

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

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: Resumes today during the 8:15 a.m. service.

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

ADULT FORUM: Resumes today in Small Chapel, 9:30 a.m.

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSONS:

Isaiah 43:1-7; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17,21-22

Evangelical Lutheran Worship January 5, 2025, Epiphany

PRELUDE: He Is Born the Holy Child - Alice Jodan

+ + + 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.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God-with-us.

C We confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty.

We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.

We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging.

Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace.

Turn us from our ways to your ways.
Grant us the grace to begin again.
Free us from all that keeps us bound,
and forgive our sin,
through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.
Amen.

P Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,

+ forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.

C Amen.

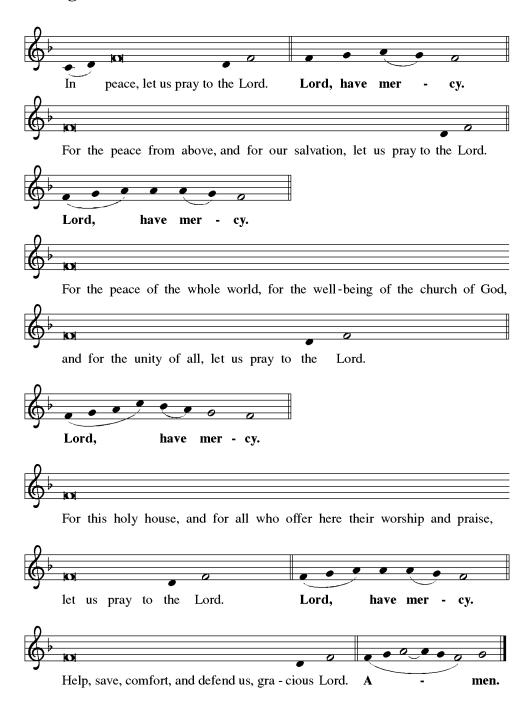
GATHERING HYMN ELW 303 "Brightest and Best of the Stars"

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 ELW Setting 3



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our 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: Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

² For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

³ Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

R Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

Choir - 10:45 only - "Let Our Song Ring Out" - Jean Philippe Rameau- arr. Bruce Vantine

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 The psalm for the day is spoken responsively

- ¹ Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;
- ² that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;
- ³ that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴ Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.
- ⁵ May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.
- ⁶ Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.
- ⁷ In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- ¹⁰ May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.
- ¹¹ May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.
- ¹² For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.
- ¹³ He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.
- ¹⁴ From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

A reading from Ephesians.

¹ This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶ that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose

that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

R Word of God, Word of Life.

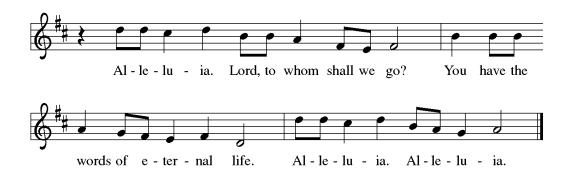
C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S TIME

The children are invited to join Pastor Delaney at the front of the sanctuary.

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ALLELUIA ELW SETTING 3



GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler

who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they

saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Delaney Schlake-Kruse

The assembly stands

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 309 "The Only Son from Heaven"

HOLY BAPTISM (10:45 a.m.)

P God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors for each candidate, in turn, present the candidates: Sponsors: I present Griffin David Steinbruegge for baptism.

P Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your son baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

P As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: We do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Griffin in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

P People of God, do you promise to support Griffin and pray for him in his new life in Christ? **C We do.**

The assembly stands.

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

P Do you believe in God the Father? C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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 into hell.

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.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Water may be poured into the font before or during the thanksgiving. At the font, the presiding minister begins the thanksgiving:

P The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow. Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you. You are the fountain of resurrection. Praise to you for your saving waters: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again. At this font, holy God, we pray: Praise to you for the water of baptism and for your Word that saves us in this water. Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation. Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us. Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

P Griffin David Steinbruegge, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of each of the newly baptized, the minister prays for each: Sustain Griffin with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

P Griffin David Steinbruegge child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

A lighted candle may be given to each of the newly baptized (to a sponsor of a young child)

A Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

P Let us welcome the newly baptized.

C We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes: Hear us, O God, Your mercy is great.

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: ACS 962 "In This Feast of Love" (see next page)

In This Feast of Love



Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954

Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÁSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio Text and music © 2017, 2020 Jarkko Maukonen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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OFFERING PRAYER

A God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

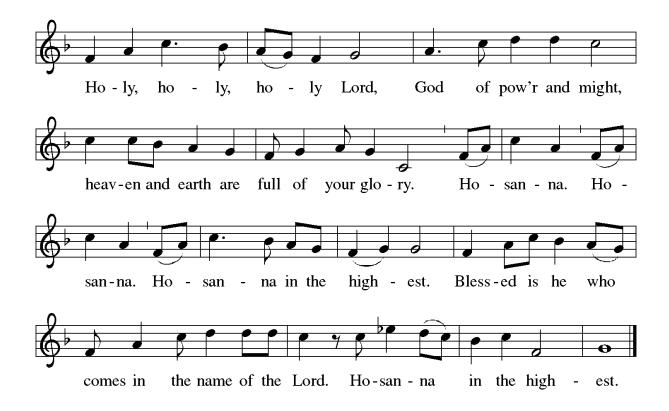
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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 Setting 3



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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 his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

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.

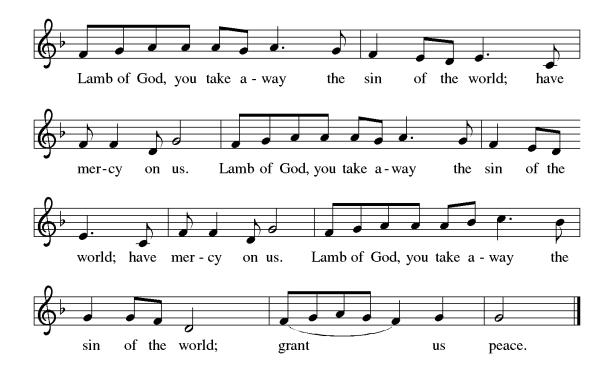
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. C Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

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" ELW Setting 3



HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION

ELW 301 "Bright and Glorious Is the Sky"

ELW 302 "As with Gladness Men of Old"

The assembly stands.

COMMUNION BLESSING

Nunc Dimittis: ELW 313 "O Lord, Now Let Your Servant" verse 1

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy.

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 SONG: ELW 314 "Arise, Your Light Has Come"

DISMISSAL

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

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: We Three Kings - John Barr

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Please stick around for coffee, donuts and fellowship in the family room!

All are welcome.

WORSHIP LEADERS

| Preacher | Pastor Delaney Schlake-Kruse |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Assisting Ministers | |
| (10:45) Ruth Blundell, Cathy Hohl | |
| Crucifer | Sam McGraw |
| Bell Choir Director | Sharon Carter Eichenberger |
| Organist | Cindy Vantine |
| Choir Director | Dr. Bruce Vantine |
| Altar Guild | Jeanette Thwing, Karen Meyer |
| Greeters | (8:15)Wanda Grueneberg; |
| (10:45) Karen Meyer | |
| Counters | Paul Schroeder, Jeff Moravec, Melanie White |
| Ushers | (8:15) Ron Behrens, Jeff Moravec; |
| (10:45)Bill Meyerkord, Melanie White | , , |
| | (8:15)Don Posey; (10:45) Dave Johnson |

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Don Kuethe and family upon the death of his son, Henry Kuethe. Marge Purgahn and family upon the death of Mary Ann Daub.

Hospitalized or Ill: Ann Behrens, Ron Behrens, Brenda Blight, Faith Brooks, Ginny Groves, Shirl Henke, Darlene Johnson, Jane Mark, Maxine Pabst, Carol Peachee, Roger Riemann, June Schmidt, 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), 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), 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, Jim Temps, 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

Rev. Delaney Schlake-Kruse Senior Pastor (414) 292-6164 SeniorPastor@alcs-web.com

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, (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, Epiphany 8:15 a.m. Holy Communion Worship Sunday School resumes 9:25 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Confirmation resumes

Monday, Jan. 6 Church & School Offices Open School Resumes Parish Nurse Office Hours, 9 -11 am 7:00 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, Jan. 7

Wednesday, Jan. 8

<u>Thursday, Jan. 9</u> 9:30 Bible & Breakfast

Friday, Jan. 10 Church Office Closed

Saturday, Jan. 11

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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.

