



SOTC Outdoor Worship
July 11, 2020
Sixth Weekend after Pentecost

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Congregation is invited to join in a communal beat as demonstrated by the worship leader.

In the name of the Father **(echo)**
in the name of the Son **(echo)**
in the name of the Spirit **(echo)**
all three in one **(echo)**.

We are claimed by the Father **(echo)**
we are claimed by the Son **(echo)**
we are claimed by the Spirit **(echo)**
gathered up as one **(echo)**.

Gathered in the bond of the Holy Trinity – the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we give thanks for God’s promises to us given through baptism. Let us pray: Good and gracious God...

Following the prayer, the congregation is invited to pour water from their water bottle onto their hands. Feel the water washing over your skin, reminding you that your sin and the blemishes that mar our common humanity, are forgiven. Freed from sin, you are water-washed and Spirit-born, sent out on purpose for a purpose in Christ’s name.

With hands still wet from the water, make the sign of the cross on another in your circle or on yourself, saying, “(Name), you are chosen, claimed, and called by God.”

In the name of the Father **(echo)**
in the name of the Son **(echo)**
in the name of the Spirit **(echo)**
all three in one **(echo)**.

We are sent by the Father **(echo)**
we are sent by the Son **(echo)**
we are sent by the Spirit **(echo)**
sent out as one **(echo)**.

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

WORD

READING: ISAIAH 55: 10-13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off

PSALM: PSALM 65: 1-13

¹You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

²**To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

³Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

⁴**Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.**

⁵Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

⁶**You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

⁷You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

⁸**Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.
You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

¹¹You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹²**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

READING: MATTHEW 13: 1-9, 18-23

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

REFLECTION

APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole people of God, let us confess our faith...

**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.**

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 pastor@shepherdofthecross.org

MEAL

MOMENT OF THANKS

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Spirit, 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 forever. Amen.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Congregation is invited to share communion elements with those in their circle, 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. If you need communion elements, please inform an usher or greeter. All are welcome to share in God's feast that makes us one.

SENDING

BLESSING

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage;
hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people;
love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

May the blessing of our almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all!

And also with you!

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

All are invited to share the sign of the peace with those around them by using a peace sign or a gentle bow. Congregation is invited to remain for a time of fellowship while physically distancing.