



SOTC Outdoor Worship  
October 25, 2020  
Reformation Sunday

———— GATHERING ————

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Faithful God,  
**have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.  
**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

**Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people, keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 31:31-34

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

PSALM: PSALM 46

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

**<sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;  
<sup>3</sup>though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

<sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.

**<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.**

<sup>6</sup>The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

**<sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

<sup>8</sup>Come, behold the works of the LORD;  
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

**<sup>9</sup>He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.**

<sup>10</sup>"Be still, and know that I am God!

I am exalted among the nations,  
I am exalted in the earth."

**<sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

## SECOND READING: ROMANS 3:19-28

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL: JOHN 8:31-36

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” <sup>33</sup>They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

## SERMON

## SPECIAL MUSIC

## 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.*

### ———— 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 family, saying "The body of Christ, given for you," and "the blood of Christ, shed for you." If you are worshipping on your own, hear the words proclaimed by Pastor Aleese as God's Word of promise is spoken to you. 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!**

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