



*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](http://www.alcs-web.com)

*Sunday, March 9, 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:**

**Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35**

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*  
*March 9, 2025, First Sunday in Lent*

**PRELUDE: “Elegy” - Ben Logan**

+++ **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.**

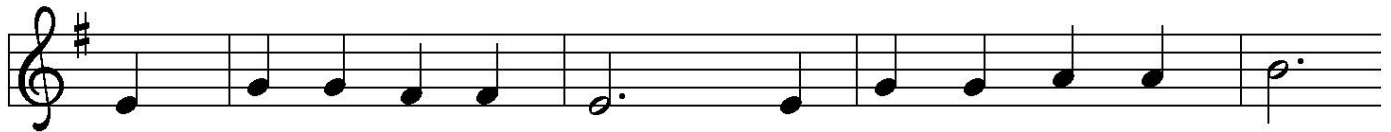
## GATHERING HYMN ELW 321 “Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church”

### 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.*

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through 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: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

A reading from Deuteronomy.

<sup>1</sup> When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, <sup>2</sup> you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall

put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. <sup>3</sup> You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” <sup>4</sup> When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, <sup>5</sup> you shall make this response before the LORD your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. <sup>6</sup> When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, <sup>7</sup> we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. <sup>8</sup> The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; <sup>9</sup> and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup> So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. <sup>11</sup> Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

R Word of God, Word of Life.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**CHORAL RESPONSE:** “*Your Word is a Candle*” By Bruce Vantine, based on the spiritual “*All Night Long*” (10:45 only)

Tired and lonely, I been a-walkin' so lonely all night, Walkin' down the dark road of sorrow all night long.

Hear my cry, O Lord, O won't you hear my pray'r? It's too dark for me to see and Satan's waitin' out there.

Hear my cry, O Lord, yes, I have gone a-stray; Now the night is all around, and I don't know my way

Lord, your word is my candle, Lord, a lamp unto my feet, Lord, a light for my darken'd pathway all night long.

Walkin' down the dark road of sorrow, so lonely, dark and long.

Hear my cry O Lord, O how can I go on? Why have you forsaken me and left me lost so long?

Lord, your word is my candle, Lord, a lamp unto my feet, Lord, a light for my darken'd pathway all night long.

**PSALM: Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16** The psalm is spoken responsively. (8:15 only)

- <sup>1</sup> You who dwell in the shelter of<sup>l</sup> the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty
- <sup>2</sup> **you will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my stronghold,  
my God in whom I put my trust.”**
- <sup>9</sup> Because you have made the LORD your refuge,  
and the Most High your habitation,
- <sup>10</sup> **no evil will befall you,  
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**
- <sup>11</sup> For God will give the angels charge over you,  
to guard you in all your ways.
- <sup>12</sup> **Upon their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**
- <sup>13</sup> You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;  
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.
- <sup>14</sup> **I will deliver those who cling to me;  
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**
- <sup>15</sup> They will call me, and I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.
- <sup>16</sup> **With long life will I satisfy them,  
and show them my salvation.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 10:8b-13**

A reading from Romans.

<sup>8b</sup> “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup> because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup> The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup> For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

R Word of God, Word of Life.

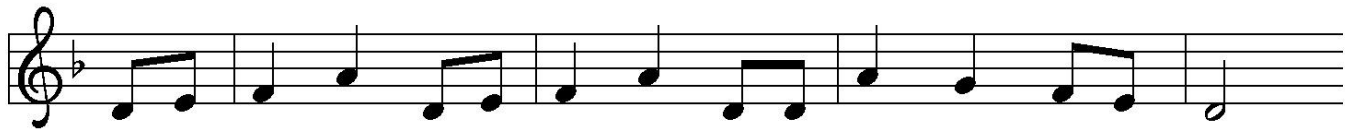
**C Thanks be to God.**

**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 4:1-13

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.’”

<sup>9</sup> Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,  
to protect you,’

<sup>11</sup> and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **SERMON**

*The assembly stands*

*Dennis Kemper, Parish Ministry Associate*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 319 “O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days”**

### **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, in your mercy,  
Receive 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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.

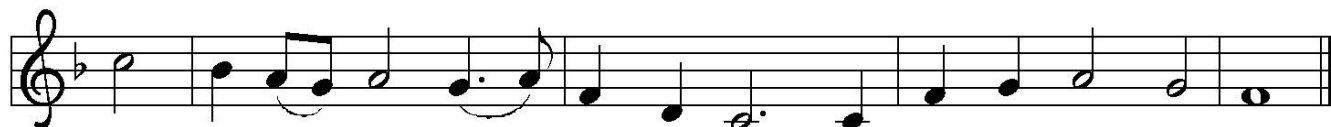
*The assembly is seated.*

*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 588** *"There's a Wilderness in God's Mercy"*

**ELW 609** *"Chief of Sinner Though I Be"*

*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 328 "Restore in Us, O God"**

## **DISMISSAL**

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE: "Intonation, Versets and Finale" - Giacomo Carissimi**

*From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.*

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

Dennis Kemper is a retired investment advisor who has served as a Parish Ministry Associate since 2018. He and his wife Leeann live in Creve Coeur and are members of Unity Lutheran Church in Bel Nor, MO. Dennis has provided preaching and presiding for several churches during his service, including Family of Christ in Imperial, MO, Bethel Lutheran church in University City, Zion Lutheran church in Ferguson, and of course Unity in Bel Nor. He currently serves part time at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Salem, MO, as well as on several boards, including chairman of Lutheran Elementary School Association and treasurer of Lutheran School of Theology – St Louis. He serves the Central States Synod as the PMA program coordinator for Missouri, and is on the Compensation committee and the Disciplinary committee for CSS. Dennis and Leeann have two children, both living in the St Louis area, and four grandchildren.

## WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher.....	<i>Dennis Kemper</i>
Assisting Ministers.....	<i>(8:15) Carol Meier, Brenda Blight;</i> <i>(10:45) Vickie Minter, Sara Ruprecht</i>
Bell Choir Director.....	<i>Sharon Carter Eichenberger</i>
Organist.....	<i>Cindy Vantine</i>
Choir Director.....	<i>Dr. Bruce Vantine</i>
Altar Guild.....	<i>Dave &amp; Anita Cole;</i> <i>Verina Ruiz, Cindy Steinbruegge</i>
Greeters.....	<i>(8:15) Claire &amp; Rick Brown;</i> <i>(10:45) Jane &amp; Bill Meyerkord</i>
Counters .....	<i>Jodi Laffold, Julie Hammer, Lisa Moravec</i>
Ushers.....	<i>(8:15) Ron Behrens, Jeff Moravec; (10:45) Dave Johnson,</i> <i>Marge Purgahn, John Yetter</i>
Trustees.....	<i>(8:15) Jim Bunzel; (10:45) Dave Johnson</i>

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

**Death:** Vic Donnell, friend of Jaimy Suydam

**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, Gloria Hugeback, Joyce Johnson (sister of Patrick Walker), Myra Jordan (friend of Ginny Groves), Kelly Keel (daughter of Larry & Joyce Hanebrink), Rachel Moore (niece of Rachel Moore), 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  
vacant

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, First 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  
1:30 p.m. Atonement Book Club  
2:00 p.m. GRC Meeting

Monday, March 10

9:00 a.m. Tai Chi Classes  
6:00 p.m. School Board Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, March 11

9:00 a.m. Chair Yoga Classes  
2:00 p.m. Creation Care  
4:30 p.m. Properties Meeting  
6:30 p.m. APTO Meeting

Wednesday, March 12

8:45 a.m. Chapel. All Welcome!  
9:00 a.m. Tai Chi Classes  
10:00 a.m. Past Presidents Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Mid-week Lenten Worship

Thursday, March 13

No School, School Office Closed  
9:30 a.m. Bible & Breakfast

Friday, March 14

No School, School Office Closed  
10:00 a.m. Oasis – “Ask a Tech!”

Saturday, March 15

9:30 a.m. Men’s Bible Study-held offsite  
10:00 a.m. Past Presidents Meeting

*Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.*

***Giving is now easier than ever!***

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.

