



Atonement Lutheran Church

September 7, 2025
Time after Pentecost

9242 Kiefer Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95826

Office Phone: 916-363-8642

Web Page: AtonementLutheranChurch.org

Serving in Worship

Pastor Holly Feather (she/her/hers)
Assisting Minister.....Jim Weber
Reader..... Susie and Sara Klapheck
Interim Choir Director..... Gwen Freeman
Pianist..... Youlee Duray
Altar Guild/Counters.....Phyllis Ransom and Johanne Smith

Remote Worship Access

Use this link to join the service on a computer, tablet, or smart phone:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84490589512> . You may have to wait for the host to admit you to the service.

To call in for sound only, the telephone number is (669) 900 6833. When you are prompted to enter a Meeting ID, the number is 844 9058 9512. If you are asked for a passcode (you may not be), it is 750450.

Those worshipping remotely are invited to share in communion. Please have a small portion of bread and wine/juice ready before the service.

If you have a prayer request, please enter it in the “chat” feature and we will include it during today’s Prayers of the People.

Welcome!

**Whether you are worshipping in-person or remotely,
we're glad you have joined us.**

Atonement is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and is also a Reconciled in Christ (RIC) congregation. This means that we are an inclusive congregation that welcomes and encourages all people, regardless of race, language, previous denominational affiliation, gender identity, or sexual orientation to worship with us so that we may enjoy all the spiritual gifts that God gives to all God's people.

At Atonement, we embrace the Richard Feynman quote that has been so popular on social media: *"I would rather have questions that can't be answered than answers that can't be questioned."* Questions are welcome here, even the questions we can't answer, even if you're questioning your faith (don't we all sometimes?). Whatever your questions, we would love to walk with you so we can learn from each other.

This bulletin contains all the music and responses you will need for today's service. If you are not familiar with the liturgical form of worship, please let the spirit of the service carry you along.

- Congregational responses are in **bold face type**.
- **Songs** are printed in the back of the bulletin.
- At various times during the service, you will be invited to **stand**. Please feel free to remain seated if you prefer to worship in this way.

We celebrate **Holy Communion** every week. You do not need to be a member, or a Lutheran, to participate. Everyone is welcome at God's table. If this meal is meaningful to you, please come. If you are not able to come forward, we will bring communion to you. Please let an usher know.

If you need to contact Pastor Holly, her cell number is (530) 613-9018, or you may email her at pr.holly@gmail.com. The "**ALC Guest**" wifi password is ALC9242!

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

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude..... Youlee Duray

Confession and Forgiveness

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

In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✠ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.

Gathering Song Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus (pg. 20)

Greeting/ Prayer of the Day

The grace of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, the love of God our Creator, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Holy One, you stretch wide your tent that all may be welcomed in, and in Jesus you stretched out your hands in expansive love for a weary and wounded world. Help us to reach out with your own wounded hands of love, that through us your life may be known in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Friend.

Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture, sermon, and song.

Welcoming God's Word

*The children (and those young at heart)
are invited to come forward and help the Pastor welcome God's Word.*

Welcome

First Reading Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵ “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

Holy Wisdom Holy Words.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 1.....I Shall Not be Moved (TFF 147)

Refrain



I shall not be, I shall not be moved. I shall not be, I shall not be moved;



like a tree plant-ed by the wa - ter, I shall not be moved. be moved.



1 When my cross is heav - y, I shall not be moved,
2 The church of God is march - ing, I shall not be moved, the
3 Je - sus is our cap - tain, I shall not be moved,
4 Fight - ing sin and Sa - tan, I shall not be moved,



when my cross is heav - y, I shall not be moved;
church of God is march - ing, I shall not be moved;
Je - sus is our cap - tain, I shall not be moved;
fight - ing sin and Sa - tan, I shall not be moved;

Refrain



like a tree plant-ed by the wa - ter, I shall not be moved. be moved.

Gospel Verse *(Please stand in body or spirit.)*.....Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (ELW 172)

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 25-33

Holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Repeat Gospel VerseHalle, Halle, Hallelujah

Today’s Message Pastor Holly Feather
Julie Backman

After the Message, the people stand in body or spirit

Siblings in Christ, both our work and our rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the life of Jesus, in gratitude to God and in service to others, at morning and evening, at work and at play, all the days of your life?
I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit you have knit us your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Look with favor upon us in our commitment to serve in Christ's name. Give us courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

We are called to proclaim the good news:
God is at work!

This good news is not left in some history long ago or a place far away:
God is at work in the world still today

In us and through us, God is glorified in our work. When we offer a helping hand, God is praised. When we share of our abundance, God is known in the world.
God is at work in us!

In our service today and in our daily lives, let us live out what God has called us to in baptism.
God is at work through our hands!

Song of the Day God's Work, Our Hands (pg. 21)

During the singing of the hymn, individuals may come forward and receive a blessing on the backs and palms of their hands.

Bless those who go out from here to labor in our neighborhood. Prosper the work of their hands. Bless those who receive the benefit of their labor and may those who are sent receive blessing in return. May the gifts they use and share be signs of your love to all people.

Amen.

Prayers of the People *(please be seated)*

Each petition will end: We pray,

*Please respond: **Hear us when we call.***

Greetings of Peace *(Please stand in body or spirit.)*

The passing of the peace is already part of the worship in the New Testament. This action embodies our belief that we are reconciled to one another through our faith in Christ. Greet your neighbor with a handshake, a hug, or a bow with palms pressed together. As we seek to form a community of consent, please be sensitive to the other person's desired level of physical contact.

Meal
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Collection of the Offering

Offering Song Jesus Loves Me (pg. 22)

Offering Prayer *(Please stand in body or spirit.)*

Let us pray together:

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

We Gather at God's Table

May God be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to
our God most High.

And also with you.

We lift them to God.

**It is right to give God
thanks and praise.**

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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, Holy, Holy Lord

heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.

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

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your thirst.

In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Send your Holy Spirit to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son, through whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us

Please feel free to offer this prayer in whatever language or translation speaks most deeply to your heart.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Communion Blessing *(after all have been served)*

(Please stand in body or spirit.)

The body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ ✠, strengthen and keep you, now and forever.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Sending

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

Benediction

God who sets forth the law of love, Jesus who fulfills the law for you, and the Spirit through whom you are called to love, ☩ bless you this day, that you may be God's hands and heart and voice at work in the world.

Amen.

Sending Song..... Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song (pg. 23)

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are God's hands at work in the world!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude Youlee Duray

Acknowledgements

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August Offerings

	Offerings	Missions, Usage, Flowers, Special, Other	Total Income
August 3	1160.00	935.00	2095.00
August 10	1479.00	3080.00	4559.00
August 17	2579.00		2579.00
August 24	504.00		504.00
August 31	236.00		236.00
Total	5958.00	4015.00	9973.00

Next Week’s Readings:

Numbers 21:4b-9

Psalm 98:1-4

1 Corinthians 1:18-24

John 3:13-17

Parish Notes

Altar Flowers today are offered for the Glory of God.

Our Prayer Concerns (Please ask the permission of the person for whom you are requesting prayers through the Prayer Chain or the pastor to publish their name and their request.)

Norma Stein (Barb's friend), The Guidi Family (Youlee Duray's Neighbor), Jennifer Smith (Johanne Smith's Daughter-in-Law), Bodil Drucker, Sue Napalitano (Brother Mike's sister), Ezekiel (Tito's nephew), Mark Montgomery, Pat Crongeyer (Walt Wildrick's friend), Joan Witt (Lucy's Friend), Faith (Lucy's Friend), Bob Grosse (Kathy Chance's father), Bob (Mary Wudel's brother), Christopher Chance (Kathy's son), Nina Haskett (friend of Barb), Beverly Olson, Sedona (Lucy's friend), Lauri Snyder, Curt Hanson, Carolyn Hanley, Ron Geirhan, Jody Koch, Lisa Berumen, Mary Lechner, Lonee Martinez, Dennis Tagawa (Barb's friend), Dan and Kathy, Judi Phelps, John Studybaker. All countries experiencing conflict, the many places recovering from natural disasters, all those caught up in the epidemic of violence in the US. Our local congregations and synod staff, especially Christ the King Lutheran Church, Grace American Lutheran Church, Debbie Cook, Finance Assistant Contractor.

+++++

This Week at Atonement

Sunday, September 7

Noisy Offering

Birthday Sunday

10:00 Worship

11:15 Fellowship

12:00-2:00pm God's work our Hands

Neighborhood cleanup day.

Tuesday, September 9

1:00 Handcrafters

Thursday, September 11

Choir Practice 7:00-8:30pm

Sunday, September 14

10:00 Worship

11:15 Fellowship

11:30 Council Meeting

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Saturday, September 20th

Rosemont Community Association
Celebration in the park.

Tuesday September 23rd

1:00 Handcrafters

Bits N Pieces of Information

Adult Discussion Time: Our discussion group on Manna and Mercy continues September 21. This wonderful graphic novel is by Dan Erlander. In the introduction, he writes “I am convinced that authentic God-Talk can take place only in the context of trembling, laughing at oneself, praying for forgiveness, and understanding that words never capture the reality to which they point.”

The Great Cloud of Witnesses: This Fall, as we move towards All Saints Day, we will focus on those who have gone on before us, both in our congregation and in our lives. Please bring in a photo of one of your personal faith heroes. I'll scan the photo and return it to you (unharmed). Put it in an envelope or zip top bag with your name and the name of the person in the picture. or put a post on the back with your name on it). I'll print the photos and, on All Saints Sunday, Nov. 6th, these saints will join us in worship. They might even be part of the sermon.

Choir Practice Started September 4th: Choir Practice started Thursday, September 4 and will continue each Thursday, 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. ALL ARE WELCOME. Our interim choir director, Gwen Freeman, is looking forward to starting the fall season and working with each of you. There is no musical talent or experience required. We broaden our experience getting to know each other. We try to sing two or more Sundays a month, plus at special services for Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. Contact Gwen if you would like to join the choir or if you have any questions: (408) 499-1921 or gwenffreeman@yahoo.com

The Transition: Now that I have submitted my official retirement notice to the congregation and Synod it's time to start thinking about what comes next. More information will be coming soon about the process that starts after I am actually gone but the first steps are all about saying goodbye. Please let me know if there is anything you want to talk to me about while I'm still your pastor.

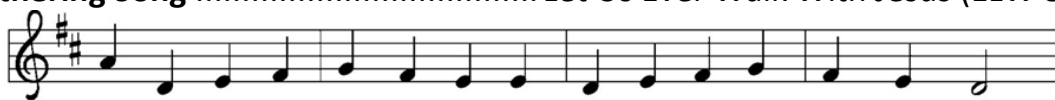
Pastor Holly's Upcoming Adventures:

- I will be on vacation September 22nd – 29th. Guest pastor is TBA.
- I will be at the Bishop's Convocation November 3rd —5th (my last event as a serving pastor)

2025 Congregation Council

President	Shirl Fischer
Vice President	Vacant
Secretary	Linda Cancio
Treasurer	Johanne Smith
Financial Secretary	Mireya Citron-Ortiz
Property & Administration	Michael Borgg
Worship	Lucy Taylor
Cares/Outreach	Julie Backman
Member at Large	Vacant
Pastor	Pr. Holly Feather

Gathering Song Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus (ELW 802)



- 1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
- 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.
- 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
- 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
 Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
 he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
 that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
 Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:
 Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
 we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be

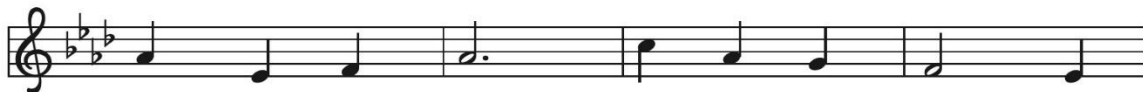


full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.
 all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
 and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.
 in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
 Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
 Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
 Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

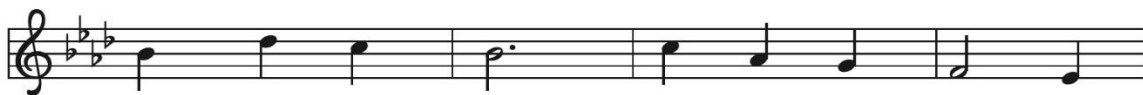
Song of the Day.....God's Work, Our Hands (ACS 1000)



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
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Offering Song Jesus Love Me (ELW 595)

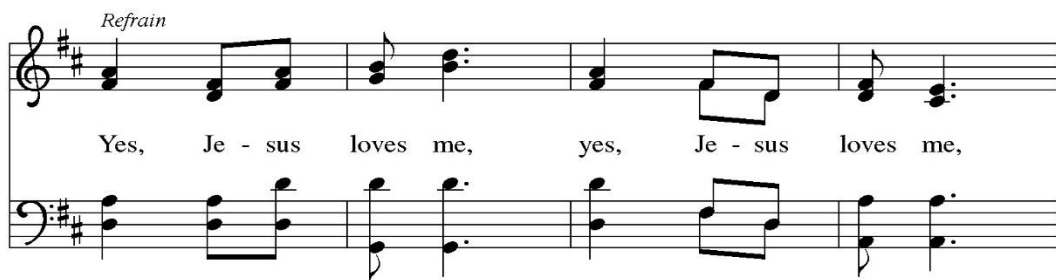


1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
 2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
 3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
 when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Sending Song..... Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song (ELW 808)

1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*
 1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;
 2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,
 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;

Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an-non-cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,
 I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:
 May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.
 to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.
 but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:
 you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
 For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.
 And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,

Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.
 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.
 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.