

Year C; Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Liturgical Elements
Developed for September 18, 2022
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

Lectionary Texts

- Jeremiah 8:18 - 9:1
- Psalm 79:1-9
- 1 Timothy 2:1-7
- Luke 16:1-13

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather in this place to worship the Alpha and the Omega;

All: he is the beginning and the end.

One: He was here before the world was created,

All: he lives eternally.

One: Before him nations fall according to his will;

All: before him nations rise according to his will.

One: Though, his people may sin and work against his ways,

All: his anger is not forever nor his jealousy until the end.

One: He calls us back to him in conversation through prayer;

All: he overlooks the iniquities of our ancestors.

One: He desires that all might be saved;

All: he offers forgiveness through his ransom.

One: Let us commit ourselves to the Almighty;

All: let us worship God!

CALL TO CONFESSION (*from Jeremiah 7-8; Luke 16*)

The prophet Jeremiah describes severe consequences for the people of Israel in their disobedience. They had committed themselves to gods other than the Almighty One. Jesus taught that no one can serve two masters. Let us confess where we place other things before God.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*from Psalm 79; Luke 16*)

God, our provider, you give humanity all that we need to live an abundant life: food, water, supplies for shelter, other people for companionship, and a relationship with the living God. Despite this, we make choices that work for our detriment. We prize wealth over loving you and loving neighbor. We know that we will one day be commanded to give you an accounting. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake. Grow us into people who choose you as master and let us make your good name known wherever we go. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon *(from 1 Timothy 2)*

There is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all. Trust in this mediator who gave his life that we might have forgiveness. Trust in this mediator who is risen from the dead who has demonstrated the eternal life offered to us. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(from 1 Timothy 2)*

Almighty and loving God, despite that we so often stray from your ways, you listen to us in prayer. You command us to offer supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings for everyone including our rulers. You offer us truth through your scriptures, through prophets, and through your creation. This truth is not a truth that you hide from us. God our Savior, you desire everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. In response, we offer these gifts for your truth to be known throughout all the world. May all call upon your name. 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.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.



Portions not from the *NRSV* are licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA.

For all other uses or cases, © Copyright 2022, Andrew Smothers, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.