



SOTC Outdoor Worship
September 5, 2020
Fourteenth Weekend after Pentecost

GATHERING

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 119: 33-40

- ³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.
- ³⁴ **Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.**
- ³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.
- ³⁶ **Turn my heart to your decrees,
and not to selfish gain.**
- ³⁷ Turn my eyes from looking at vanities;
give me life in your ways.
- ³⁸ **Confirm to your servant your promise,
which is for those who fear you.**
- ³⁹ Turn away the disgrace that I dread,
for your ordinances are good.
- ⁴⁰ **See, I have longed for your precepts;
in your righteousness give me life.**

READING: ROMANS 13: 8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18: 15-20

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

Jesus said to the disciples:¹⁵"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender

refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

*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*

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.

MEAL

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

SENDING

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.

