



SOTC Outdoor Worship  
July 18, 2020  
Seventh Weekend after Pentecost

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## GATHERING

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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

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## WORD

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## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### READING: ISAIAH 44: 6-8

<sup>6</sup>Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel,  
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

I am the first and I am the last;  
besides me there is no god.

<sup>7</sup>Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,  
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?  
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

<sup>8</sup>Do not fear, or be afraid;  
have I not told you from of old and declared it?  
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?  
There is no other rock; I know not one.

### PSALM: PSALM 86: 11-17

<sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, O LORD,  
**that I may walk in your truth;**  
**give me an undivided heart to revere your name.**

<sup>12</sup>I give thanks to you, O LORD my God, with my whole heart,  
**and I will glorify your name forever.**

<sup>13</sup>For great is your steadfast love toward me;  
**you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.**

<sup>14</sup>O God, the insolent rise up against me;  
**a band of ruffians seeks my life,**  
**and they do not set you before them.**

<sup>15</sup>But you, O LORD, are a God merciful and gracious,  
**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.**

<sup>16</sup>Turn to me and be gracious to me;  
**give your strength to your servant;**  
**save the child of your serving girl.**

⋈ Show me a sign of your favor,  
**so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame,  
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

#### READING: MATTHEW 13: 24-30, 36-43

<sup>24</sup>Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;<sup>25</sup>but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup>And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ <sup>28</sup>He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup>But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

<sup>36</sup>Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup>He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; <sup>38</sup>the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup>and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup>Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

#### 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](mailto:pastor@shepherdofthecross.org)*

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## MEAL

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### 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.*

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## SENDING

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### 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.*

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