



SOTC Worship
May 5, 2024
Sixth Sunday of Easter

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG

CHRIST IS RISEN! SHOUT HOSANNA!

ELW 383

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.

Gracious Father,

you sent your Son to die and rise again so that death might be conquered, and so that we might live a new life in Christ. Yet, we confess that we too often have chosen to remain captive to sin, to doubt, to fear, and to brokenness that only leads us to death. By our thoughts, words, and actions, we have scorned your love, diminished the lives of others, and marred your image within us. Father, we need a resurrection. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may rise up to live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Hear the Good News! Christ is risen and the stone has been rolled away. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is your new beginning as the old things die and you are made new. In the name of Jesus Christ, + your sin is forgiven, and death no longer holds power over you. You are free to live as a resurrected child of God.

Amen! Alleluia!

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW pg. 149

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

————— **WORD** —————

STORYTELLING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

In preparation to receive God's Word, we light the Christ candle and pray for illumination from God's word. Take a moment for silent reflection.

READINGS: ACTS 10:44-48, PSALM 98, 1 JOHN 5:1-6

In response to the readings:

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 151

GOSPEL: JOHN 15:9-17

The Gospel is announced:

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN

GREAT GOD, YOUR LOVE HAS CALLED US

ELW 358
(vs. 1, 3, 5)

After Pastor Aleese addresses Linda, Barb, 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 Linda and Barb, asking for her commitment to continue her journey of discipleship here at Shepherd of the Cross. Then, Pastor Aleese addresses the congregation, inviting the congregation to pledge their commitment to support Linda and Barb as a part of our faith community. Response is "We do, and we ask God to help and guide us."

After both Linda and Barb and the congregation have expressed their commitment, Pastor Aleese continues:

Together, let us welcome Linda and Barb 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 a gift 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.

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW pg. 152

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW pg. 153

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

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.

Receive the bread with open hands, and receive either the wine (red liquid) or juice (clear liquid). If you do not desire to receive communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest as an indication to the server.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW pg. 154

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE

ELW 836

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God!

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