

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE ATONEMENT

1285 North New Florissant Road, Florissant, Missouri 63031 Church: (314) 837-1224 School/Child Care: (314) 837-1252 www.alcs-web.com

Sunday, Nov. 30, 2025

9:30 a.m.

Welcome to Worship at Atonement

- > We are delighted to have you worship at Atonement today. Wherever you are on your journey of faith and life, we extend to you a warm welcome. May the Holy Spirit richly bless your worship.
- ➤ We invite you to fill out the attendance form in the bulletin and hand it to the ushers when coming forward for Holy Communion. If you are a guest with us this morning, please leave some contact information so we can get in touch with you about how to connect with what's going on in this faith community.
- Sound enhancement receivers for the hearing-impaired and those with hearing aids are available. Large print worship folders are also available. Please ask an usher prior to the service.
- ➤ We welcome to the Lord's Table all Baptized Christians who commune in their home parish and who wish to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. Those with questions about the meaning of Holy Communion or who wish a private confession and absolution should contact a pastor during the week prior to communing.
- ➤ Both individual cups and the chalice (common cup) are now offered to communicants. The chalice is available only for intinction (dipping the host into the wine). The darker wine in the center of the tray is non-alcoholic. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking the pastor. Those desiring a blessing may fold their arms across their chests.
- > The congregation responds with those portions in **bold** print.
- > Please turn off all cell phones and pagers and refrain from flash photography.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Will meet today.

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSONS:

Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

ELW, Setting 4 (First Sunday of Advent) Nov. 30, 2025

PRELUDE: Watchman, Tell Us of the Night - Ben Logan

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

+++GATHERING+++

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

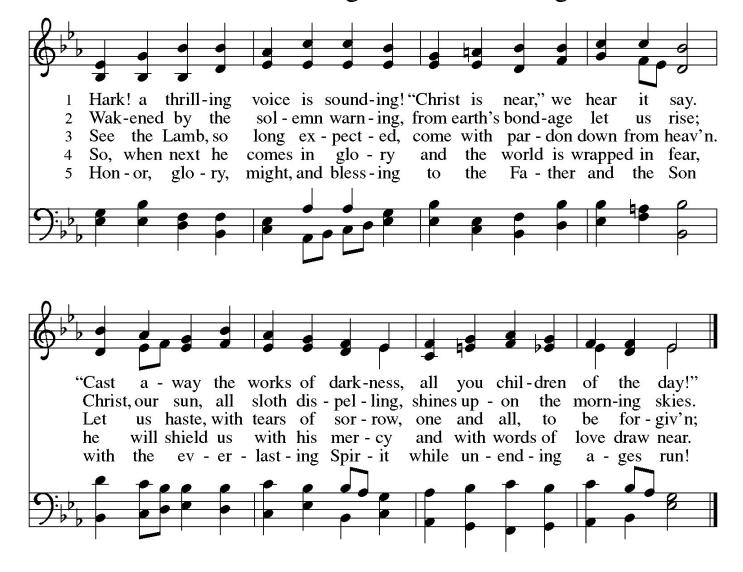
P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C Amen

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



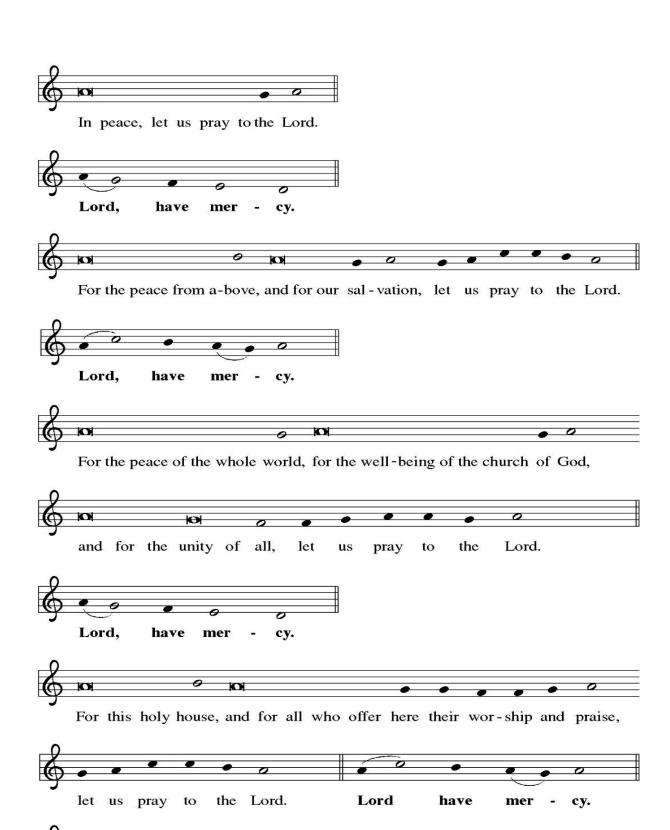
Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878 Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE Setting 4 page 147 (see next page) ...Led by Ron Grames



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.

men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

P Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

The assembly is seated.

+ + + WORD + + +

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

ELW 240 "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" vs 1

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si ah: let
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si ah:
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si ah:
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si ah:
- let the light ban-ish dark ness.
- let the light ban-ish dark ness. let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- let the light ban-ish dark ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise. He shep-herd, gent - ly shall feed the flock like a lead them home-ward. Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry. com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights He be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

² In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³ Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

R The word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 122 The psalm is spoken responsively.

¹ I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."

² Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

³ Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

⁴ to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.

⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

⁷ Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.

⁸ For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.

⁹ Because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to | do you good."

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

A reading from Romans.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

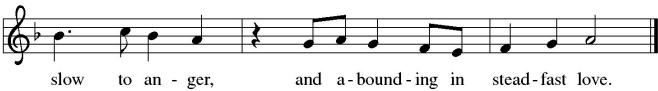
R The word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

Children are dismissed to Sunday School.

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW SETTING 4





GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

P The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

P The gospel of the Lord. C Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Larry Lemke

Meditation: Time to reflect on the message.

After meditation, the assembly stands for the Hymn of the Day.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 435 "Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending" vs. 1, 3

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending



BOOST BLESSING

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes: God of Grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The people may greet each other with a sign of peace and may say "Peace be with you" or similar words. Then the assembly is seated.

MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING: "Prepare the Way" - Hal Hopson

+++MEAL+++

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

The gifts of our tithes and offerings are presented and the altar is prepared for the Lord's Supper.

The assembly stands as the gifts are brought forward.

OFFERTORY: ELW 184

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Offering Song



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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OFFERING PRAYER

A Merciful God,

C God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ELW pg. 153 (spoken)

Holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

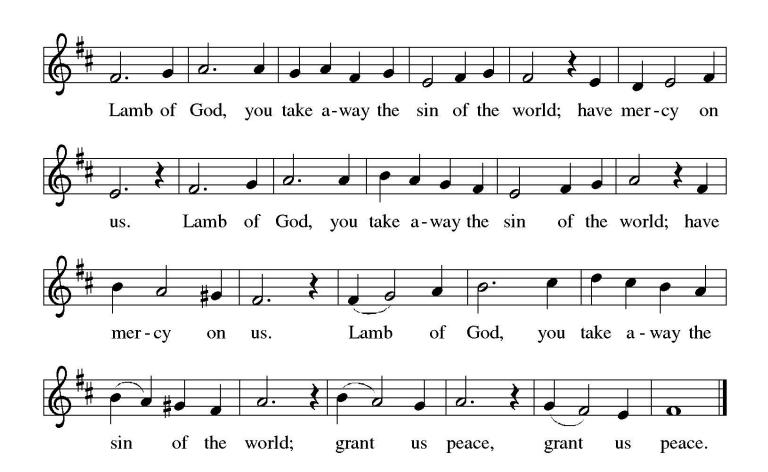
P Please join me in the prayer Jesus taught us to pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION: LAMB OF GOD ELW pg. 154

P The gifts of God for the people of God. *The assembly is seated*.

The ushers invite the assembly forward, where they receive bread and either wine or grape juice. If you need to receive communion in your pew, please let the usher(s) know.



HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION

ELW 254 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" (see next page)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

254



- 1 Come, thou long-ex pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo-ple free; 2 Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, born a child, and yet a king;

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee. born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art, By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788 Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835 JEFFERSON 8787D

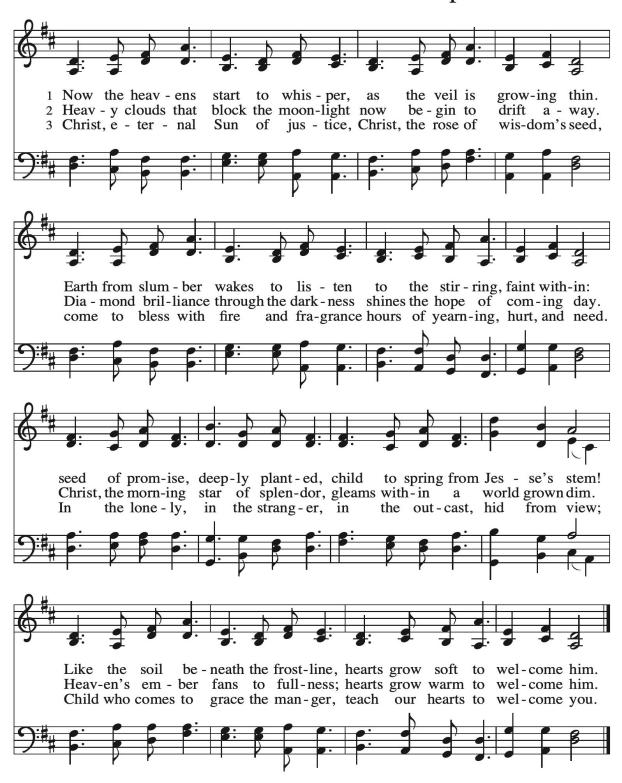
ACS 949 "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning" (see next page)

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning



Text: African American spiritual Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody; arr. hymnal version Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Arr. © 2020 Augsburg Fortress The assembly stands.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P May this body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

+ Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C Amen

+++ **SENDING** +++

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world.

RECEIVE GOD'S BLESSING

P May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you + peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW 244 "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" (see next page)

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: "Come Thou Almighty King" - Lani Smith

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WORSHIP LEADERS

| Preacher | Pastor Larry Lemke |
|------------------------|---|
| Assisting Ministers | Jennifer Negwer, Ruth Blundell |
| Communion Assistants | , |
| Bell Choir Director | |
| Organist | Cindy Vantine |
| Choir Director | Dr. Bruce Vantine |
| Joyful Noiz Director | Jim Baumgartner |
| Altar Guild | Jeanette Thwing, Jan Keppel |
| Greeters | Gwen Westbrooks, Melanie White |
| Usher | Bill Meyerkord |
| Trustee | Don Meier |
| Advent Wreath Lighting | Greg & Paula Viehman |

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Hospitalized or Ill: Ann Behrens, Ginny Groves, Shirl Henke, Sharon Love, Jane Mark, Scott Negwer, Carolyn Nimmons, Steve Rosenfeld, June Schmidt, Glenda Warren, Barb Wishon

Our Loved Ones/Friends: Becky Cole (Dave Cole's sister), Ian Hawkins (Faith Brooks's son), Jim Hickerson, Jeannette Higginbotham (Jaimy Suydam's friends), Marilee Viehman (Greg Viehman's mother), Dennis Whittington (Mary Beth Sandcork's father), Richard Wishon

Our chronically-ill and homebound loved ones and friends: Jacki Bickel, Teri Branhof, Thelma Carlson, Nancy Marxkors, John Meyer, Vivian Meyer, Maxine Pabst, Jim Temps, Joan Torbeck, Wayne & Joyce Winter

Names will be removed from the prayer list after two weeks unless the church office is notified on Monday of the preceding week.

**Copies of Taking Faith Home are available at the usher stand or on the table in the narthex.

OUR CONGREGATION

Atonement is a family of professing Christians who are in ministry to serve the Lord Jesus Christ. We have been in ministry since September 30, 1951. Atonement School has begun its 69th academic year with the mission statement "Teaching children of God the skills needed for a lifetime of learning, worshipping, and caring, so that the world see Jesus in them."

OUR AFFILIATIONS

We are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and support local ministries including Lutheran Family and Children's Services, Humanitri, Lutheran High Schools, LuMin Campus Ministry, PAKT, and The Emergency Assistance Ministry (TEAM).

OUR TEAM

Interim Senior Pastor and Pastoral Care Rev. Larry Lemke, (314) 307-4363 lalemke@sbcglobal.net

Bruce and Cindy Vantine Ministers of Music

Sharon Carter-Eichenberger Bell Choir Director

Jim Baumgartner, Worship, Too! jimstrat@aol.com, (314) 488-6903

Cathy Mifflin Parish Administrator, (314) 837-1224 cathy.mifflin@alcs-web.com

Theodore Jander Principal, (314) 837-1252 tjander@alcs-web.com

Angie Kemper School Secretary, (314) 837-1252

Parish Nurses: Joyce Pingel, L.P.N., (314) 740-2137

Cathie Lehr, R.N., (314) 809-4477

OUR CALENDAR

This Weekend – First Sunday of Advent 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion Worship

Monday, Dec. 1 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 7:00 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, Dec. 2

Wednesday, Dec. 3 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 7:00 p.m. Midweek Advent Worship

Thursday, Dec. 4 9:30 a.m. Bible & Breakfast

Friday, Dec. 5 No School / School Office Closed

Saturday, Dec. 6 9:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study, held off-site Advent By Candlelight Setup

Giving is now easier than ever!

Simply use the QR code on the bottom. It will take you directly to Atonement's giving through Tithe.ly. This can be a one-time option, or you can set up a recurring transaction



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