



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

+Christmass & New Year+
Announcements & Prayer List
December 2021

Pastors Pericope Paragraph Christmass 12/24-26

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

In the beginning God created . . . and humans turned away . . . and God reached out time and again. We continue to turn away. Finally the Father sent His Son to become one of us. To be born, to love, to die, to rise. We celebrate this ultimate gift at Christ-mass. Thank be to God.

Weekly Worship Practice:

We gather weekly in reverence and awe, in joy and thanksgiving, in hope and peace. We come seeking forgiveness and reconciliation-inspiration and a sense of God's presence. We depart renewed, refreshed and recommitted to serve all God's people in need, as we have opportunity. We come open to God's giving. Having received we depart to share that with which God has blessed us.

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.

+OCLP+

We welcome ELCA Deacon Todd Eames to lead worship at Evangelical and St. John
Next week we welcome ELCA Deacon Sandy Shear (Ret.) to lead worship at Evangelical and St. John

December 24th

Serving Today	Atonement	Evangelical	St. Matthew
Comm. Asst. Asst. Minister Lector Cantor *Altar Care Ushers/Greeters Coffee Hour Acolyte Sound System Bell Ringer Church Cleaner	Cindy Heaney Peg Serra-Lima Peg Serra-Lima Peg Serra-Lima Laura Sherrell Dennis Sherrill Liam Thompson	Gabe L Mark Howard Gabe L Carol B & Esther Dorothy Lane	Jim Crouthamel Victoria Stevens

December 26th

Serving Today	Atonement	Evangelical	St. Matthew
Comm. Asst. Asst. Minister Lector Cantor *Altar Care Ushers/Greeters Coffee Hour Acolyte Sound System Bell Ringer Church Cleaner	Martha Messner Denise Richardson Martha Messner Becky Milford John Mushtare Christine Brown Stevie Mendes	Ilse S Carol B & Esther Ilse S Max Pelcer Pelcer	Deb Lawyer

+ + +

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, Grace & Chuck Dietzman, Barbara Loitsch, Rita Nelson, Elizabeth Robinson (Messner), Thoranne Winkler, Carmen Alvarez (Hopkins), Monica Koulis (Winkler), Pr. Jack Stennett, Doris Quinn (Brown), Family of Michael Mackey (Messner)

December 24th

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Rita Nelson

For young adult: Elina Martinez

December 26th

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Elsie Nigro

For young adult: Joe Sherrill

+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), Richard Woodhouse (Hazzard)

December 24th

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Esther & Charlie Hughes

For Young Adult: Gunnar Jaeck

December 26th

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Dennis Hascup

For Young Adult: Jeremiah Parr

+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., Pr. Jack Stennett, Ann Lloyd

December 24th

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Carol Evans

For Young Adult: Cooper Poulson

December 26th

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

For Young Adult: Spencer Sherry

+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), Edee Cook (Rotolo)

For those preparing for marriage: Nickolas Meier & Bianca Zapanto

For those preparing for childbirth: Megean Greenleaf & Graham

For those in the military, law enforcement and emergency services: All who serve & protect us

In the Foothills Conference:

December 24th

The one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church throughout the world and our common Proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God

December 26th

St. John-St. Mark Lutheran Church, Canajoharie (Pr. Elisabeth Aurand)

National/ International Concerns: all victims of religious, ethnic, and racial hatred, prejudice, genocide and slavery; the people of Afghanistan, Ethiopia; 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, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, Lutheran Disaster Response, and all who work with people in need; for an end to violence in our schools and communities

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**

+ Marjorie Nelson Moxley +

+ Michael Mackey +
(1977 – 2021)

+ 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
12/19	23/ 934 \$4205	17/ 1007	26/ 1069 \$385
**	(\$1,290)	(\$705)	(\$1,309)
12/22			

**** Needed to meet weekly expenses**

+ OCLP +

+ Atonement

CHURCH ENVELOPES - At Atonement, envelopes for 2022 are in your church mailbox. If you have not used envelopes in the past and would like a box, please let Virginia Pudelka know. You can leave a note in her mailbox or email her at vpudelka@gmail.com Please use the current year's envelopes beginning in January as your number may have changed.

+ Attendance Goals

Help us break 1,000 in total attendance for 2021. St. Matthew and Evangelical have passed that mark, and Atonement is closing in on that goal. Your presence is always a blessing!

+ Pastor's Discretionary Fund

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund for Atonement and community members was recently enriched with \$50 from Atonement's overalls pocket donations. Be assured that these donations are always put to good use!

+ **THIS WEEK** +

(see the Advent – Christmass – Epiphany Schedule)

+Friday 12/24: Christmass Eve

St. John Candlelight Communion, 6:00 pm

St. Matthew Candlelight Family Carol Communion Service, 6:00 pm

Evangelical Candlelight Communion Service, 8:00 pm

Atonement Candlelight Communion Service, 10:00 pm

+Saturday 12/25: Christmass Day

Atonement - Holy Communion, 10am (No Service @ Evan, St. John or St. Matt)

+**Next Week**+

+Sunday 12/26: Regular service times – Lessons & Carols

+Wednesday 12/29: Midweek services

+Friday 12/31: New Year's Eve Service at Atonement, 5:00 pm

+Sunday 1/2/22: 1st Sunday of the New Year

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+ **Thought of the Week** +

O Lord, our God, thou dost desire to dwell not only in heaven but also with us on earth, to be not only exalted and great, but like us lowly and small, not only to rule, but to serve us, not only to be God for eternity, but to be born, to live, and to die for us.

In thy dear Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, Thou hast given us no less than thine own self so that we might belong wholly to thee. This concerns us all, although none of us has earned it. What remains then for us but to be amazed, to rejoice, to be thankful, to hold fast to that which thou hast done for us!

We beseech thee, grant that this may become reality among us and in all at this hour. Grant that in honorable, open, and willing prayer and in song, speaking, and hearing we may become a true Christmass congregation, and in great hunger may experience the true communion of the Lord's Supper. Amen

-- Karl Barth

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
Barbara Loitsch: Choir Director

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hartwick Seminary, NY
Sunday Worship 9:15 am (Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays + festivals)
Joyce Boyd: 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)
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
(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 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.