

welcome to worship
TIME AFTER PENTECOST
October 4, 2026



PRELUDE

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!

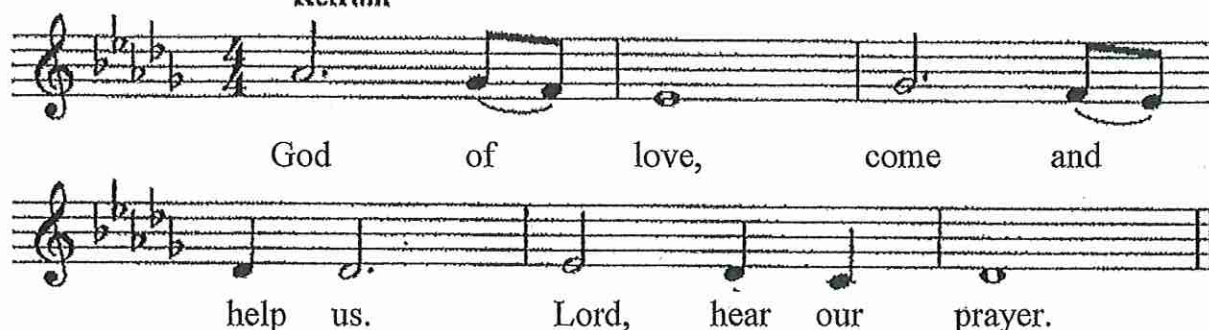
Kartsonakis

WELCOME

BLESSING OF QUILTS

PSALM 80 *The assembly sings the refrain after the choir and again after each verse.*

Refrain



Choir: O Shepherd, hear and lead your flock, as lambs, we crave your care.
What strength from you can earth afford, what mercies can compare? *Refrain*
Our selfish prayers deserve your wrath, our pride, a sudden burst.
We have but stones to serve as bread, and tears to quell our thirst. *Refrain*
Restore to us a saving faith, the radiance of your face
To lighten, to reveal the gift of your redeeming grace. *Refrain*

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

The assembly is seated.

READING

Philippians 3:4b-14 (The Message)

You know my pedigree: a legitimate birth, circumcised on the eighth day; an Israelite from the elite tribe of Benjamin; a strict and devout adherent to God's law; a fiery defender of the purity of my religion, even to the point of persecuting the church; a meticulous observer of everything set down in God's law Book.

⁷⁻⁹ The very credentials these people are waving around as something special, I'm tearing up and throwing out with the trash—along with everything else I used to take credit for. And why? Because of Christ. Yes, all the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master, firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant rubbish. I've dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace Christ and be embraced by him. I didn't want some petty, inferior brand of righteousness that comes from keeping a list of rules when I could get the robust kind that comes from trusting Christ—God's righteousness.

¹⁰⁻¹¹ I gave up all that inferior stuff so I could know Christ personally, experience his resurrection power, be a partner in his suffering, and go all the way with him to death itself. If there was any way to get in on the resurrection from the dead, I wanted to do it.

¹²⁻¹⁴ I'm not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for me. Friends, don't get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back.

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

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 835

All Creatures, Worship God Most High! – stanza 1 only

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-46 (The Message)

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³³⁻³⁴ “Here's another story. Listen closely. There was once a man, a wealthy farmer, who planted a vineyard. He fenced it, dug a winepress, put up a watchtower, then turned it over to the farmhands and went off on a trip. When it was time to harvest the grapes, he sent his servants back to collect his profits.

³⁵⁻³⁷ “The farmhands grabbed the first servant and beat him up. The next one they murdered. They threw stones at the third but he got away. The owner tried again, sending more servants. They got

the same treatment. The owner was at the end of his rope. He decided to send his son. 'Surely,' he thought, 'they will respect my son.'

³⁸⁻³⁹ "But when the farmhands saw the son arrive, they rubbed their hands in greed. 'This is the heir! Let's kill him and have it all for ourselves.' They grabbed him, threw him out, and killed him.

⁴⁰ "Now, when the owner of the vineyard arrives home from his trip, what do you think he will do to the farmhands?"

⁴¹ "He'll kill them—a rotten bunch, and good riddance," they answered. "Then he'll assign the vineyard to farmhands who will hand over the profits when it's time."

⁴²⁻⁴⁴ Jesus said, "Right—and you can read it for yourselves in your Bibles:

The stone the masons threw out

is now the cornerstone.

This is God's work;

we rub our eyes, we can hardly believe it!

"This is the way it is with you. God's kingdom will be taken back from you and handed over to a people who will live out a kingdom life. Whoever stumbles on this Stone gets shattered; whoever the Stone falls on gets smashed."

⁴⁵⁻⁴⁶ When the religious leaders heard this story, they knew it was aimed at them. They wanted to arrest Jesus and put him in jail, but, intimidated by public opinion, they held back. Most people held him to be a prophet of God.

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

SERMON

Pastor Katie

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

The prayers conclude ... through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

If you brought an offering or your pledge card today, please place it in an offering plate that ushers will pass at this time. Thank you for your generous gifts! Did you know you can give using a credit card? Scan the QR code to the right.



OFFERTORY *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (Prayer of St. Francis)* Temple, arr. Hayes
Atonement Choir

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope,
Where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love, all my soul.
Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Words by Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)

The assembly stands.

HOLY COMMUNION

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus taught us: **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

Christ invites you to this table. All who are hungry and thirsty, come!

The assembly is seated.

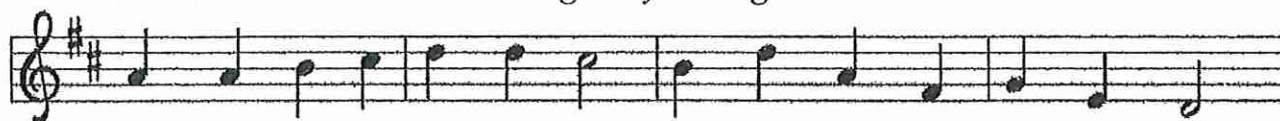
DISTRIBUTION

Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at Atonement. Follow the directions of the ushers to receive bread and a pre-filled cup of wine or grape juice (in purple cups) from the communion assistants. Deposit your empty cup in the basket at the end of the front pew and return to your seat by the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are welcome to receive communion with their parents' permission.

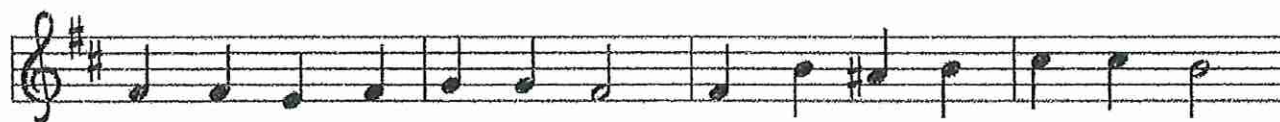
Please take a moment to sign and pass the attendance pads found in the pews, check in to Atonement on your favorite social media platform, share a photo with your digital community, and say something gentle in the spirit of Jesus!

COMMUNION HYMN

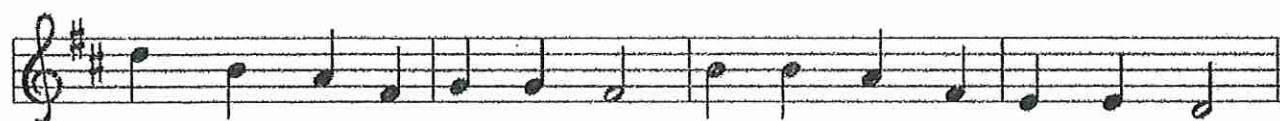
Faith Begins by Letting Go



1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,
 2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on; keep - ing mem - 'ry's roots a - live
 3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:
 so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,
 shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
 not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
 till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

COMMUNION HYMN 826

Thine the Amen

The assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May God bless you with a restless discomfort about easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships, so that you may seek truth boldly and love deep within your heart.

May God bless you with holy anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may tirelessly work for justice, freedom, and peace among all people.

May God bless you with the gift of tears to shed with those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, or the loss of all that they cherish, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and transform their pain into joy.

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you really can make a difference in this world, so that you are able, with God's grace, to do what others claim cannot be done.

In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Guide My Feet

Leader All

1 Guide my feet
2 Hold my hand
3 Stand by me while I run this race.
4 I'm your child

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race.
I'm your child

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race,
I'm your child

for I don't want to run this race in vain.

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy! Bring peace to the world. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

Kartsonakis

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Assisting with Worship

John & Patty Lehr, greeter ♦ Lou Mehos, head usher

C. Louise Fair, lector ♦ Tim McGuirk, assisting minister

Sammy Nied, Crystal Shirk, sound booth ♦ Frank & Victoria Mercuri, nursery

Gail Dawson-White, Tom Herman, Precious Johnson-Agiri, Sally Youngcourt,
communion assistants

Susan Mehos, altar captain ♦ Pat Noll, sexton

Atonement Choir

Today, October 4, is the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi. Francis was born into wealth, but he gave it up and lived a life of poverty dedicated to serving Christ. He is remembered for his love of all creatures and is credited with the first living Nativity. This morning, in his honor, Atonement Choir is singing the St. Francis Prayer ("Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"), and to welcome the Gospel, we will all sing the beginning of his Canticle of Creation ("All Creatures, Worship God Most High!").

Katie Lyon, *Pastor*

Molly Haggerty, *Transition Pastor of Community Engagement*

Tom Yenser, *Deacon*

Jen Dauber, *Preschool Director*

Lauryn Lacis, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Arthur Wyse, *Visitation Pastor*

Crystal Shirk, *Office Manager*

Amy Rogers, *Financial Secretary*

Tom Scornavacchi, *Mission Developer*

Michelle Endy, *Room Coordinator*

Ken Lord, *Congregational Health Advocate*

Ellen Bryan, *Pastoral Care Coordinator*

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The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement

5 Wyomissing Boulevard

Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610-2081

610-375-3512 ♦ www.atonementwyo.org

The Rev. Katie Lyon ♦ The Rev. Molly Haggerty ♦ Deacon Tom Yenser, director of music

WARMEST WELCOME to this congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America! We are a Lutheran church, but we're not just for Lutherans—we belong to our community.

CHILDREN are very welcome at Atonement! Activity bags and children's bulletins are available with the ushers. Children from age 3 to 2nd grade are invited to experience worship geared just for them – follow the CHILDREN'S CHAPEL leader to the privacy room after the Children's Message. Children will return to their families for communion. NURSERY is available for children preschool age and younger in Room F126.

RESTROOMS are located in the hall next to the worship space. A FAMILY RESTROOM with a changing table is also located in the Privacy Room at the back of the worship space.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are 10am-3pm Monday-Thursday.

DONATING TO THE COMMUNITY AID THRIFT SHOP can benefit Common Ground. Use the code **50244** when you make a donation.

FOOD DONATIONS of canned goods, cereal, and other non-perishable, non-expired items for Lutheran Pantry are always accepted in the grocery cart in the narthex.

COMMON GROUND DONATIONS of clothing and toiletries are always welcome! There is currently an immediate need for men's clothing. Items can be placed in the large bin next to the coatroom in the narthex.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION continues this fall in room F122 at 8:45am.

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION continues Sunday mornings throughout the fall - meet in the choir room Sunday mornings at 8:45am.

ATONEMENT VOLUNTEERS SERVE AT OPPORTUNITY HOUSE the third Saturday of every month. Contact Bob Eisenbrown at 484-332-8788 if you would like to join the team.

CROP HUNGER WALK is October 11 – join team Atonement as we take steps to fight hunger in our own community. We are also accepting donations through Sunday, October 26. Make your check payable to "Atonement" with "CROP Walk" in the check memo or notes field for online donations.

CONFIRMATION CLASS will meet after worship today in the Privacy Room. Next week we will join the Atonement CROP Walk Team.

YOUTH GATHERING this evening will be 5:30-7:30 at St. John's, Sinking Spring.

YOUTH EVENT AT DUNCAN'S CORN MAZE will be October 25. Meet at Atonement at 5:30pm, and bring \$15 for activities. Parent drivers welcomed. RSVP to Pastor Molly at mhaggerty@atonementwyo.org.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING to discuss the future of the Community Center will be held after worship today, October 4. Please plan to join us if you are able.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR for all children grades K-6 will begin weekly Sunday rehearsals today, 11:15am-noon. See Deacon Tom if you have any questions.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 835 *All Creatures, Worship God Most High!*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 835 *All Creatures, Worship God Most High!*



1 All crea-tures, wor - ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:

Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Thine the Amen

826



1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom-ise let there be
 3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest
 4 Thine the king-dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break-ing of the bread
 thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend-ed knee
 thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be
 thine the ban-quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways
 thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup
 gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead-ing gone the cry
 then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war
 thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least
 then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
 gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
 thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
 then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.
 thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.



Wednesdays

Common Ground Schedule change

Starting October 7, 2026

Atonement Lutheran Church in Lundin Hall

5 Wyomissing Blvd, Wyomissing, PA 19610 [610-375-3512](tel:610-375-3512)



5:30 - 6:15 PM

Meal and conversations

6:30 PM

12 Step Recovery Worship

7:30 PM

Small Groups

1st Wednesday Faith & Recovery w/ Pr Tom in Privacy Room
2nd Wednesday Faith & Justice w/ Pr Molly in Privacy Room
3rd Wednesday Musing in Menopause w/ Pr Molly in F122
4th Wednesday Faith & Recovery w/ Pr Tom in Privacy Room



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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

DO YOU WANT TO SHARE YOUR STORY?

We will be starting to do short videos about Common Ground and the
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See Pr Tom or Pr Molly if you are interested

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