



SOTC Outdoor Worship  
August 29, 2020  
Thirteenth Weekend after Pentecost

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## GATHERING

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PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Reconciling God,

**we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life.**

**Amen.**

Beloved of God,

by the radical abundance of divine mercy, we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Your sin is forgiven. Live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PSALM: PSALM 26: 1-8

<sup>1</sup>Vindicate me, O LORD,  
**for I have walked in my integrity,  
and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.**

<sup>2</sup>Prove me, O LORD, and try me;  
**test my heart and mind.**

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is before my eyes,  
**and I walk in faithfulness to you.**

<sup>4</sup>I do not sit with the worthless,  
**nor do I consort with hypocrites;**

<sup>5</sup>I hate the company of evildoers,  
**and will not sit with the wicked.**

<sup>6</sup>I wash my hands in innocence,  
**and go around your altar, O LORD,**  
<sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song of thanksgiving,  
**and telling all your wondrous deeds.**

<sup>8</sup>O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell,  
**and the place where your glory abides.**

READING: ROMANS 12: 9-21

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

## GOSPEL: MATTHEW 16: 21-28

*Before the reading, the response to the Gospel announcement is*  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

*After the reading, the response to "The Gospel of our Lord" is*  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## 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)*

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Congregation is invited to share a sign of peace with others using a peace sign or gentle bow. Please refrain from physical touch.*

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## MEAL

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## 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.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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## SENDING

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## BLESSING

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

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.*