

SOTC Worship
September 5, 2021
Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost

————— GATHERING —————

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG

OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

vs. 1-3, 6



- 1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
- 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
- 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
- 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection

Lord God, we pause to confess our shortcomings in life and love. We want to live life to the fullest, and yet we find ourselves disillusioned or disappointed. We want to have deep, meaningful

relationships, and yet we short circuit those we love with our own selfishness. We want to follow the pull of your Spirit, and yet we turn to other pursuits. We want to live in union with you, and yet we turn away. Lord God, forgive us our sin, heal our wounds, and give us the power to change. Shower us with your grace that we may joyfully live with you and one another, all in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

People of God, hear the good news: through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the price of sin has been paid in full and we stand before God as restored and reformed people of faith. You are freed from your sin, from all that binds you, and from the wounds you carry. Receive Christ's grace, and go forth, empowered by the Spirit, to live in newness of life. 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.

KYRIE

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.
mer - cy. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!
1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

Refrain

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

Refrain

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

God;

Refrain

to make all things new.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray -

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

————— **WORD** —————

CHILDREN'S SERMON

READING: ISAIAH 35:4-7a

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

PSALM: PSALM 146

¹Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD, O my soul!
**²I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**

³Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.
**⁴When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.**

⁵Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,
**⁶who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;
⁷who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.**

The LORD sets the prisoners free;
⁸the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
**The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.
⁹The LORD watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**

¹⁰The LORD will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the LORD!

READING: JAMES 2:1-17

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor

person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Leader sings first, congregation sings second time.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: MARK 7:24-37

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 7th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So

she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

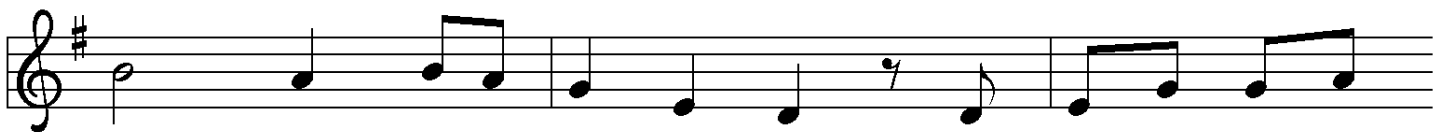
³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you O Christ

SERMON

HYMN

LIGHT DAWNS ON A WEARY WORLD



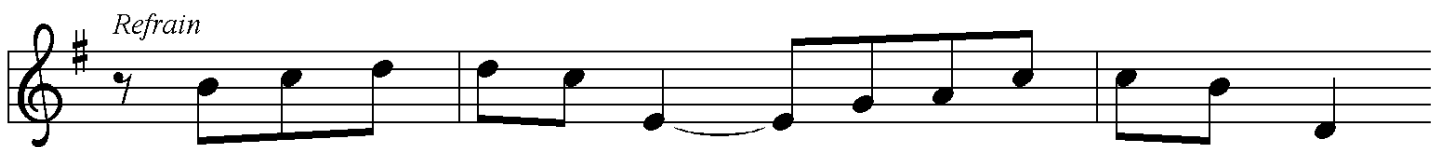
1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom-ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom-ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom-ised green of E - den comes.



Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;

the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing!

We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,

as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

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

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!

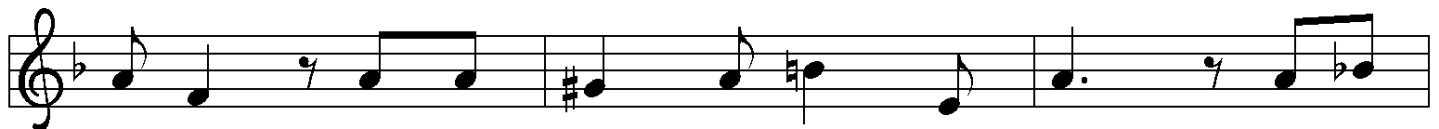
MEAL

OFFERING

GOD EXTENDS AN INVITATION



Nues-tro Pa - dre nos in - vi - ta a la me - sa de la
God ex - tends an in - vi - ta - tion to the ta - ble of cre -



vi - da, don - de hay vi - no, luz y pan; y no -
a - tion, where there's wine and light and bread. Here we



so - tros nos reu - ni - mos, y lo nues - tro com - par - ti - mos, pues a -
gath - er in thanks - giv - ing and we of - fer all our liv - ing. Here the




sí es la co - mu - ni - ón; pues a - sí es la co - mu - ni - ón.
feast of life is spread; here the feast of life is spread.

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider: *Congregation:*



The Lord be with you. And al - so with

Presider: *Congregation:*



you. Lift up your hearts. We

Presider:

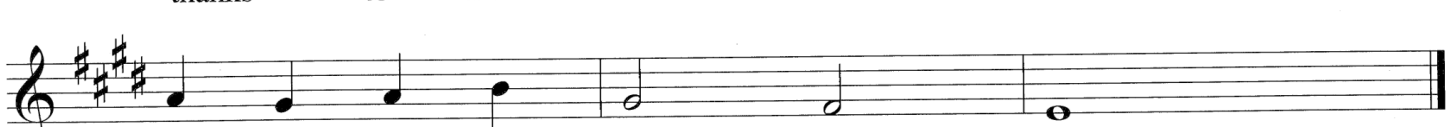


lift them to the Lord. Let us give

Congregation:




thanks to the Lord our God. It is




right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and



might; heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, 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.

LAMB OF GOD

Congregation: Lamb of God, *Congregation or Assistant:* you take a - way the sin of the
 * you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:



world:
fear:
peace:
love:

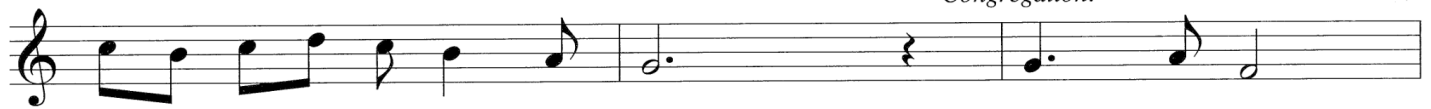
have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,

Final time Cong. or assistant:

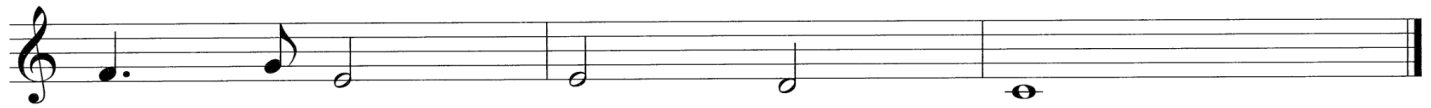


mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONG

JESU, JESU, FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE

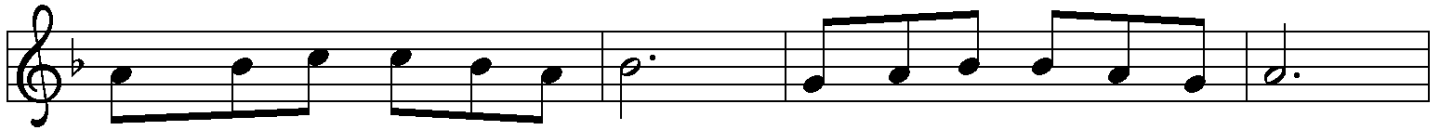
Refrain



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
 2 Neigh - bors are wealth - y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:



Refrain

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
 neigh - bors are near - by and far a - way.
 all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
 this is the way we will live with you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

———— SENDING ————

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

LORD OF JUSTICE



Lord of Jus - tice, Lord of life, help us to do what you



know is right. Oh, oh, oh, Lord of Jus - tice, Lord of life,



guide us through the day and night. To the strang - er may we give
 To the wound - ed may we give



wel - come, to the hun - gry may we give bread.
 heal - ing, to the voice - less may we give words.

To the nak-ed may we give cloth - ing, to the
 To the cap-tives may we give free - dom, to the
 home-less tor-tured a place to lay their head.
 re - lease from all the hurt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

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