

Year B; Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Liturgical Elements
Developed for July 7, 2024
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

Lectionary Texts (Semicontinuous)

- 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
- Psalm 48
- 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
- Mark 6:1-13

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*from Psalm 48*)

One: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God.
All: His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth.
One: We ponder your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple.
All: Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth.
One: Your right hand is filled with victory.
All: Let us worship God!

***CALL TO CONFESSION** (*from 2 Corinthians 12*)

As Paul describes, we are prone to boast about our strengths, our accomplishments, and our great experiences, but this is not the way of Jesus. We are told to let our power be perfected in our weakness, and to boast about our Lord Jesus and his strength, his accomplishments, and his experiences. Let us show humility before God in confessing our sins.

***CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*from 2 Corinthians 12*)

Merciful God, our world impresses upon us that we should sell ourselves. We should boast about what we have done, what we have experienced, and what strength we can demonstrate. Often, we are captivated by this way, but this is not your way. You call us to boast of our weakness and to make space for boasting about our Lord. Your grace is sufficient for us, and we are perfected in weakness. May the power of Christ dwell in us as we boast of our weakness. In the name of the Christ who triumphed over sin and death by taking on death — by choosing to endure weakness. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*from 2 Corinthians 12*)

The apostle Paul suggests that the power of Christ dwells in us as a result of our boasting in weakness. That same Christ endured weakness on the cross though he was most powerful of all in order that we might be forgiven and offered eternal life. Follow his way, and know that you are forgiven. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*from Mark 6:1-13*)

Gracious God, your Son sent his disciples out two-by-two to share your message with the people of the villages of Galilee and beyond. You have called other evangelists and missionaries through the ages to do similarly that people throughout this earth would know to call on your name. With thankfulness for your call to them, their work, and others who continue this work today, we give these gifts for 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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