

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Liturgical Elements
Developed for June 25, 2023
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

Lectionary Texts

- Genesis 21:8-21
- Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
- Romans 6:1b-11
- Matthew 10:24-39

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*from Psalm 86*)

One: You are our God, be gracious to us, O Lord, for to you we bring our pains, sorrows, and tears in our darkest days.

All: Gladden the souls of your servants, for to you, O Lord, we lift up our souls.

One: For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.

All: Give ear, O LORD, to our prayers; listen to our cries of supplication.

One: In the day of our trouble we call on you, for you will answer us.

All: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.

One: All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

All: For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

One: Turn to us and be gracious to us; give your strength to your servants; save the children of women who served you.

All: Show us a sign of your favor, so that those who hate us may see it and be put to shame,

One: because you, LORD, have helped us and comforted us.

All: Let us worship God!

CALL TO WORSHIP (*alternate, from Psalm 86*)

One: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,

All: nor are there any works like yours.

One: All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord,

All: and shall glorify your name.

One: For you are great and do wondrous things;

All: you alone are God. Let us worship God.

***CALL TO CONFESSION** (*from Romans 6*)

The Apostle Paul poses a question to the Romans: "Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound?" "By no means!," he replies. Let us now confess our sin and repent that we may be transformed into newness of life. Let us pray.

***SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

***CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*from Romans 6*)

Gracious God, you offer us many benefits: forgiveness for our sins, restoration to God, abundant life, and eternal life. You command us to follow the path of Jesus, though, which can be a hard journey. Forgive our sins, create in us a heart that flees from all sin, and have us die to sin and our old selves so that we may be your light to the world. In the name of our Lord Jesus. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*from Romans 6*)

Our scriptures assure us that our old selves have been crucified with Christ so that the body of sin might be destroyed and so that we can live no longer enslaved to sin. God is faithful; as we confess our sins, repent, and follow Jesus, he offers that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life and be offered resurrection. Friends, hear and believe this good news.

All: Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*from Matthew 10*)

Almighty God, who knows us better than you? You knew us before we were born. Even the hairs on our heads are known to you. Despite our sinfulness, you find value in us such that you sent your Son so that we might be transformed and be given eternal life with you. In thankfulness for all that you have and continue to do for us, we offer these gifts of time, talent, and finances. Use them to your glory through 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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