



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 of Easter+
Holy Communion (LBW Setting 2)
May 17th, 2020

(* = 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

* **Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness**

pg. 77

* **Entrance Hymn**

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

LBW #132

First Prayer: *(7th Century Gelasian)*

O God, all good things can come from you alone; generously consider then our humble prayers. Inspire us to consider what is true / and direct us to accomplish what is right, 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.M/Evan)

First Lesson: Acts 17:22-31 A lesson from Acts:

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. [23] For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. [24] The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, [25] nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. [26] From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, [27] so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him--though indeed he is not far from each one of us. [28] For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' [29] Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. [30] While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, [31] because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

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

Psalmody: 66:8-20 (Tones: single 32; double 9)

Bless our / God, O peoples,*

let the sound of his / praise be heard,

who has kept us a- / mong the living,*

and has not let / our feet slip.

For you, O God, have / tested us;*

you have tried us as sil- / ver is tried.

You brought us in- / to the net;*

you laid burdens / on our backs;

you let people ride ov- / er our heads;*

we went through fire and through water;

yet you have brought us out to a / spacious place.

I will come into your house with burnt / offerings;*

I will pay / you my vows,

those that / my lips uttered*

and my mouth promised when I / was in trouble.

I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings,

with the smoke of the sacri- / fice of rams;*

I will make an offering of / bulls and goats.

Come and hear, all you / who fear God,*

and I will tell what he has / done for me.

I cried a- / loud to him,*

and he was extolled / with my tongue.

If I had cherished iniquity / in my heart,*

the Lord would / not have listened.

But truly / God has listened;*

he has given heed to the words / of my prayer.

Blessed be God, because he has not reject- / ed my prayer*

or removed his steadfast / love from me.

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: I Peter 3:13-22 A lesson from First Peter:

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? [14] But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, [15] but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; [16] yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. [17] For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. [18] For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death

in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, [19] in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, [20] who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. [21] And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you--not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, [22] who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

* **Gospel Acclamation**

Glory to you, O Lord

pg. 83

HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. [16] And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. [17] This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

[18] "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. [19] In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. [20] On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. [21] They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel Response:

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon/Homily

Pastor Paul Messner

* **Hymn of the Day**

I Serve a Living/ Risen Savior

Insert

RESPONSE

* **Nicene Creed**

pg. 84

* **Prayers of the Church**

pg. 85

First Intercession:

Heavenly Father, as we hunger for the promise of the fullness of your presence, we worship you because it is sealed by the blood and new life of your Son. Fill us more and more with your Spirit and his comforting presence through an active love for anyone in need. Then we shall be glad and faithful through every evil day.

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

pg. 86

Offering		pg. 86
Musical Offering		(A)
* Offertory	<i>Let the Vineyards</i>	pg. 86

*** Offertory Prayer:** pg. 87-88
 Almighty Father, you wait for our faith as we wait for our daily bread. With these offerings, receive our hopeful prayers / that you will bless our farmers and their fields. As our land is greening for another year, help us rejoice in your gift of life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

* Great Thanksgiving/Dialog		pg. 88
Preface & Sanctus	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy</i>	pg. 89
* Eucharistic Prayer #3 & Lord's Prayer		
Agnus Dei	<i>Lamb of God</i>	LBW #92
Distribution Hymns		LBW #357, #676, #710
* Post Communion Blessing & Canticle	<i>Thank the Lord</i>	pg. 92

*** Post-Communion Prayer:** pg. 94
 Lord Jesus Christ, you provide for our lonely spirits till your return by comforting us with your presence in this Eucharist. As we experience this sign of your love, encourage us by its power to comfort one another. We bless you now and evermore. **Amen.**

SENDING

* Benediction		pg. 94
* Recessional Hymn	<i>Thine is the Glory</i>	LBW #145
Dismissal	Go in Peace, Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.	
Postlude		

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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 the Lutheran clergy formed less than a decade 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.

Serving Today	Atonement	Evangelical	St. Matthew
Comm. Asst.	Denise Richardson	Cindy L.	Deb Nancy Miller
Asst. Minister	Peg Serra-Lima		
Lector	Peg Serra-Lima	Esther H.	
Cantor	Peg Serra-Lima		
*Altar Care		Cindy L.	
Ushers/Greeters		Ilse S.	
Coffee Hour	Chris Brown		
Acolyte			
Sound System		Pelcer	
Bell Ringer			
Church Cleaner			Hahns

+ + +

+OCLP+

+ + +

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), Linda Czernak (P. Serra-Lima), Stan Whitmore (C. Brown), Lewis Sherrill (D. Sherrill), Brian Sherrill (D. Sherrill), Jeremy Sorese (C. Heaney), Evelyn Hamilton (Lehenbauer), Beth Gilmore (Pudelka), Virginia Pudelka, Paula Holleran (Mansbach), Sandy Shear, Joan Carman, Elizabeth Robinson (Messner), Rene Prins (Roper), Tony and Thoranne Winkler, and Thomas Mendes

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: John Laitsch

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), Shannon Mahoney (J. Boyd), Roz Winne (C. Butts), Janet Underwood (Burda), Amy Beuchler (Linsenbardt), Bob Hazelton (C. Butts), Joyce Boyd (C. Lane), Karen Ingraham (C. Butts), Gloria Hendricks, and Mary Peterson

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Gloria Hendricks

For Young Adult: Keira Higgins

+St. Matthew+

For healing in body, mind and spirit in our own congregation: Robert Evans, Scott Forbes, Tina Keator, Sherrie Roy (Lawyer), Maureen VerPlanck (Parsons), Laura Emmet (Lawyer) , Peg Hughes (Janet B.), Lynn Benekin (Forbes), Barbara Gesile (Lapp), Bart Bonney, Tennison (T. Wood), Gina Pywar, Erika Baker-Heinegg, Michele Tolen (T. Wood), Melissa McLaughlin (S. Eggers), Charles Hulbert, Triston (Hahn), Gabrielle Bush, Adam Pierce (Forbes), Doris Schlee

(R. Nelson), Priscilla Galbreth (Hulbert), Marissa Struckle, Rose Nelson, Patty Hulbert, Chayse Winslow, Kelly Ives (Wood), Cathy Walsh (Stevens), and Ginny Ganio

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Ellie & Herb Baumann

For Young Adult: Gabrielle Bush

+Beyond the Parish+

For healing in body, mind and spirit in our own congregation: Nancy Saxton Miller (Mansbach), Jackie Hesse (Lawyer), Rosemary Pepe (Eggers), Dorothy Fernandez, (Eggers), Dick Armstrong, David Brenner (Former Oneonta Mayor), Sue Haney, Warren Robinson (Messner), Pr. Ameen Aswad (Jail Ministry)

For those preparing for marriage: Alex Tesoriero & Sarah Baum

For those preparing for childbirth: Alicia & Andrew Parsons

For those in the military, law enforcement and emergency services: Fox Hospital Emergency Services Staff

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

National/ International Concerns: People of Hong Kong, South Korea, Taiwan, China, Iran, Afghanistan, Israel, Palestine, Spain, France, and Italy; our country during this time of deep division

Natural and Man-Made Disasters: Victims of the coronavirus, and those struggling with homelessness

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

+ Parish News and Notes +

+Easter 6 5/17

Orphaned? No! Love abounds from the Father to and through the Son, to us. The Spirit of Truth is our Advocate, because "He abides with and in (us)!" (Gospel). The ancient Greek world of Socrates and Aristotle; of the philosophical schools of Cynics and Stoics and Epicureans, reveled in debate but struggled with Paul's message of a Jewish Messiah who had been crucified and risen from the dead. In their attempt to cover their bases and placate the gods, they even built an altar to "an unknown god". Paul made that God "known" - the God who raised Jesus from death! (1st lesson). Apologetics is the art of making a defense of something you believe deeply. Paul encourages the early Church, in an oppressive civil order, to "always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you..." (2d lesson).

+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
5/10			\$1226
**	(\$1,290)	(\$705)	(\$1,309)

**** Needed to meet weekly expenses**

+ OCLP +

Today is Norwegian Independence Day (from Sweden). In an appropriately, social distancing way, "hug" a Norwegian and eat some lefsa or coffee cake.

+ THIS WEEK +

+Today: Sixth Sunday of Easter – Holy Communion

+++

+ Thought of the Week +

10 Reminders for Christophers

Depend more on God, less on self.

Share the truth, don't hoard it.

Be world-minded, not just local-minded.

Go among people, don't avoid them.

Be a doer, not just a taker.

Offer ideas, don't impose them.

Aim to serve, not be served.

Inspire confidence, don't dishearten.

Disagree without being disagreeable.

Keep first things first.

Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good.

Romans 12:21

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.

Otsego Country Lutheran Parish

Lutheran Church of the Atonement, Oneonta, NY

Leslie Bauer: Organist

Barbara Loitsch: Choir Director

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hartwick Seminary, NY

Donna Brown: Organist

St. John Lutheran Church, West Burlington, NY

Tessa Hecker, and Ethel Mills: Accompanists

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Laurens, NY

Janet Brown: Organist

Parish Office: One Center Street, Oneonta, NY

Tel: 607-432-6852 E-mail: OCLP_NY@outlook.com

Interim 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)



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