



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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

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

## GATHERING

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome**

\* **Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness**

\* **Entrance Hymn**

\* **Apostolic Greeting & Kyrie**

\* **Hymn of Praise**

*Welcome, Happy Morning!*

*This is the Feast . . .*

(St 1 – W, St 2 – M, Refrain – all)

### **Parish News**

pg. 56

LBW# 153

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

**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.**

### **Musical Offering**

(St.Matt/Evan)

**First Lesson: Acts 8:26-40** A lesson from Acts:

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) [27] So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship [28] and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. [29] Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." [30] So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" [31] He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. [32] Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

[33] In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

[34] The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" [35] Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. [36] As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from

being baptized?" [37] [38] He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. [39] When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. [40] But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.  
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalmody 22:25-31** (Tones: 54-single; 10-double)

From you comes my praise in the great / congregation;\*  
my vows I will pay before / those who fear him.

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall / praise the Lord.\*  
May your hearts / live forever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn / to the Lord;\*  
and all the families of the nations shall wor- / ship before him.

**For dominion belongs / to the Lord,\*  
and he rules ov- / er the nations.**

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the / earth bow down;\*  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
and I shall / live for him.

**Poster- / ty will serve him;\*  
future generations will be told a- / bout the Lord,  
and proclaim his deliverance to a people / yet unborn,\*  
saying that / he has done it.**

**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 John 4:7-21** A lesson from First John:

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. [8] Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. [9] God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. [10] In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. [11] Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. [12] No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

[13] By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

[14] And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world.

[15] God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. [16]

So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. [17] Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. [18] There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. [19] We love because he first loved us. [20] Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. [21] The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

\* **Alleluia Verse**

pg. 62

**Holy Gospel: John 15:1-8 Glory to you, O Lord.**

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. [2] He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. [3] You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. [4] Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. [5] I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. [6] Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. [7] If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. [8] My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

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

**Children's Sermon/Homily**

ELCA Deacon (Ret.) Sandy Shear (A/St.M)  
Pastor Paul Messner (E/St.J)

\***Hymn of the Day**

*Awake, My Heart, with Gladness*

LBW #129

**RESPONSE**

\***Nicene Creed**

pg. 64

\***Prayers of the Church**

pg. 65

**First Intercession:**

Gracious Father, we gratefully acknowledge that we are your creation. You gave life to our bodies, and our spirits live by your Easter promise. Alert us to our restlessness unless we abide in you, and to our uselessness unless we bear the fruit of your Vine. Sustain us in our greatest joy of being the disciples of your Son.

\* **Sharing the Peace of the Lord**

pg. 66

<b>Offering</b>		pg. 66
<b>Musical Offering</b>		(Atone)
<b>* Offertory</b>	<i>Let the Vineyard . . .</i>	pg. 66

**\* Offertory Prayer:** pg. 67/ 68  
 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

<b>* Great Thanksgiving/Dialog</b>		pg. 68
<b>Preface &amp; Sanctus</b> ( <i>Holy, Holy, Holy</i> )		pg. 69
<b>* Eucharistic Prayer &amp; Lord's Prayer</b>		pg. 69
<b>Agnus Dei</b> ( <i>Lamb of God</i> )		pg. 72

<b>Distribution Hymns</b>		LBW #138, 150, 147
<b>* Post Communion Blessing &amp; Canticle</b>	<i>Thank the Lord . . .</i>	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

<b>*Benediction</b>		pg. 74
<b>*Recessional Hymn</b>	<i>Thine is the Glory</i>	LBW #145
<b>Dismissal</b>	Go in Peace, Serve the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>	
<b>Postlude</b>		

### Pastors Pericope Paragraph +Fifth Sunday of Easter 5/2

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

Sap flows. Vine roots deepen. Branches extend. Fruit blossoms and ripens. Unless they don't. Pruning happens. Abiding in the Vine who is Jesus, brings life. Not to abide brings death (Gospel). Abiding in Jesus derives from God's Spirit abiding in us. We abide in God's love and so love others. We love because He first loved us! (2d lesson). Philip spreads God's love, in Jesus, to an Ethiopian official. The Good News goes to Africa! (1st lesson).

## Weekly Worship Practice:

What does "S.T.S." mean after Pastor Paul's name in our bulletin? "Societas Trinitatis Sanctae" (Latin for the Society of the Holy Trinity.) The S.T.S. is an organization of Lutheran clergy formed 25 years ago, to help pastors live out their ordination vows in a disciplined way. Members follow a "rule" of daily prayer, worship, regular retreats and pastoral visitations and oversight.

**All baptized Christians are welcome to God's Table of Grace.** All the baptized may commune in the OCLP with no age restriction. Those who commune in their home parishes are welcome to commune; 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.

<b>Serving Today</b>	<b>Atonement</b>	<b>Evangelical</b>	<b>St. Matthew</b>
Assisting Minister	Peg Serra-Lima	Mark Howard	Dave Forbes
Comm. Asst.		Mark Howard	
Lector	Ed Pixley	Mark Howard	
Cantor	Ed Pixley		
*Altar Care	Bob Loitsch	Cindy L & Joyce	
Ushers/Greeters	John Mushtare	Eileen B	
Coffee Hour			
Acolyte	Logan Temming	Max Pelcer	Victoria Stevens
Sound System		Sliviak	
Bell Ringer			
Church Cleaner			

+OCLP+

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

+ + +

### **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, Richard Laitsch (John's brother), John Laitsch, Rebecca Pollack (Joan Carman), Juan Perez (D. Sherrill), Bridgette Shepardson (Thompson), Barbara Richardson (Denise), Patsy (H. Byrnes), Ken Nye (S. Dana), Stan Whitmore (C. Brown), Jeremy Sorese (C. Heaney), Evelyn Hamilton (Lehenbauer), Beth Gilmore (Pudelka), Virginia Pudelka, Rene Prins, Thomas Mendez, Bill Heaney, Allison Heaney, Heather Byrnes, Charlotte Grant, Grace & Chuck Dietzman, Barbara Loitsch, Rita Nelson, Elizabeth Robinson (Messner)

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Aleda Koehn

For young adult: Daniel Herion

#### **+Evangelical+**

For healing in body, mind and spirit in our own congregation: Kathi Yule (C. Butts), Yvonne Cornell, Dan Barrows (John and Pam Miller), Alex Reynolds (C. Butts), Marilyn Urbiss (Burda), Roz Winne (C. Butts), Janet Underwood (Burda), Gloria Hendricks, Susan Howard, John Miller, David Glynn, Len Price, Esther Hughes, Tom Pritchard, Charlie Hughes

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Pr. Paul & Martha Messner

For Young Adult: Keira Higgins

## +St. Matthew+

For healing in body, mind and spirit in our own congregation: Scott Forbes, Tina Keator, Sherrie Roy (Lawyer), Laura Emmet (Lawyer), Peg Hughes (Janet B.), Lynn Benekin (Forbes), Barbara Gesile (Lapp), Gina Pywar, Erika Baker-Heinegg, Michele Tolen (T. Wood), Melissa McLaughlin (S. Eggers), Triston (Hahn), Cathy Walsh (Stevens), Ginny Ganio, Jill Baumann, Mary Hartmann (Nelson), Kent Hoyt Jr. (Ganio), Owen Basher (Marsh), Bev Lapp, Rennie Brown (Janet), Jason Hahn, Kathy Parsons, Omar Andrades, Donna Sorrentino, Karen Smith, Joe Hartmann, Karen Rollins (Winslow), Terri Ibelli (Wood), Robert & Patricia Psaltz (Sherry), Sherry family, Mike Mauro, Maureen McAndrew (Greenleaf), Mike McAndrew (Greenleaf)

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Corinne Pollak

For Young Adult: Travis Marsh

## +Beyond the Parish+

For healing in body, mind and spirit: Nancy Saxton Miller (Mansbach), Jackie Hesse (Lawyer), Rosemary Pepe (Eggers), Dorothy Fernandez, (Eggers), Dick Armstrong, Sue Haney, Warren Robinson (Messner), Julie Steinmueller (Sandy Shear), Rachel Fisher (Messner), Pr. Ameen Aswad (Jail Ministry), Kerri Gorsch (Messner), Pr. Paul Herpich (Messner), Scott Brasted (Messner), Doug Dutcher (Crouthamel), Brock Patrick Miller (Crouthamel), Dave Platt (Messner), Jim Sippel (Velez), Geoff Murphy (Walters), Steven Morris (Messner), Dave Clapp

**For those preparing for marriage:** Eric Vandenburg & Abby Foreman

**For those preparing for childbirth:** Scott & Stephanie Lehenbauer

**For those in the military, law enforcement and emergency services:** Military Chaplains

**In the Foothills Conference:** The Southern Tier Conference, its Dean (Pr. Laura Daly)

**National/ International Concerns:** all victims of religious, ethnic, and racial hatred and prejudice, for victims of genocide and slavery (Uigher Muslims in China, Tibetan Buddhists, other religious and ethnic minorities); the people of Afghanistan

**Natural and Man-Made Disasters:** Victims of all debilitating diseases, and those struggling with social isolation; our country in this time of continuing deep division, for those involved in the crisis on our Southern border

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

**+ 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
4/25	20/ 301 \$5430	19/ 348	19/ 358 \$1116
**	<b>\$1290</b>	<b>\$705</b>	<b>\$1309</b>
4/28	0/ 26	0/ 26	7/ 141

**\*\* 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

**+ OCLP RUMMAGE SALES**

St. John: 5/7 (9-5); 5/8 (9-1)

Evangelical: 9/3-4 & 9/10-11

**+ THIS WEEK +**

Tuesday 5/4: "First Tuesday" St. Matthew 6pm  
Theme: We're Back, Favorite Foods

+Wednesday Services:  
7:30am St. Matthew  
Noon Evangelical  
7:00pm Atonement

Wednesday 5/5: Clergy Virtual Bible Study 10am

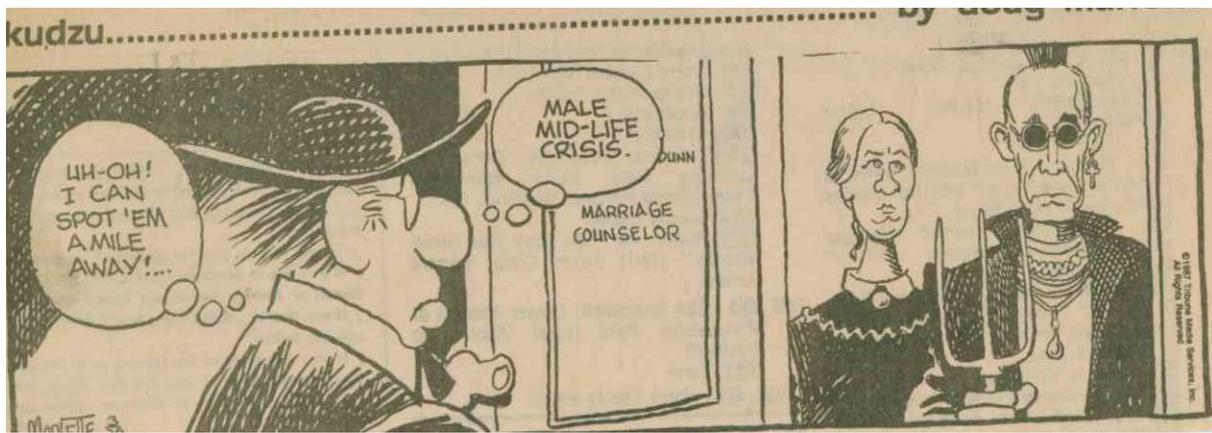
Thursday 5/6: St. Matthew Worship & Music Committee 5pm  
St. Matthew Church Council Meeting 7pm

**+ COMING UP +**

5/9: Mother's Day  
5/13: Ascension Day Worship & Salad Supper, @ Atonement 6pm  
5/15: SUNY Oneonta Spring Graduation  
5/16: Blessing of Seed & Soil  
5/16: St. John Council Meeting follows worship  
5/18: Evangelical Women's lunch @ Origins Café 11:30am

+++

**+ Cartoon of the Week +**



# RED GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST

To have your geraniums (or other red flowers) listed in the bulletin for Pentecost Sunday (May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021), please fill out the form below and return via the offering plate or the parish office (1 Center St., Oneonta NY 13820) by Wednesday May 19<sup>th</sup>. You may provide your own flowers. Atonement members may bring a check made payable to Atonement Lutheran Church. Cost is \$10.00 per plant, and comes in a six-inch pot if ordering thru your local congregation.

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**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**PENTECOST FLOWERS given (check one)**  
**IN LOVING MEMORY** \_\_\_\_\_ **OR** **IN HONOR OF** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAMES** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Otsego Country Lutheran Parish**

Lutheran Church of the Atonement, Oneonta, NY

John Mushtare: President

Leslie Bauer: Organist

Barbara Loitsch: Choir Director

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hartwick Seminary, NY

Joyce Boyd: President

Donna Brown: Organist

St. John Lutheran Church, West Burlington, NY

Paul Hecker: President

Ethel Mills: Accompanist

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Laurens, NY

Dave Forbes: President

Janet Brown: Organist

Parish Office: One Center Street, Oneonta, NY

Tel: 607-432-6852 E-mail: 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)



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

<http://otsegocountylutheranparish.com>

Any news/ announcements/ or other information that you wish to have included in the weekly service bulletin should be received by the OCLP office no later than 9am on Thursday.

Items received after this time cannot be guaranteed to appear in that week's bulletin.