



SOTC Worship  
February 20, 2022  
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

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## GATHERING

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PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG

ALL ARE WELCOME

ELW 641 vs. 1-3, 5

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.  
**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 have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may delight in your will, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.**

People of God, rejoice in this good news: In ✚ Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Receive Christ's grace, and go forth, living as freed and forgiven children of God.

**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.**

**O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

————— **WORD** —————

CHILDREN'S SERMON

READING: GENESIS 45:3-11, 15

<sup>3</sup>Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

<sup>4</sup>Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup>And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup>God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup>So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup>Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. <sup>10</sup>You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup>I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' " <sup>15</sup>And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

PSALM: PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40

<sup>1</sup>Do not fret because of the wicked;  
do not be envious of wrongdoers,  
**<sup>2</sup>for they will soon fade like the grass,  
and wither like the green herb.**

<sup>3</sup>Trust in the LORD, and do good;  
so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.  
**<sup>4</sup>Take delight in the LORD,  
and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

<sup>5</sup>Commit your way to the LORD;  
trust in him, and he will act.  
**<sup>6</sup>He will make your vindication shine like the light,  
and the justice of your cause like the noonday.**

<sup>7</sup>Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;  
**do not fret over those who prosper in their way,  
over those who carry out evil devices.**

<sup>8</sup>Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.  
Do not fret — it leads only to evil.

<sup>9</sup>**For the wicked shall be cut off,  
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.**

<sup>10</sup>Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more;  
though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.

<sup>11</sup>**But the meek shall inherit the land,  
and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.**

<sup>39</sup>The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;  
he is their refuge in the time of trouble.

<sup>40</sup>**The LORD helps them and rescues them;  
he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them,  
because they take refuge in him.**

READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-38, 42-50

<sup>35</sup>But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” <sup>36</sup>Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup>And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup>But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

<sup>42</sup>So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. <sup>43</sup>It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup>It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup>Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup>But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup>The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup>As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup>Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

<sup>50</sup>What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: LUKE 6:27-38

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 6th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: <sup>27</sup>“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup>bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup>If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup>Give to

everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup>Do to others as you would have them do to you.

<sup>32</sup>“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup>If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup>But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup>“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup>give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN

LORD OF ALL NATIONS, GRANT ME GRACE

ELW 716

APOSTLE'S CREED AND WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

*After Pastor Aleese addresses our new members and the congregation, together we profess 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.**

*Following our confession of faith, Pastor Aleese addresses our new members, asking for their commitment to continue in their journey of discipleship here at Shepherd of the Cross. Then, Pastor Aleese addresses the congregation, inviting the congregation to pledge their commitment to support*

*these new members as a part of our faith community. Response is “We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.”*

*After both new members and the congregation have expressed their commitment, Pastor Aleese continues:*

Together, let us welcome these fellow disciples into this community of faith.

**We rejoice as you join us on our journey of discipleship. Together we will give thanks and praise to God for your presence and ministry here among us at Shepherd of the Cross. We pledge to you our prayer and support, and we invite you to join us in proclaiming God’s Good News to all the world.**

*Pastor Aleese closes in a prayer of blessing and offers gifts on behalf of the congregation.*

#### 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!*

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### MEAL

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#### OFFERING SONG

#### 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 God 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 ever. Amen.**

#### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SHARING GOD'S MEAL TOGETHER

*Together we receive God's gift of love given to us in the sacrament of communion. All are welcome at the table, where Christ is our host.*

*Following the directions of the ushers, the congregation will be invited forward in groups. Each group will stand before the altar to receive the bread and wine/juice. After receiving both bread and wine, remain with your group until Pastor Aleese offers a short blessing, dismissing each group to return to their seats. Those not desiring to receive communion may come forward for a blessing.*

COMMUNION SONG

THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY

ELW 587

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

————— SENDING —————

BLESSING

May the God of glory dwell in you richly,  
name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path;  
and may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

SENDING SONG

MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT

Make me an in - stru - ment of your love. Let me be a  
chan - nel from a - bove. Make me an in - stru - ment of your love,  
an in - stru - ment of your love.

When a friend is in need of an op - en heart,  
 When some-one is hungry, when some-one is cold,  
 If some-one should wonder is God still a - live,  
 let me be there, oh let me be there. When a friend is lost with  
 let me be there, oh let me be there. When some - one needs help to  
 let me be there, oh let me be there. If some - one should wonder does  
 no-where to go, let me be there.  
 car - ry their load, let me be there.  
 God real - ly care, let me be there.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

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