

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, March 16, 2025

8:15 a.m. 10:45 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: Meets today during the 8:15 a.m. service.

CONFIRMATION: Meets today at 9:30 a.m.

ADULT FORUM: Meets today in Small Chapel at 9:30 a.m.

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSONS:

Isaiah 55:1-9; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
March 16, 2025, Second Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE (BELL CHOIR): “Reverie” - H. Dean Wagner

+++ 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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

C Amen.

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

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Most merciful God,

C We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us
even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive
together with Christ.

By grace, you have been saved.

In the name of Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God
strengthen you with power
through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts
through faith.

C Amen.

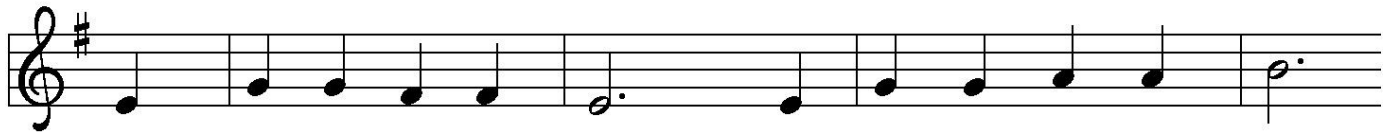
GATHERING HYMN ELW 831 "The God of Abraham Praise" vs 1-3

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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

+ + + **WORD** + + +

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

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

A reading from Genesis.

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ² But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵ He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷ Then he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” ⁸ But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” ⁹ He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

R Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL RESPONSE (BELLS): “*Lord Jesus, Think on Me*” - Douglas E. Wagner

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17—4:1

A reading from Romans.

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the

power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

R Word of God, Word of Life.

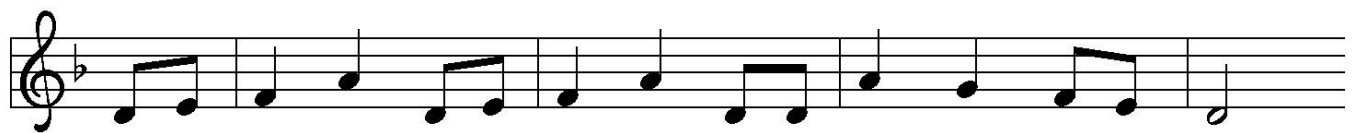
C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S TIME

The children are invited to the front of the sanctuary for a children's message.

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³² He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Larry Lemke

The assembly stands

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 727 “Lord Christ, When You First Came to Earth”

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Each petition concludes: God of Grace,
Hear our prayer*

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
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.

+++ 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 188 "Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God"

OFFERING PRAYER

A God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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 831 “The God of Abraham Praise” vs 4

Your promise you have sworn;
I on your oath depend.
I shall, on eagle wings upborne,
to heav'n ascend.
I shall behold your face;
I shall your pow'r adore,
and sing the wonders of your grace
forevermore.

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725-1799, alt., based on the Yigdal, c. 14th cent.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach 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

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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.

“Lamb of God”



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION

ELW 499 *"O Lord, We Praise You"*

ELW 482 *"I Come With Joy"*

The assembly stands.

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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.

BLESSING

P The God of love,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
lavish you with grace,
illumine your path,
and increase your joy,
today and always.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 545 *"Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing"*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: "Prelude on a Kyrie from Mass on Tone VIII" - Gaspard Corette

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*Please stick around for coffee, donuts and fellowship in the family room!
All are welcome.*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher.....*Pastor Larry Lemke*
Assisting Ministers.....*(8:15) Betty Luebke, Don Posey;*
(10:45) Greg Viehman, Cathy Hohl
Bell Choir Director.....*Sharon Carter Eichenberger*
Organist.....*Cindy Vantine*
Choir Director.....*Dr. Bruce Vantine*
Altar Guild..... *Dave & Anita Cole;*
Verina Ruiz, Cindy Steinbruegge
Greeters.....*(8:15) Jack & Bonnie David;*
(10:45) Vickie Minter
Counters*Steve Rosenfeld, Dave Johnson, Melanie White*
Ushers.....*(8:15) Don Meier, Chuck Graham, Don Posey*
(10:45) Bill Meyerkord, Melanie White
Trustees.....*(8:15) Don Posey; (10:45) Carl Beck*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Deaths: Deborah Budde, mother-in-law of former student and member, Belynda Budde.

Hospitalized or Ill: Ann Behrens, Faith Brooks, Ginny Groves, Shirl Henke, Darlene Johnson, Tom Lanzer, Cathie Lehr, Sharon Love, Jane Mark, June Schmidt, Liz Stengel, Barb Wishon

Our Loved Ones/Friends: Kathy Amido (sister-in-law of Kris Thompson), Jeremy Atchley, (nephew of Anna Moore), Kathleen Boyd, Becky Cole (sister of Dave Cole), Susan Hall (friend of Joyce Pingel), Ian Hawkins (son of Faith Brooks), Ted Hinkebein, Joyce Johnson (sister of Patrick Walker), Myra Jordan (friend of Ginny Groves), Kelly Keel (daughter of Larry & Joyce Hanebrink), Gail Mueller (sister-in-law of Barb Stoneburner), Abby Pruitt-Pimentel (friend of Emma & Evan White and Jeanine Dalton), Donna Roche, Martha Sanford (relative of Greg & Paula Viehman), Edie Stier (sister-in-law of Betty Luebke), Trevor Thwing (grandson of Jeanette Thwing), Dennis Whittington (Dad of Mary Beth Sandcork)

Our chronically-ill and homebound loved ones and friends: Jean Beck, Jacki Bickel, Teri Branhof, Gus and Thelma Carlson, Carol Hegger, Nancy Marxkors, John Meyer, Vivian Meyer, Maxine Pabst, Jim Temps, Joan Torbeck, Cheryl Tucker

*****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

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

Bruce and Cindy Vantine
Ministers of Music

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

Sharon Carter
Bell Choir Director

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

Principal, Ted Jander (314) 837-1252

Angie Kemper
School Secretary, (314) 837-1252
Child Care (314) 837-1252

Parish Nurses: Joyce Pingel, L.P.N., (314) 740-2137
Cathie Lehr, R.N., (314) 809-4477

OUR CALENDAR

This Sunday, Second Sunday in Lent
8:15 a.m. Holy Communion Worship
Sunday School
9:25 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. Confirmation / 9:30 Adult Forum
2:00 p.m. Church/School Discussions

Monday, March 17

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi Classes
7:00 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 18

9:00 a.m. NO Chair Yoga Classes
6:30 p.m. Church/School Discussions

Wednesday, March 19

8:45 a.m. Chapel. All Welcome!
9:00 a.m. Tai Chi Classes
7:00 p.m. Mid-week Lenten Worship

Thursday, March 20

9:00 a.m. Parish Nurse Office Hours, until 11
9:30 a.m. Bible & Breakfast
5:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting

Friday, March 21

6:30 p.m. APTO Bingo Night

Saturday, March 22

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

