

He who eats My FLESH
and drinks My BLOOD
ABIDES in Me
and I in him
John 6:56

Knowing Jesus.com

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

+ **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost** +
WOV Service of Word and Prayer
August 22nd, 2021

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

GATHERING

Prelude

* **Opening Hymn**

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

* **Invocation and Dialog**

You Are the Treasured People

* **Scripture Song**

Salvation belongs to our God

(St 1 – women, St 2 – men, Refrain – all)

Welcome & Parish News

WOV #684

pg. 46

pg. 47

First Prayer: *(7th Century Gelasian)*

Care for your Church, O Lord, with perpetual mercy. Since we totter and are sure to fall without your grace, remove what will harm us and arrange what will make us whole, 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)

WORD

First Lesson: Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18 A lesson from Joshua:

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. [2] And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors--Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor--lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods.

[14] "Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. [15] Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

[16] Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; [17] for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; [18] and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

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

Psalmody: 34:15-22 (Tones: single – 54; double – 10)

The eyes of the Lord are / on the righteous,*

and his ears are open / to their cry.

The face of the Lord is against / evildoers,*

to cut off the remembrance of them / from the earth.

When the righteous cry for help, / the Lord hears,*

and rescues them from / all their troubles.

The Lord is near to the / brokenhearted,*

and saves the / crushed in spirit.

Many are the afflictions / of the righteous,*

but the Lord rescues them / from them all.

He keeps / all their bones;*

not one of them / will be broken.

Evil brings death / to the wicked,*

and those who hate the righteous will / be condemned.

The Lord redeems the life / of his servants;*

none of those who take refuge in him will / be condemned.

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: Ephes. 6:10-20 A lesson from Ephesians:

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. [11] Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. [12] For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. [13] Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. [14] Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. [15] As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. [16] With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. [17] Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

[18] Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. [19] Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, [20] for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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

Holy Gospel: John 6:56-69 Glory to you, O Lord.

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. [57] Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. [58] This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." [59] He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

[60] When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" [61] But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? [62] Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? [63] It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. [64] But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. [65] And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

[66] Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. [67] So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" [68] Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. [69] We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

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

Children's Sermon/Homily

Deacon Deb Lawyer (Evangelical and St. John)
Pastor Paul Messner (St. Matthew & Atonement)

*** Hymn of the Day**

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

WOV #754

RESPONSE TO THE WORD & PRAYER

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

LBW pg. 121 (St. M)

Apostles' Creed

pg. 49

Confession & Forgiveness

pg. 49/50

*** Sharing the Peace of the Lord**

Offering

Musical Offering

(A)

*** Offertory**

Glory to You God (St.3)

pg. 50

*** Offertory Prayer:**

pg. 51

Father in heaven, you fatten nature for its winter fast / which shows the folly of our fear as we work for daily bread. Accept these offerings made in hope / and lead us to glory in your faithful care. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*** Prayers of the Church**

First Intercession:

Merciful Father, you teach us things about your kingdom which are hard for us to understand. Nevertheless, we rejoice in Jesus' mysterious sacramental meal, because it brings us benefits that satisfy. With the disciples of Jesus, we confess that we have no one else to whom we can go; we commend ourselves to you, trusting you to lead our spirits ever more fully into what is true.

Lord's Prayer

pg. 52

SENDING

*** Benediction**

pg. 53

Sending Song:

Oh Christ the Same

WOV #778

Dismissal

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

Postlude

+ + +

Pastors Pericope Paragraph 8/22

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

"Do you also wish to go away", Our Lord asks His disciples, because my teaching is difficult? Peter replies: "Lord to whom can we go? You have the Words of eternal life"! (Gospel). "Choose this day whom you will serve...but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord", says Joshua (1st lesson). Put on God's armor, as you enter the fray - the battles of life: truth, righteousness, proclamation, faith...every gift of God which enables us to fight the "evil one" (2d lesson).

Weekly Worship Practice:

The flag passes in a parade, people turn to face it. The pledge of allegiance is recited, hands are placed over hearts. At a sporting event or civic function the national anthem is played, hats are doffed, voices raised, all eyes on the flag. The same is true at Christian worship. Whenever the cross passes in procession (opening or closing hymn, for the reading of the Gospel) it is "customary" (polite) to turn to face our primary Christian symbol the instrument of Jesus crucifixion and victory over sin and death, and the means by which God gained our salvation. It is also "customary" to "reverence" the cross (also the altar and an ambry/tabernacle in which resides the reserved sacrament-the consecrated body & blood of Christ), by bowing as it passes (not to clergy or other worship leaders)! Some Christians also bow at the name of God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) or make the sign of the cross. These are examples of personal devotion not by any means mandatory, but "customary" and often helpful to our spiritual lives. Try them (you might like them).

Monthly Prayer Lists - Please add any names for our weekly prayer list on the Monthly Prayer List form when you pick up your bulletin. WE are called to pray for one another. Help us do that!

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.

+OCLP+

+ We welcome Deacon Deb Lawyer to lead worship at Evangelical & St. John
Next week Deacon Tom Collins will lead worship at Evangelical and St. John, and Pr. Jim Crouthamel will lead worship at Atonement and St. Matthew

+ We rejoice with the VanDusen & Newman families on the baptism of Leiland Reed this morning at St. Matthew

Readings Through This Week

See website: <https://www.otsegocountylutheranparish.com>

Serving Today	Atonement	Evangelical	St. Matthew
Asst. Minister			Dave Forbes
Comm. Asst.			
Lector		Len P	Rod Klafehn
Cantor			
*Altar Care	Becky Milford	Ilse & Dorothy	
Ushers/Greeters	Dennis Sherrill	Eileen B	
Coffee Hour			
Acolyte	Emerson Riley		Alicia Stevens
Sound System		Lane	
Bell Ringer			
Church Cleaner			

+ + +

+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), Jeremy Sorese (C. Heaney), Evelyn Hamilton (Lehenbauer), Rene Prins, Thomas Mendez, Bill Heaney, Allison Heaney, Heather Byrnes, Charlotte Grant, Grace & Chuck Dietzman, Barbara Loitsch, Rita Nelson, Elizabeth Robinson (Messner), Joan Carman, the Grant Family, Doug Gee

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Thoranne & Tony Winkler

For young adult: Alison Heaney

+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 (son), Esther Hughes, Tom Pritchard, Charlie Hughes, Gabe Lane, Tad Mahoney, Eric & Amy Burda, Bill Jacobson (D. Brown)

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

For Young Adult: Blake Rinell

+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), 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, Karen Rollins (Winslow), Terri Ibelli (Wood), Robert & Patricia Psaltz (Sherry), Maureen McAndrew (Greenleaf), Mike McAndrew (Greenleaf), Kathy Forbes, Fred Veseley, Cathy (Struckle)

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Bev Lapp

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, 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), Eames family, Amy Cooper (Messner), Bill Jay (Messner)

For those preparing for marriage: Jennifer Doloff & Randy Chubbuck

For those preparing for childbirth: Nick & Brittany Flemister

For those in the military, law enforcement and emergency services: Lt. Cody Denapoli (USAF), Chicago police officers hospitalized in recent shootings

In the Foothills Conference: The Southwestern Conference, its Dean (Pr. Derek Cheeks), congregations, pastors

National/ International Concerns: all victims of religious, ethnic, and racial hatred, prejudice, genocide and slavery; the people of Afghanistan, Israel & Palestine (for Jews, Muslims, & Christians in the Holy Land); for those involved in the continuing crisis on our Southern border;

for the people of Haiti following the recent earthquake & storms

Natural and Man-Made Disasters: Victims of all debilitating diseases, and those struggling with social isolation; victims of earthquakes, floods, droughts, and shootings in our cities

Foothills Conference Ordination Anniversary:

For Pr. James Geuder on the 45th anniversary of his ordination, 8/10

For Pr. Steffen Zehrhuhs on the 45th anniversary of his ordination, 8/28

For Pr. Jonathan Litzner on the 22nd anniversary of his ordination, 8/7

For Pr. Sara Litzner on the 22nd anniversary of her ordination, 8/7

For Pr. Gail Wolling on the 21st anniversary of her ordination, 8/12

For Pr. Rick Mollenkopf-Grill on the 1st anniversary of his ordination, 8/22

**+Blessed are the Dead+
Whom We Commend to the Lord**

+ Officer Ella French +
(killed in the line of duty)

+ 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
8/15	11/ 606	13/ 670	19/ 658 \$816
**	(\$1,290)	(\$705)	(\$1,309)
8/18	1/ 44	1/ 40	7/ 244

**** Needed to meet weekly expenses**

+ OCLP +

+Evangelical

The Craft Group will meet August 23 at 3 PM at the home of Eileen Burda.

Call 315-858-2119 for more information. All are welcome.

+Evangelical

The flowers at Evangelical on Sunday August 8, were a gift from Linda Pokorny and family in celebration of the baptism of her niece, Shaun Mahoney McFadden and her husband, Leo McFadden.

+Evangelical

School Supplies Collection 2021

School supplies will be collected over the summer to be donated to Laurens Central School.

Basic supplies are requested such as:

1 subject notebooks – red/green/purple/blue

Pocket folders with prongs – red/green/purple/blue

Composition notebooks

Glue sticks

#2 pencils and erasers

Packages of loose-leaf paper

Packages of 4x6 index cards

Crayons or colored pencils

Washable markers

+OCLP

Please check your mailbox anytime you are in the building. Thanks!

Remember to sign in for attendance and contact tracing. Thank you

+OCLP

+Donations to the Eames family fire fund may be made by writing a check to: OCLP (memo-Eames Fire Fund), and placing in the offering plate at your congregation or mailing to the OCLP office at 1 Center St., Oneonta NY 13820. If you use cash, please place in an envelope marked Eames Fire Fund. TY. Todd Eames is a deacon from the Binghamton area who has led worship in all our congregations over the past 6 months. He will be serving us again in upcoming weeks. He and his wife, Wendy, lost their home and everything in it, in a house fire several weeks ago. They have insurance. Our gift will support them. Their daughter, Sarah, is a reporter for the Oneonta Daily Star.

+Lutheran Disaster Response

Lutheran Disaster Response responds to natural and man-made disasters domestically and internationally. To assist in their work anytime (for the Haiti earthquake or western wildfires, etc.) use a Lutheran Disaster Response envelope and make out a check to your congregation (or use cash). Thank you.

+ THIS WEEK +

Today 8/22: St. Matthew Community Day, 1-3pm
+Monday 8/23: Evangelical Craft Group @ Eileen Burda's
+Wednesday Services:
7:30am St. Matthew
Noon Evangelical
7:00pm Atonement
+Thursday – Sunday: Pr. Paul in New Hampshire & Maine

+ Coming Up +

+Thursday 9/2: St. Matthew Council Meeting, 7pm
+Evangelical Rummage Sale, 9/3-9/4 & 9/10-9/11

+++

Thought of the Week



To Laugh Often

To laugh often and love much;
to win the respect
of intelligent persons and
the affection of children;
to earn the approbation
of honest critics and
endure the betrayal
of false friends;
to appreciate beauty;
to find the best in others;
to give of one's self;
to leave the world a bit better,
whether by a healthy child,
a garden patch,
or a redeemed social condition;
to have played and laughed
with enthusiasm and
sung with exultation;
to know even one life
has breathed easier
because you have lived
- this is to have succeeded.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

(Submitted by Karen Greenleaf)

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 9:30 am (Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays + festivals)

Joyce Boyd: President

Donna Brown: Organist

St. John Lutheran Church, West Burlington, NY

Sunday Worship 11:00 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

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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.