

Year C; Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Liturgical Elements
Developed for January 30, 2022
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

Lectionary Texts

- Jeremiah 1:4-10
- Psalm 71:1-6
- 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
- Luke 4:21-30

CALL TO WORSHIP (*from Psalm 71*)

- One: In you, O Lord, we take refuge;
All: in you, O Lord, we are never put to shame.
- One: Your righteousness can deliver us;
All: only your righteousness can save us.
- One: You are a rock of refuge,
All: a strong fortress to save us.
- One: You, O Lord are our hope,
All: our trust, O Lord, from our youth in faith.
- One: We lift our praise continually to you;
All: let us worship God!

***CALL TO CONFESSION** (*from 1 Corinthians 13*)

The Apostle Paul defines what love is. It's a lofty expectation to love God with our entire being and to love our neighbor as ourself. Let us confess where we have fallen far short of the love that God requires.

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

***CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*from 1 Corinthians 13*)

Loving God, in Jesus the Messiah, you demonstrate what love is – even the giving of one's life for people who have wronged you so immensely. First, we pray, that you would forgive where we have wronged you in every instance. But our scriptures further elaborate a love not initiated by a feeling of affinity within us but motivated by a choice and intention to love – even those we despise, even those who may annoy us, even those who may harm us, even those we label as our enemy. Among so many other qualities it is a love that bears all things believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things, and never ends. Forgive us for not choosing to love and for not enduring in love. Grow us in Christ's example; it is in his name that we pray. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(from John 15)*

Jesus said, “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” That same Jesus laid his life down for his sisters and brothers adopted through their faith into his family giving them freedom and eternal life. Live into Christ’s family, and know that we are forgiven. **Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(from Luke 4)*

God and Father of Jesus Christ, you sent your Son to fulfill the scriptures including to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, and to let the oppressed go free. As he did this, others held him captive, oppressed him, and brought him continual challenge and bad news. He endured that his message might be heard and that, one day, those proclamations would become reality. Today, he reigns in heaven with you, and one day, he will rule in every part of this world. To support that sure hope, we give these tithes. 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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