



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

+First Sunday in Advent+  
LBW Service of the Word  
November 28<sup>th</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**

(A)  
**Parish News**

<b>Advent wreath lighting and reading</b>	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i> (st. 1&2) pew card <i>Light One Candle</i> (st. 1) pew card
* <b>Entrance Hymn</b>	<i>Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers</i> LBW #25
* <b>Invocation and Dialog</b>	<i>Blessed is he who comes</i> pg. 127
* <b>The Apostles' Creed</b>	pg. 128
* <b>Canticle</b>	<i>Climb to the top</i> LBW #7

**First Prayer:** *(late 6th Century Gregorian)*

**Stir up your power, O Lord, and come.**

**Protect us from the threatening dangers of our sin  
and free us with your generous salvation.**

**You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Musical Offering**

(St.M/Evan)

## WORD

**First Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16** A lesson from Jeremiah:

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

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

**Psalmody: 25:1-10**

To you, O Lord, I lift / up my soul. \*

**O my God, in / you I trust;**

do not let me be / put to shame;\*

**do not let my enemies exult / over me.**

Do not let those who wait for you be / put to shame;\*

**let them be ashamed who are want- / only treacherous.**

Make me to know your / ways, O Lord;\*

**teach / me your paths.**

Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of / my salvation;\*

**for you I wait / all day long.**

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your / steadfast love,\*

**for they have been / from of old.**

Do not remember the sins of my youth or / my transgressions;\*

**according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' / sake, O Lord!**

Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners / in the way.\*

**He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humb- / le his way.**

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and / faithfulness,\*

**for those who keep his covenant and / his decrees.**

**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 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

A lesson from First Thessalonians:

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

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

\* **Gospel Acclamation**

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

LBW #30 (st. 1)

### **Holy Gospel: Luke 21:25-36**

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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

\* **Gospel Response** *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* LBW #30 (st. 2)

**Children's Sermon/Homily** Pr. Paul Messner (St. M/ A)  
Deacon Deb Lawyer (St. J/ Ev)

\* **Hymn of the Day** *O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide* LBW #38

### **RESPONSE**

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

**Offering** pg. 129

**Musical Offering** (A)

\* **Offertory** *Take My Life, That I May Be* LBW #406 (st. 1,4,6)

\* **Offertory Prayer:** pg. 87-88

Heavenly Father, in your generous care of everything you give us a symbol of eternal life. Receive these offerings as a sign that we hope in Christ alone and wish to serve you as your Spirit leads. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

\* **Prayers of the Church** pg. 129/ 52

**First Intercession:**

Almighty God, our Advent prayers confront us with the dark mystery of your coming. We rejoice that love constrains you to come, not according to our fears nor even our prayers, but in harmony with your eternal promise. Guide us as we struggle to live by faith according to your call; and help us to show that we are ready to receive you.

**Lord's Prayer** pg. 130

### **SENDING**

\* **Benediction** pg. 130

\* **Recessional Hymn** *Fling Wide the Door* LBW #32

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

**Postlude**

## **Pastors Pericope Paragraph 11/28**

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

"Do not be weighed down...by the worries of this life...". Be alert and prayerful - prepared to "stand before the Son of Man" (Gospel). "I will fulfill the promise I made to...Israel...and Judah..." God's promises are good (1st Lesson).

Paul's letter, to a small group of Christians in the city of Thessalonica, is filled with gratitude and joy as he/they anticipate "the coming of the Lord Jesus, with all His saints"! (2d Lesson).

### **Weekly Worship Practice:**

Note to parents and guardians- Please bring quiet, soft toys for our younger friends to use in the pews during worship. Some of our congregations have Children's Activity Bags available- feel free to use one any Sunday. Help us to keep them cleaned, re- stocked and placed back where they'll be ready for next Sunday. 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.

**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.

### **+OCLP+**

We welcome Deacon Deb Lawyer to lead worship at Evangelical and St. John.

Next week we welcome Deacon Tom Collins to lead worship at St. Matthew and Atonement

<b>Serving Today</b>	<b>Atonement</b>	<b>Evangelical</b>	<b>St. Matthew</b>
Comm. Asst. Asst. Minister Lector Cantor *Altar Care Ushers/Greeters Coffee Hour Acolyte Sound System Bell Ringer Church Cleaner	Chris Brown Denise Richardson  Laura Sherrill John Mushtare Barb Gee Nick Thompson	Ilse S  Cindy L & Joyce Shirley G  Lane	Deb Lawyer Jim Crouthamel

**+ 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), Evelyn Hamilton (Lehenbauer), Rene Prins, Thomas Mendez, Heather Byrnes, Charlotte Grant, Grace & Chuck Dietzman, Barbara Loitsch, Rita Nelson, Elizabeth Robinson (Messner), Thoranne Winkler, Carmen Alvarez (Hopkins), Monica Koulis (Winkler)

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Robert & Barbara Loitsch

For young adult: Tom King

**+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 & Pam Miller, David Glynn, Esther Hughes, Tom Pritchard, Tad Mahoney, Bill Jacobson (D. Brown),

Carl Hecker, Eric & Amy Burda, Anthony Scarfuto (Boyd), Dwaine Sharett (Butts), Jim Desrocher (Boyd), Dick Woodhouse (Hazzard)

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Yvonne Cornell

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, Mary Hartmann (Nelson), Kent Hoyt Jr. (Ganio), Owen Basher (Marsh), Rennie Brown (Janet), Jason Hahn, Kathy & Rich Parsons, Karen Smith, Joe Hartmann, Patricia Psaltz (Sherry), Maureen McAndrew (Greenleaf), Mike McAndrew (Greenleaf), Cathy (Struckle), Bernie Sitts Jr.

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Pr. Jim & Mary Crouthamel

For Young Adult: Jenna Ganio

**+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, Rachel Fisher (Messner), Doug Dutcher (Crouthamel), Geoff Murphy (Walters), Helga Lange (Winkler), Elise Zayat, Kelsey Kohler (Mansbach), Judy Carnal (Dana), Gina Utter (Thompson), Cathy Deleski (Thompson), Alicia Biesler (Thompson), Margie Ortega (Thompson), Amy Cooper (Messner), Garth Swanson (Messner), Mike Quinn (Messner), Michael & James Wagner (Messner), Edee Cook (Rotolo)

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

**For those celebrating childbirth:** Jillian & Kyle Besemer

**For those in the military, law enforcement and emergency services:** Alex Ahern, USMC, NC

**In the Foothills Conference:** Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and the staff of the ELCA, that we might be faithful to our Lord and guided by the Holy Spirit

**National/ International Concerns:** all victims of religious, ethnic, and racial hatred, prejudice, genocide and slavery; the people of Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Haiti, Israel & Palestine (for Jews, Muslims, & Christians in the Holy Land); for those involved in the continuing crisis on our Southern border; for refugees & migrants; for those living in long term care facilities; for Catholic Charities and all who work with people in need

**Natural and Man-Made Disasters:** Victims of the coronavirus, and those struggling with social isolation. For medical researchers, pharmaceutical companies, hospital workers, and all medical professionals. Victims of drought and famine.

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

+ James Coolidge +

+ Tamara Durand +

+ Wilhelm Hospel +

+ Leanna Owens +

+ Virginia Sorenson +

**+ 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
11/21	\$1507		25/ \$851
**	<b>(\$1,290)</b>	<b>(\$705)</b>	<b>(\$1,309)</b>
11/24			

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

**+ OCLP +**

**+Evangelical**

We have been blessed to receive a donation of handmade shawls. Shawls are crocheted by Linda Pokorny and Joyce Boyd.

Please help yourself to one for yourself, a family member, or anyone who might appreciate having one. Find them draped on the back pew.

**+Atonement**

**Flora on the Doors**

In the Advent and Christmas seasons, the four exterior doors of Atonement will, again this year, be graced with lovely wreaths ordered through Oneonta High School *Dollars for Scholars*. Should you wish to underwrite any of this greenery, each wreath costs \$25.00. Your check may be placed in the offering plate with "wreath" noted on the memo line.

Thank you for supporting our community academic achievers *and* helping to adorn church for the birthday of Jesus our King.

**+OCLP**

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

**+ Stewardship 2022 +**

Be on the lookout for your 2022 Stewardship Packets in your church mailbox or in the mail. Stewardship commitment Sunday will be on December 12<sup>th</sup>, Advent 3. Plan to return your pledge cards, time, and talent forms that day or as soon after as you can. Thank you for your support of God's Ministry in, through, and among us!

**+ OCLP Current Projects +**

**+Atonement**

Our sanctuary windows are in increasing need of repair. There are some broken pieces, but the primary and pressing need is re-caulking. Estimates are around \$12,500 for all the work. To help with this capital project, use a special giving envelope and make checks payable to Atonement Lutheran Church (memo: stained glass window project) Thanks!

**+St. Matthew**

Food donations to St. Matthew's food pantry are welcome. Please bring the items listed on the bulletin board; canned and boxed goods designed to provide our recipients with a week's worth of staples. We do not have the capacity to handle baked goods, produce, or other perishables. Please do not donate food items bearing lapsed expiration dates – for health and safety reasons we cannot distribute such items.

Cash donations are always welcome and appreciated. The food pantry is a totally volunteer operation – 100% of your donations go towards the purchase of food and personal care items.

Thanks for all of your support, which has enabled us to serve 40-60 families per month!  
For further questions and comments contact Patty & Rod Klafehn (607) 432-7883

+Evangelical

Thanks to all who supported this summer and fall school supply and health care “kit” drives, and our recent rummage sales. Our current project is the Steeple Fund. Our estimate is \$15,000. We have been approved for an additional \$3,250 from the O’Connor Fund of Delhi in a dollar for dollar match. To donate, please designate “steeple fund” on your check memo or special giving envelope.

**+ THIS WEEK +**

+Today Sunday 11/28: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent – New Church Year Begins!

+Wednesday Services:

7:30am St. Matthew

Noon Evangelical

7:00pm Atonement

**+ COMING UP+**

+Tuesday 11/30: Craft Group @ Eileen Burda’s, 3pm

+Thursday 12/2: St. Matthew Council Meeting

+Saturday 12/4: Atonement Worship & Music Committee meeting, 9:30am

+Sunday 12/5: New Sunday Service Times, Evangelical 9:15am, St. John 11:15am

+Sunday 12/ 12: St. Lucia Coffee Hour @ St. Matthew

+Wednesday 12/15: “Longest Night” service @ Christ Church, Cooperstown

+Thursday 12/16: St. Matthew monthly food distribution, 4pm

+Thursday 12/16: OCLP Men’s Dinner out @ Jay’s Place, 3200 Chestnut St. Oneonta, 6:30pm

+++

**+ Thought of the Week +**

Love is most nearly itself  
When here and now cease to matter.  
Old men ought to be explorers  
Here and there does not matter  
We must be still and still moving  
Into another intensity  
For a further union, a deeper communion  
Through the dark cold and empty desolation,  
The wave cry, the wind cry, the vast waters  
Of the petrel and the porpoise. In my end is my  
Beginning.

-- T.S. Eliot

## **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 9:30 am (Holy Communion 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays + festivals)

Joyce Boyd: President

Donna Brown: Organist

St. John Lutheran Church, West Burlington, NY

Sunday Worship 11:00 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)

Dave Forbes: 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 the OCLP office no later than 9am on Thursday.

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.