

**+First Sunday in Advent+  
Holy Communion (LBW Setting 2)  
December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**

**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**

(\* = 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**

**Advent wreath lighting and reading**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (st. 1&2) pew card  
*Light One Candle* (st. 1) pew card

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

pg. 77

**\* Entrance Hymn**

*Rejoice, Rejoice Believers*

LBW #25

**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)

**First Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9** A lesson from Isaiah:

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence--

[2] as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil--

to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

[3] When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

[4] From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.

[5] You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.

[6] We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

[7] There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

[8] Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.

[9] Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

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

**Psalmody: 80:1-7, 17-19** (Tones: single 21; double 6) or LBW pg. 134

Give ear, O Shepherd of / Israel,\*  
you who lead Joseph / like a flock!

**You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth  
before Ephraim and Benjamin / and Manasseh.\***

**Stir up your might, and / come to save us!**

Restore / us, O God; \*  
let your face shine, that we / may be saved.

**O Lord / God of hosts,\***

**how long will you be angry with your / people's prayers?**

You have fed them with the / bread of tears,\*  
and given them tears to drink / in full measure.

**You make us the scorn / of our neighbors;\***  
**our enemies laugh a- / mong themselves.**

Restore us, O / God of hosts;\*  
let your face shine, that we / may be saved.

**But let your hand be upon the one at / your right hand,\***  
**the one whom you made strong / for yourself.**

Then we will never turn / back from you;\*  
give us life, and we will call / on your name.

**Restore us, O Lord / God of hosts;\***  
**let your face shine, that we / may be saved.**

**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 fore- / er. Amen.**

### **Second Lesson: 1 Cor. 1:3-9**

A lesson from First Corinthians:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

[4] I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, [5] for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- [6] just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- [7] so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. [8] He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9] God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

**\* Gospel Acclamation**

*Glory to you, O Lord*

pg. 83

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37 Glory to you, O Lord.**

"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, [25] and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. [26] Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. [27] Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

[28] "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. [29] So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. [30] Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away

until all these things have taken place. [31] Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

[32] "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. [33] Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. [34] It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. [35] Therefore, keep awake--for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, [36] or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. [37] And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

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

**Gospel Response:** *Praise to you, O Christ* pg. 83

**Children's Sermon/Homily** Pastor Paul Messner (A/St.M)  
S.A.M. Tom Collins (E/St.J)

\* **Hymn of the Day** *The King Shall Come* LBW #33

**RESPONSE**

\* **Nicene Creed** pg. 84

\* **Prayers of the Church** pg. 85

**First Intercession:**

Eternal Father, we worship and glorify you for your ancient promise which has and will come to pass. We thank you for our faith which quiets the fears inspired by calamities that come upon the world. You have given us hope by coming here to live in the person of your Son. We bless you for his gospel by which we have learned to receive tribulation as a sign of his return on the day of our redemption. We await his coming with eager expectation, trusting that you will help us be faithful to the end.

\* **Sharing of the Peace of the Lord** pg. 86

**Offering** pg. 86

**Musical Offering** (A)

\* **Offertory** *What Shall I Render* pg. 87

**\* 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.**

**MEAL**

**\* Great Thanksgiving/Dialog**

pg. 88

**Preface & Sanctus**

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

pg. 89

**\* Eucharistic Prayer #3 & Lord's Prayer**

pew racks

**Agnus Dei**

*Lamb of God*

pg. 92

**Distribution Hymns**

WOV #627, 626, 744

**\* Post Communion Blessing & Canticle**

*Lord, Now You let . . .*

pg. 93

**\* Post-Communion Prayer:**

pg. 94

Lord Jesus Christ, we recognize your coming in this Sacrament. Encourage us to watch for you  
by doing works of faith / that such unexpected meetings with you may be blessed. You are the  
Lord forevermore. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\* Benediction**

pg. 94

**\* Recessional Hymn**

*Hark the Glad Sound*

LBW #35

**Dismissal**

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

**Postlude**

+ + +

**+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, Rebecca Pollack  
(Joan Carman), Bridgette Shepardson (Thompson), Rene Prins, Heather Mendoza, Grace &  
Chuck Dietzman, Rita Nelson, Thoranne Winkler, Monica Koulis (Winkler), Valerie England,  
Jennifer Carman, Lisa Cooper (Syvertsen), Janna Benston (Sherrill), Gary Williams, Jill A.  
(Cindy), Jason Pallack (Carman), Barb Delaney (Serra-Lima/ Winkler), Stash Tarka  
(Thompson), Jim Baker, John Cook, Florence Jelliffe (Heaney)

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Sandee Fleisher

For young adult: Alison Heaney

### **+Evangelical+**

For healing in body, mind and spirit in our own congregation: Yvonne Cornell, Alex Reynolds (C. Butts), Marilyn Urbiss (Burda), Roz Winne (C. Butts), Janet Underwood (Burda), Gloria Hendricks, Susan Howard, John & Pam Miller, David Glynn, Bill Jacobson (D. Brown), Kenny Medor (Butts), Joan Ackerman (Butts), Ansley (Butts), Wendy Wenck Craighill (Miller), Julie Sharrett, Lynne Hecker, Roberta Rowland Raybold, Elsie Wells, Davin Ruffles (Messner), Bob Pierro (Butts), Jean Haff, Debbie Kiser (Butts), Dennis Duffy (Patrick's father)

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Genie Weber

For Young Adult: Dale Higgins

### **+St. Matthew+**

For healing in body, mind and spirit in our own congregation: Scott Forbes, Tina Keator, Sherrie Roy (Lawyer), Barbara Gesile, Gina Pywar, Melissa McLaughlin (S. Eggers), Cathy Walsh (Stevens), Owen Basher (Marsh), Rennie Brown (Janet), Jason Hahn, Maureen McAndrew (Greenleaf), Mike McAndrew (Greenleaf), Jack Anthony (Stevens), Troy Lutz (Bush), Alan & Linda Peeters, Corinne Pollak, James Wikoff (Hulbert), Vicky Vesely (Bush), Helmut Boehl, Anna Elwyn (Rose Nelson), Ellie Bauman, Carol Evans, Patti Hulbert, Ann and Mike Monahan, Gus Pfeuffer, Carol (Nelson) Doane, Lynn Robinson, Larry Winslow, Mary Crouthamel, Jennifer Dilello (Stevens), Alice Flaherty (Smith), Roberta Vesely, Ann Lloyd

For senior and/ or homebound members and friends: Patti Hulbert

For Young Adult: Derek Sherry

### **+Beyond the Parish+**

For healing in body, mind and spirit: Jackie Hesse (Lawyer), Rosemary Pepe (Eggers), Dorothy Fernandez, (Eggers), Dick Armstrong, Gina Utter (Thompson), Cathy Deleski (Thompson), Alicia Biesler (Thompson), Margie Ortega (Thompson), Pr Lynn Ash, former President Jimmy Carter, David Wolff, Davilynn Cifonelli (Doane-Nelson), Kathryn Morris (Messner), Sue Stevens (Mansbach), Joe Bales (Messner), Dave Powell (Simmerly), Tyler Brazinski (Messner), Dorcas Brown (Christine Brown), Alen Brown (Christine Brown), Karen Flaherty (Crouthamel), Davin Ruffles, Pat Wheeler (Serra-Lima), Marilyn Gonzalez (Messner), John Escobar (Messner)

**For those preparing for marriage:** Steven Heater & Marissa Pizzarello

**For those preparing for childbirth:** Josh Bush & Faith Gruver

**For those in the military, law enforcement and emergency services:** Gabriel Gerhardt, US Army

**In the Foothills Conference: Presiding** 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:** For all refugees and migrants; victims of violence in our communities; those struggling with economic conditions, food insecurity, and homelessness; the people of Ukraine and Russia; for the victims of the terrorist attacks and war in Israel, Gaza, and Lebanon

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

+ Dr. Henry Kissinger +  
(1923 – 2023)

**+ Parish News and Notes +**

### **Pastors Pericope Paragraph 12/3 Advent 1**

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

"But about that day or hour no one knows - neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father...therefore keep awake...or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly." So predicting the date of Jesus' return is fruitless, unnecessary and diverts our energy and attention from the tasks the Master has set before us. He puts in charge of His affairs here and now, each with his work. And what is that "work"? Caring for the ones in need. (Gospel). Isaiah reminds us He is our Father and we "the work of your hand". Our senses do not perceive any God but the LORD. He is the only God we need ( 1<sup>st</sup> lesson). Paul is grateful for the grace given to the Corinthian church. "God is faithful" and has called us into the community of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord ( 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!

**+Evangelical+**

This year's Advent Wreath was given by Linda Pokorny in memory of her sister Joyce Boyd.

**+OCLP+**

We welcome S.A.M. Tom Collins to lead worship at Evangelical and St. John  
Next Sunday deacon Deb Lawyer will lead worship at St. Matthew and Atonement

## Readings Through This Week

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

### Attendance & Offering Statistics

Date	Atonement	Evangelical	St. Matthew	St. John
11/26	14/ 1201	13/ 711	20/ 1032	5/ 297
11/29	-/ 147	-/ 72	5/ 378	
**	<b>(\$1,290)</b>	<b>(\$850)</b>	<b>(\$1,309)</b>	

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

#### + THIS WEEK +

+ Sunday 12/3

Holy Communion – First Sunday in Advent (new Church Year begins)

+ Thursday 12/5

4:00pm St. Matthew Worship & Music

6:00pm 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday Supper @ St. Matthew – Theme: Merry Food

#### + COMING UP +

+ Next Sunday 12/10

Cookie smorgasbord @ Atonement

St. Lucia @ St. Matthew

+ Wednesday 12/13

Noon: Evangelical Council

+ Thursday 12/14

4:00pm Atonement Worship & Music

6:30pm OCLP Men's Dinner Jay's Place (RSVP to Pr. Paul)

+ Saturday 12/16

10:00 – 11:30am Annual Advent Tea for Women of Atonement

(see Advent – Christmas – Epiphany schedule)