



SOTC Virtual Worship  
May 24, 2020  
Seventh Sunday of Easter

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## GATHERING

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### WELCOME

*Congregation is invited to light their candle as a sign of God's presence with us as we begin worship.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, + and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Gathered in the presence of God and one another, let us confess our sin.

*Silence for reflection*

Gracious Father,  
**you sent your Son to die and rise again so that death might be conquered, and so that we might live a new life in Christ. Yet, we confess that we too often have chosen to remain captive to sin, to doubt, to fear, and to brokenness that only leads to death. By our thoughts, words, and actions, we have scorned your love, diminished the lives of others, and marred your image within us. Father, we need a resurrection. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may rise up to live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

People of God, hear the Good News! Christ is risen! In his death and resurrection, you have been offered a *new* beginning as the old things die and you are made new. In the name of Jesus Christ, + your sin is forgiven, and death no longer holds power over you. Go, and live as a resurrected child of God.

**Amen! Alleluia!**

### GATHERING SONG – *Now the Feast and Celebration, ELW 167*

*Refrain*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion

sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God. *Refrain*

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

God; to make all things new. *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

**Lord Jesus Christ, illumine our hearts this day, that we may feel your glory and live into the hope to which you have called us. Stretch our imaginations to sense the majesty of your ascension, and teach us patience as we await the promise of your resurrection in all things. Nurture us, and prepare us as vessels of your Spirit. We pray this in the name of the one who gave his life for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Lord. Amen.**

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## WORD

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## PSALM: PSALM 47

<sup>1</sup>Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
**shout to God with loud songs of joy.**

<sup>2</sup>For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome,  
**a great king over all the earth.**

<sup>3</sup>He subdued peoples under us,  
**and nations under our feet.**

<sup>4</sup>He chose our heritage for us,  
**the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

<sup>5</sup>God has gone up with a shout,  
**the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.**

<sup>6</sup>Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
**sing praises to our King, sing praises.**

<sup>7</sup>For God is the king of all the earth;  
**sing praises with a psalm.**

<sup>8</sup>God is king over the nations;  
**God sits on his holy throne.**

<sup>9</sup>The princes of the peoples gather  
**as the people of the God of Abraham.**  
For the shields of the earth belong to God;  
**he, alone, is highly exalted.**

## READING: ACTS 1: 1-14

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father.

"This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

## REFLECTION

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Response to "Lord in your mercy" is "hear our prayer." If you would like to add a prayer petition, email it to Pastor Aleese at [pastoraleesebaldwin@gmail.com](mailto:pastoraleesebaldwin@gmail.com)*

## MEAL

SONG: *Let Not Your Hearts Be Troubled*

Let not your hearts be troubled. Be not a-fraid.

Heav-en and earth have been gath-ered. Be not a-fraid.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: 'Let not your hearts be troubled. Be not a-fraid.' The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: 'Heav-en and earth have been gath-ered. Be not a-fraid.' The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes, with a final whole note on 'a-fraid' in both lines.

## 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.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

### LORD'S PRAYER

### COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*You are encouraged to share bread/crackers and wine/grape juice with those in your household, saying "The body of Christ, given for you," and "the blood of Christ, shed for you." If you are by yourself, hear the words proclaimed by Pastor Aleese as words spoken for you. All are welcome to share in God's feast that makes us one.*

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## SENDING

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### BLESSING

Go into the world,  
bearing witness to the Christ who has ascended to be everywhere present.

Almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever as *together*, we await in hope for all that is to come.  
**Amen!**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all!  
**And also with you!**

*All are invited to share the sign of the peace with those in their homes or via text/phone call/virtually with others in the congregation!*