care facilities. Those dealing with Covid, cancer, auto-immune diseases, mental illness, addictions and other debilitating conditions

**For those preparing for marriage:** Ryan Manning & Jackie Sorensen

**For those celebrating childbirth:** Brendan & Staci Cahill on the birth of Nora May

**For those in the military, law enforcement and emergency services:** The men & women of the FBI

**In the Foothills Conference:** St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Laurens (Pr. Paul Messner)

**Natural/Man-made Disasters:** Victims of drought in Ethiopia & Afghanistan; victims of violence in our cities, suburbs and rural communities, those struggling with economic conditions, food insecurity, and homelessness; victims of the earthquake in Turkey & Syria

**National/ International Concerns:** For all refugees and migrants and those contending with the continuing crisis on our southern border, the people of Ukraine, Russia, China, Iran, Turkey, & Syria; John Messner traveling to Nairobi, Kenya for work

**+Blessed are the Dead+  
Who Die in the Lord**

+ Mary Anne Ross +  
(1943 – 2023)

+ Tony Drago +  
(1923 – 2023)

+ Carolyn Riese Whitley +  
(1934 – 2023)

+ Todd Droegmiller +  
(1981 – 2023)  
(Messner)

**+ Parish News and Notes +**

**+ A special welcome to all visitors, friends and guests.** Please fill out a Voice from the Pew folder and sign our Guest Book. Please include your complete mailing, e-mail address, and phone number. If you are new to the community or are looking for a Church Home, please let us know how we can be of service and consider our Christian family your own.

**Attendance & Offering Statistics**

Date	Atonement	Evangelical	St. Matthew	St. John
2/5	22/ 124	9/ 54	22/ 136	5/ 34
**	<b>(\$1,290)</b>	<b>(\$705)</b>	<b>(\$1,309)</b>	
2/8	1/ 6	1/ 6	9/ 57	

**\*\* Needed to meet weekly expenses**

**+ OCLP +**

**+OCLP**

Please check your mailbox anytime you are in the building. Thanks!  
Remember to sign in for attendance and contact tracing. Thank you

**+Offering Envelopes 2023**

Our envelope company has had production issues and so our envelopes still have not come. Please use any envelope to place your offerings in the plate at the door, especially if it is cash, and put your name on it. St. Matthew is considering not having church envelopes in the future. You may also consider giving electronically through your bank as others do. Thanks!

+All active members and friends should normally be receiving our weekly bulletin via email before Sunday each week. If you are not please let the OCLP office or Pastor Paul know. Be sure we have your current email address. TY! If you'd like the bulletin mailed to you because you cannot come to worship and don't have email, or know someone in that situation, let us know the name(s) and mailing address(es). If you wish to add someone to this mailing list, let us know that, too!

+ Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 2/22. Bring in your palm branches and crosses by Shrove Tuesday, 2/21.

+OOPS! The Lent/ Holy Week/ Easter Calendar lists Easter as April 17<sup>th</sup>. WRONG! It's April 9<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to those who caught our error!

+Have you signed up to host coffee hour? Check the bulletin board!

+Two earthquakes of severe magnitude have devastated southern Turkey & northern Syria. To assist with relief efforts anytime please use a Lutheran Disaster Response envelope. Make a check out to your congregation and designate LDR or Lutheran World Relief on the memo line.

+”Back to Basics” class for new and renewing church members is coming! Stay tuned. It’s for everyone!

**+ THIS WEEK +**

(see the Lent/ Holy Week/ Easter Calendar)

+Today Sunday 2/12

Service of Word & Prayer

Evangelical annual meeting follows worship

Souper-bowl cash collection for local food pantries

+Wednesday Services:

7:30am St. Matthew

Noon Evangelical

7:00pm Atonement

11:00am Clergy Bible Study, Christ Church, Cooperstown

1:00pm Pr. Paul to Jail Ministry, Cooperstown

+Thursday 2/16

10:30am Foothills Ministerium

4:00pm Food Distribution, St. Matthew

6:30pm OCLP Men’s Dinner @ Pizza Land, Oneida St. Oneonta (RSVP to Pr. Paul)

**+ COMING UP +**

+Next Sunday 2/19

Atonement Council follows worship

Installation of St. Matthew & Atonement Council and officers

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 2/22

Lenten Study: “The Chosen” video series

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## Shrove Tuesday @ Atonement FOR THE PARISH

February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 6:00pm/ 7pm “Burial of the Alleluia” service

*MARDI Gras (Fat Tuesday) to the French; Fastnacht (the night before the fast) to the Germans; Carnivale (Meat Go!) to the Spanish, Portuguese, Brazilians, and Hispanics; Shrove Tuesday (Shriving/Confession before Lent) to the English-it goes by many names but the basic theme is the same: before the Lenten season of self-examination, penitence, fasting and a deepening of discipleship which begins the next day, Ash Wednesday, the Advent/Christmas/Epiphany cycle of the Church Year ends with a bang! We have one last feast before the fasting time to rid our homes of all the “leftovers” of pastries and sweetbreads, cookies and fat food; a time to begin our spiritual spring cleaning.*

In our parish we will gather this year at Atonement at 6:00PM on February 21<sup>st</sup> for a traditional **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**. Bring all the sweetest, luscious goodies you can. Help with set up and clean-up will be appreciated. A free will offering will be taken to assist with any expenses. Join us and invite your friends and neighbors.

After supper we'll join in a simple “Burial of the Alleluia” service-no “alleluias” are sung at worship during Lent.

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### SHROVE TUESDAY SIGN UP FORM

I/We will be coming to the Pancake Supper @ Atonement, 2/21/23

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ # coming \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ PH# \_\_\_\_\_

I/We can (*check all that apply*)

Help with set up \_\_\_\_\_ Help with clean up \_\_\_\_\_

Provide: Butter \_\_\_\_\_ Syrup \_\_\_\_\_ Juice \_\_\_\_\_ Milk \_\_\_\_\_

Coffee/Tea/Hot Chocolate \_\_\_\_\_ Bacon/Sausage \_\_\_\_\_ Applesauce \_\_\_\_\_

Make Pancakes \_\_\_\_\_ Provide griddle \_\_\_\_\_

## **Otsego Country Lutheran Parish**

Lutheran Church of the Atonement, Oneonta, NY

Sunday Worship 10:30 am (Holy Communion 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays + festivals)

John Mushtare: President

Leslie Bauer: Organist

Barbara Loitsch: Choir Director

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hartwick Seminary, NY

Sunday Worship 9:15 am (Holy Communion 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays + festivals)

Tami Pelcer: President

Donna Brown: Organist

St. John Lutheran Church, West Burlington, NY

Sunday Worship 11:15 am (Holy Communion 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays + festivals)

Paul Hecker: President

Ethel Mills: Accompanist

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Laurens, NY

Sunday Worship 8:30 am (Holy Communion 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays + festivals)

Ed Winslow: President

Janet Brown: Organist

Parish Office: One Center Street, Oneonta, NY

Tel: 607-432-6852 E-mail: [OCLP\\_NY@outlook.com](mailto:OCLP_NY@outlook.com)

Office Manager: Kenneth Sliviak

Pastor: Paul R. Messner, 607-287-4534

[prpaul\\_theoinst@hotmail.com](mailto:prpaul_theoinst@hotmail.com)

(texting is often the most effective way to reach pastor)

Services of Healing are usually held on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of a month

<http://facebook.com/oclpny/>

<http://otsegocountylutheranparish.com>

Any news/ announcements/ or other information that you wish to have included in the weekly service bulletin must be received by Pr. Paul no later than 9am on Thursday of that week. Items received after this time cannot be guaranteed to appear in that week's bulletin.

Items should be emailed to the OCLP office and appear exactly as you wish them to in the bulletin.