

Year C; Second Sunday of Christmas
Liturgical Elements
Developed for January 2, 2022
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

Lectionary Texts

- Jeremiah 31:7-14
- Psalm 147:12-20
- Ephesians 1:3-14
- John 1:(1-9), 10-18

CALL TO WORSHIP (*from Psalm 147*)

One: Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!

All: Praise your God, O Zion!

One: For he strengthens the bars of your gates;

All: he blesses your children within you.

One: He grants peace within your borders;

All: he fills you with the finest of wheat.

One: He sends out his commands to the earth;

All: his word runs swiftly.

One: In the time of the Psalmist, he had not dealt thus with any other nation —

All: only he had done for the descendants of Jacob.

One: But through Jesus, the Lord has given access to his ordinances to all the nations.

All: Help us to know your ordinances, O Lord, and may we also be your people. Let us worship God!

***CALL TO CONFESSION** (*from Ephesians 1*)

The Apostle Paul writes, “the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.” Despite his choosing, though, we continue to sin. Let us confess that sin before God and ask his mercy.

***SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (30 seconds)

***CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*from Ephesians 1*)

Merciful God, you destined us for adoption as your own children through Jesus Christ according to the good pleasure of your will. We, though, act too often as undisciplined children — unaware of and uncommitted to your will. Forgive where we have failed to do what you have called us to do, and forgive us where

we have done that which is against your will. Continue to mark us with the seal of your promised Holy Spirit, and grow us into your will. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*from Ephesians 1*)

Paul writes, “In Jesus, we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavishes upon us.” Trust in Jesus and in his mercy, grace, and forgiveness, and know that we are forgiven. **Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (*from John 1*)

Almighty and loving God, your scriptures testify that from the fullness of our Lord Jesus Christ, we have all received grace upon grace. Moses made your law known to humanity, but no one has seen you. It is your only Son, who is close to your heart, who has made you known that we might follow your will and worship you. In thankfulness, we commit these resources from those you have given us to the work of your church. Amen.

Elements in this document are based on the *New Revised Standard Version* (NRSV). Some portions are direct quotes; though, quotation marks and designations are usually left out for ease of use in bulletins and other worship resources. Usually, the Call to Worship is based upon the Psalm of the day and follows that Psalm very closely but modifying it for a leader vs. congregation responsive setting if necessary. Other elements usually deviate more significantly from the text. While they may quote very short sections, they are generally written in the theme of the text. Elements usually designate the book and chapter from which they are derived.

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