

SOTC Worship  
June 13, 2021  
Third Sunday of Pentecost

———— GATHERING ————

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG

FOR THE FRUIT OF ALL CREATION



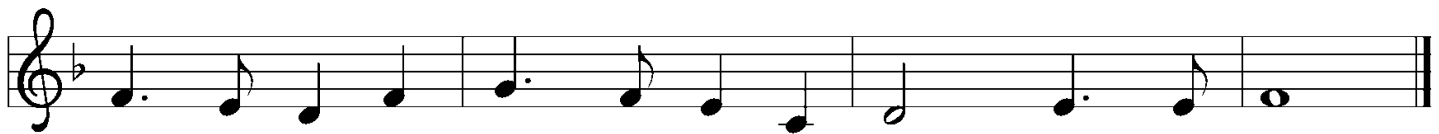
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Gathered in the presence of God and each other, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

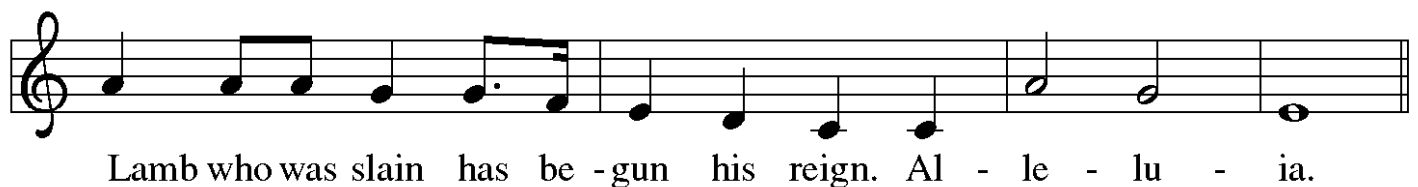
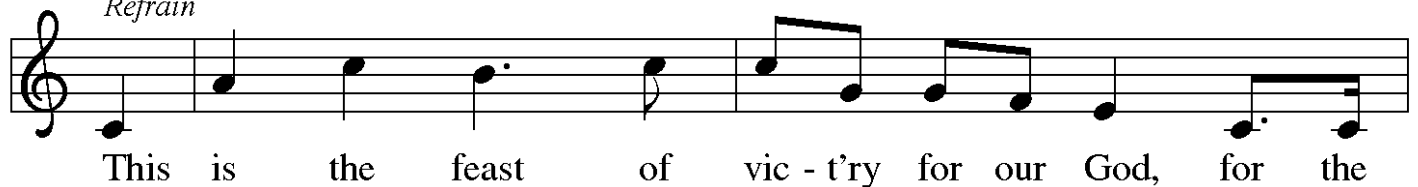
## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*





1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

*Refrain*



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the  
Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray -

**O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

#### WORD

#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### READING: EZEKIEL 17:22-24

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will take a sprig  
from the lofty top of a cedar;  
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one  
from the topmost of its young twigs;  
I myself will plant it  
on a high and lofty mountain.

<sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel  
I will plant it,  
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,  
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;  
in the shade of its branches will nest  
winged creatures of every kind.

<sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know  
that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,  
I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree  
and make the dry tree flourish.  
I the LORD have spoken;  
I will accomplish it.

PSALM: PSALM 92:1-4, 12-15

<sup>1</sup>It is good to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;  
<sup>2</sup>**to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night,**  
<sup>3</sup>to the music of the lute and the harp,  
to the melody of the lyre.  
<sup>4</sup>**For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;  
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**

<sup>12</sup>The righteous flourish like the palm tree,  
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.  
<sup>13</sup>**They are planted in the house of the LORD;  
they flourish in the courts of our God.**  
<sup>14</sup>In old age they still produce fruit;  
they are always green and full of sap,  
<sup>15</sup>**showing that the LORD is upright;  
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.**

READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-17

<sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

<sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. <sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: MARK 4:26-34

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 4th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup>Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,<sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

<sup>30</sup>He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ**

SERMON

HYMN

BUILD US UP, LORD



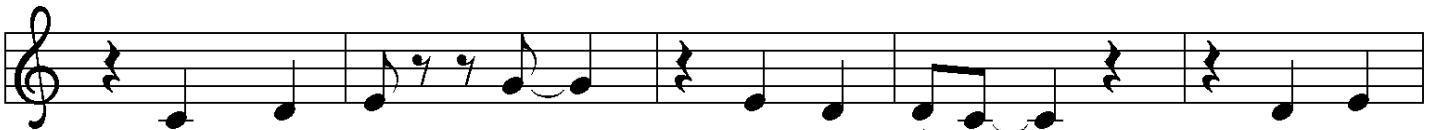
1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in  
2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our



us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your  
lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our



ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.  
doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.



Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we  
Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us

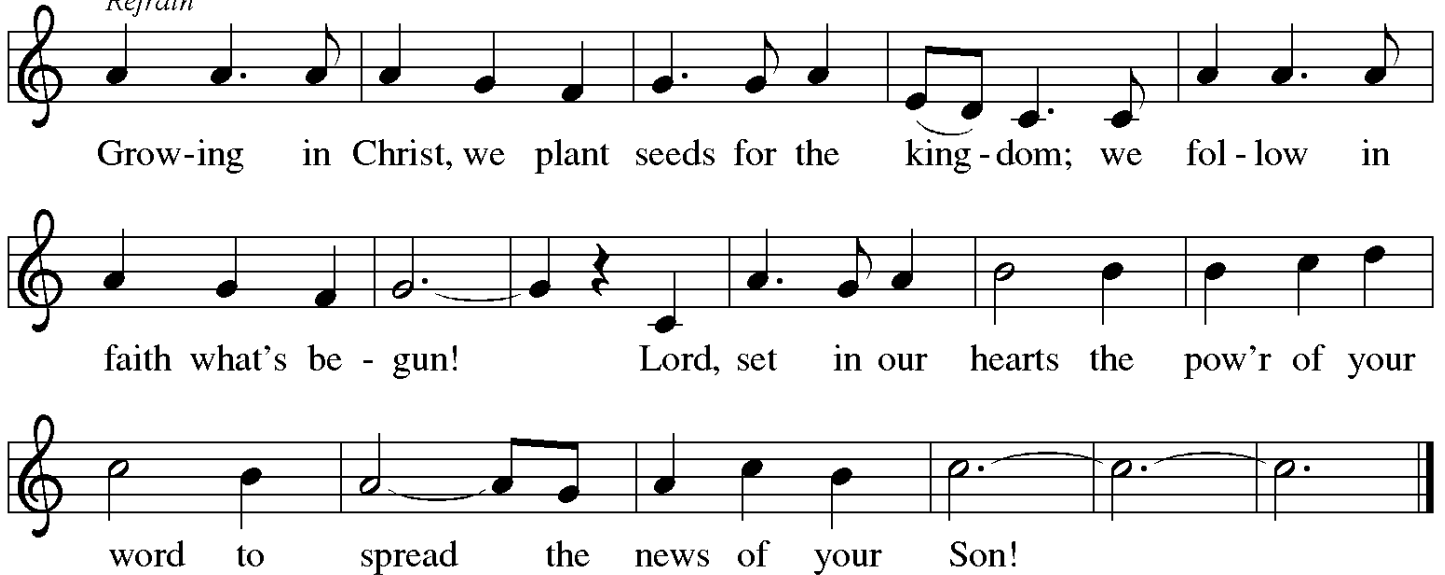


guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the  
bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us



world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.  
sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.

*Refrain*



Grow-ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king-dom; we fol-low in  
faith what's be-gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your  
word to spread the news of your Son!

APOSTLE'S CREED

**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. Pull out your cell phones and send a text and/or a picture to someone, sharing the peace of Christ with them as well!*

————— MEAL —————

OFFERING

LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with lyrics underneath each staff. The lyrics are: 'Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood. When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.'

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

## PREFACE

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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 ever. Amen.**

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*Congregation is invited to receive the sacrament communally with the entire congregation or within their family units. 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 given to us in love.*

COMMUNION SONG

AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

*Refrain*




As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,



2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*



may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

———— SENDING ————

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor, and + give you peace.  
**Amen.**

♩ = 160

**CHORUS**

C/D G D/G G D/G G D/G Em D/E Em

My life is in You, Lord, my strength is in

4 D/E Em D/E C D/C C D/C C G/D

You, Lord, my hope is in You, Lord, in You, it's in

8 **VERSE**

1, 3. D C/D 2. D C D/C C D/C G/B

You My You I will praise You with all of my life,

13 G G/B C D/C C D/C G/B G G/B

I will praise You with all of my strength; With

18 D A<sup>7sus</sup>/E D/F# G E B<sup>7sus</sup>/F# E/G# Am Am/G

all of my life, with all of my strength.

22 F Am<sup>7</sup>/E D<sup>sus</sup> D C/D D.S. al Coda

All of my hope is in You My

## DISMISSAL

You are the body of Christ, raised up for the world.  
Go with peace, and go with courage,  
as the Spirit empowers you, to share the good news.  
**Thanks be to God!**

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