



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

+ **Fifth Sunday of Easter** +
Holy Communion (LBW Setting 1)
May 7th, 2023

(* = Stand as you are able; LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship-green book)

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Parish News

* **Entrance Hymn**

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

LBW #135

* **Apostolic Greeting & Kyrie**

pg. 57

* **Hymn of Praise:**

This is the Feast (1-W, 2-M)

pg. 60

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

O God, you shape the minds of the faithful into one will. May all your people love what you propose / and desire what you promise. Then regardless of the stormy tossing of this life, our hearts will come to anchor where true joys are found, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

First Lesson: Acts 7:55-60 A lesson from Acts:

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. [56] "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" [57] But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. [58] Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. [59] While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." [60] Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

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

Psalmody: 31:1-5, 15-16 (tones 3-single; 8-double)

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be / put to shame;*

in your righteousness de- / liver me.

Incline your / ear to me;*

rescue me / speedily.

Be a rock of ref- / uge for me;*

a strong fort- / ress to save me.

You are indeed my rock / and my fortress;*

for your name's sake lead / me and guide me,

take me out of the net that is hid- / den for me;*

for you / are my refuge.

Into your hand I com- / mit my spirit;*

you have redeemed me, O Lord, / faithful God.

My times are / in your hand;*

deliver me from the hand of my enemies and / persecutors.

Let your face shine up- / on your servant;*

save me in your / steadfast love.

Glory to the Father, and / to the Son,* and to the / Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginn- / ing, is now,* and will be forev- / er. Amen.

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10 A Lesson from First Peter:

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation-- [3] if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

[4] Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and [5] like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. [6] For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone,

a cornerstone chosen and precious;

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

[7] To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected

has become the very head of the corner,"

[8] and "A stone that makes them stumble,

and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. [9] But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

[10] Once you were not a people,

but now you are God's people;

once you had not received mercy,

but now you have received mercy.

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

* **Alleluia Verse**

* **Gospel Acclamation**

Glory to you, O Lord.

pg. 63

pg. 63

Holy Gospel: John 14:1-14

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. [2] In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. [4] And you know the way to the place where I am going." [5] Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we

know the way?" [6] Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. [7] If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

[8] Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." [9] Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? [10] Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. [11] Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. [12] Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. [13] I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. [14] If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

Pr. Paul Messner (A/ St. M)

ELCA Deacon (Ret.) Sandy Shear (E/ St. J)

* Hymn of the Day

Make Songs of Joy

LBW #150

RESPONSE

* Nicene Creed

pg. 64

* Prayers of the Church

pg. 65

First Intercession:

Gracious Father, we thank you for sending your son to show us the way to come to you; he asked us to simply believe and trust your love. He made you visible to us by many mighty works.

Comfort us with your eternal promise by helping us to recognize that you continue your glorious work through us.

* Sharing the Peace of the Lord

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

Musical Offering

* Presentation of Gifts and Offertory

Let the Vineyards

pg. 66

* Offertory Prayer

Father in heaven, inspire us to bring faithful offerings / and to love and serve you in all your creatures. Free us from the idolatry and futility of self / that we may begin to profit through what you have begun to do. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

- * **Great Thanksgiving/Dialog** pg. 68-71
 Preface & Sanctus *Holy, Holy, Holy*
 * **Eucharistic Prayer & Lord's Prayer** pg. 69/ pew card
 Agnus Dei *Lamb of God* pg. 72

Distribution Hymns LBW #214, 213, 200

- * **Post Communion Blessing & Canticle** *Thank the Lord . . .* pg. 72
* **Post Communion Prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ, you invite us to eat and drink together / so we may see that we all receive our life from you. Help us to recognize your power at work in each other / that we may come to love those who share in your grace. We bless you now and evermore. **Amen.**

SENDING

- * **Benediction** pg. 74
* **Recessional Hymn** *The Day of Resurrection* (Tune: Lancashire) LBW #141
* **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Pastors Pericope Paragraph 5/7

(a "pericope" is a selected reading from scripture used as a lesson at worship)

Wait? Is this a funeral service? "Do not let your hearts be troubled...In my Father's house there are many dwelling places..." We often hear John 14 read at a time of death and burial. It is part of the lengthy series of Last Supper discourses Jesus shares with the disciples at the Last Supper (John chapters 13-17), In response to the disciples' questioning (Thomas, Philip), Jesus clearly proclaims Himself not only Messiah, but the One who IS the Way...and also who is One with the Father - and therefore God. It is shocking and offensive. And it leads to Golgotha and crucifixion (Gospel). St. Stephen one of the first 7 deacons, is martyred, and forgives his murderers - echoing Jesus' words from the cross ("Father, forgive them...") - the model for Christian forgiveness (1st Lesson). Peter exalts his listeners/readers (us!), by proclaiming that we are a "chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people - because of Jesus! (2d Lesson).

Weekly Worship Practice:

Prior to worship, many take time to reverently prepare themselves for the liturgy by praying, quietly reflecting, marking hymnals and Bibles etc. Please respect those doing this by keeping conversation and greeting whispered or outside the sanctuary (in the narthex or parlor). This also models reverence to our children and youth! Thank you!

All baptized Christians are welcome to God's Table of Grace.

All the baptized may commune in the OCLP with no age restriction. 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. Baptized children may begin communing after parents have consulted with Pastor. 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.

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 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.

+OCLP+

We welcome ELCA Deacon (Ret.) Sandy Shear to lead worship at Evangelical and St. John
Next Sunday Pastor Jess Lambert will lead worship at Atonement and St. Matthew

Serving Today	Atonement	Evangelical	St. Matthew
Asst. Minister	Sue Dana		Dave Forbes
Comm. Asst.		Cindy L	
Lector	Sue Dana	Esther H	Jim Crouthamel
Cantor	Sue Dana		
*Altar Care	Eli England	Dorothy & Ilse	
Ushers/Greeters	Christine Brown	Sliviak	
Coffee Hour			
Acolyte	Grady Loeffler	Mia Pelcer	Alicia Stevens
Sound System		Sliviak	
Bell Ringer			
Church Cleaner			

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, 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), Sue (M. Messner); Carleen (M. Messner), Valerie England, Jennifer Carman, Lisa Cooper (Syvertsen), Martha Messner, Lucy (Richardson), Barbara Gee, Mark Bauer, Joanne Burdick, (Messner/Dana), Brad Guillerm (Dana), Donna Coyne (Serra-Lima), Janna Benston (Sherrill)

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Doug & Barbara Gee

For young adult: Sam Herion

+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), Dawn Schidzick

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Mark & Susan Howard

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, 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), Jack Anthony (Stevens), Troy Lutz (Bush), Alan & Linda Peeters, Isabell Tophoven, Corinne Pollak, James Wikoff (Hulbert), Vicky Vesely (Bush), Martha Messner, Helmut Boehl, Frank Wood, Ray Gilmore (Winslow), Judy Berkshire (Crouthamel), Janet Brown, Kevin Bonney

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Dave & Kathy Forbes

For Young Adult: Zach Shaul

+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, former President Jimmy Carter, Phil Roberts (Messner), David Wolff, Octavia Bradshaw (Grandparents Toni & Frank Wood), Davilynn Cifonelli (Doane-Nelson)

For those preparing for marriage: Ashley Stack and Matt Sivacek

For those celebrating childbirth: those dealing with the loss of children due to miscarriage and still-birth

For those in the military, law enforcement and emergency services: Lt Cody DeNapoli, USAF, Alaska

In the Foothills Conference: Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center and all camp/conference ministries of the Lutheran Church

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

National/ International Concerns: For all refugees and migrants and those contending with the continuing crisis on our northern & southern borders, the people of Ukraine, Russia, China, Taiwan, and the Sudan

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

+ Chief Warrant Officer 3 Christopher R. Eramo +
(killed on duty in helicopter crash in Alaska)

+ Parish News and Notes +

+Evangelical

The list to sign up to mow our lawn is posted on the bulletin board. Pick your favorite month! Thanks!

Evangelical Council meets this Wednesday 3:30 at church.

+St Matthew/ Atonement

The option of coming to the communion rail to receive Holy Communion returns today. Those coming to the rail will be invited first to receive the sacrament, standing or kneeling. Then the eucharistic ministers will come to the nave (floor) level, for those who wish to continue receiving in that way. Both will receive the sacrament via intinction. We will still offer communion in the pew for those who desire us to come to you. No matter how we receive, it is still the Lord's true body and blood that is "given and shed for you".

+Atonement

Isaiah 2:5 "...come let us walk in the light of the Lord."

At Atonement we are blessed to have wall candelabras to light our way into worship. Thanks to the artistry of Robert Loitsch, the tremulous metal sconces will this Spring be replaced by solid wooden candle holders to light our path.

Six sconces are being crafted, three to grace each side wall of the sanctuary. Their design, in color and shape, will echo the architecture and wood tones of the sanctuary ceiling, furniture and windows. Each sconce will hold three oil-filled pillar candles.

We propose to dedicate this safe, permanent lighting to loved ones who have shown *us* the way of Christ. The approximate cost per sconce is \$500 (construction, candles and oil).

Should you wish to honor or memorialize loved one(s) by donating toward the cost, in part or in whole, of a sconce, plaques noting the donor(s) as well as the honoree(s) for each light will be placed at a designated space in the sanctuary.

Please speak to Pr. Paul, Council President John Mushtare, or Worship and Music convener Peg Serra-Lima regarding your wish to participate in this project. A donation form is available on the literature table for you to specify your loved one(s).

Surely these additions to our sacred space will speak to God's abiding presence and our own gratitude to Jesus, the light on our way to the Father.

+OCLP

"The Chosen" video series, Season 1, will be offered this Spring for anyone (OCLP members/friends and others - invite a friend!)

Details:

Location - Atonement

Time - 5:30 pm

When - Wednesdays

Food - Bring movie/finger food snacks to share (popcorn, chips, cheese and crackers) and beverage of choice.

Who: All Welcome!

Coming Up - Season 2 Fall 2023 & Season 3 Spring 2024

+OCLP

We are updating our membership records. PLEASE fill out the form on the literature table or in your mailbox as soon as possible. One per person, please! TY!

+OCLP

Please sign up to host a coffee hour. Anyone can - as a family or small group! It's not that hard - the sign up forms are on the bulletin board. Thanks!

+OCLP

Sign up NOW for the Back to Basics classes this month - for new and renewing church members. In other words it's for ANYONE (this means it's for YOU!)

New members will be received on Sundays May 28 (Evangelical and St John) and June 4 (St Matthew and Atonement).

+OCLP

Finances are tight at this 1/3 point of the year. Please help us stay current on our responsibilities to our vendors and staff.

+ **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
4/30	18/ 440	25/ 264	22/ 417	
5/3	4/ 66	1/ 40	7/ 163	
**	(\$1,290)	(\$850)	(\$1,309)	

**** Needed to meet weekly expenses**

+ THIS WEEK +

Communion at the rail option begins at St Matthew and Atonement

+Wednesday Services:

7:30am St. Matthew

10:30am Clergy Bible Study, Christ Church, Cooperstown

Noon Evangelical

7:00pm Atonement

Wednesday 5/4 - 5:30 pm The Chosen - Season 1, Episodes 3 and 4
OCLP Men's Dining Out, Upstate Bar & Grill, Cooperstown 6:30 pm

+Saturday 5/13 -Back to Basics, Class 2, 10:30 AM, St John, West Burlington

+ **COMING UP** +

+Next Sunday, 5/14 - Mother's Day; Service of Word and Prayer

+Thursday 5/18 Ascension Day - Foothills Conference Ministerium Mtg, @ Atonement (we host and provide goodies).

+Evangelical Council at church, 3:30 pm

+Ascension Day event - salad supper and worship, 6:00 pm Atonement

+Saturday 5/20 OCLP Deacon's Breakfast 8:30 am
Altar Server training and Review, St Matthew 10:00 am

+Back To Basics, Class 3 – St. Matthew 11:00 am

+Sunday 5/21 - Holy Communion, Atonement Council after worship

+Sundays 5/28 (Pentecost) and 6/4 (Holy Trinity) - New Members received - receptions after

Thought of the Week

I speak to you who have just been reborn in baptism, my little children in Christ, you who are the new offspring of the church, gift of the Father, proof of Mother Church's fruitfulness. All of you who stand fast in the Lord are a holy seed, a new colony of bees, the very flower of our ministry and fruit of our toil, my joy and my crown.

-- St. Augustine, Fourth Century

Otsego Country Lutheran Parish

Lutheran Church of the Atonement, Oneonta, NY
Sunday Worship 10:30 am (Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays + festivals)
John Mushtare: President
Leslie Bauer: Organist

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hartwick Seminary, NY
Sunday Worship 9:15 am (Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays + festivals)
Tami Pelcer: President
Donna Brown: Organist

St. John Lutheran Church, West Burlington, NY
Sunday Worship 11:15 am (Holy Communion 2nd and 4th Sundays + festivals)
Paul Hecker: President
Ethel Mills: Accompanist

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Laurens, NY
Sunday Worship 8:30 am (Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays + festivals)
Ed Winslow: President
Janet Brown: Organist

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Tel: 607-432-6852 E-mail: OCLP_NY@outlook.com
Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 11:00am – 3:00pm
Office Manager: Kenneth Sliviak
Pastor: Paul R. Messner, 607-287-4534
prpaul_theoinst@hotmail.com
(texting is often the most effective way to reach pastor)

Services of Healing are usually held on the 5th 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.