

Year B; Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Liturgical Elements
Developed for September 15, 2024
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

Lectionary Texts (Semicontinuous)

- Proverbs 1:20-33
- Psalm 19
- James 3:1-12
- Mark 8:27-38

CALL TO WORSHIP (*from Psalm 19*)

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God;
All: and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
One: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
All: the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.
One: The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
All: the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;
One: the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;
All: the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
One: More to be desired are they than gold, sweeter also than honey.
All: Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. Let us worship God!

CALL TO CONFESSION

God created us in his image and in his likeness, but we exhibit a likeness that is unlike his. He calls us to repentance. Let us humbly come before God and confess our sins.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION (30 seconds)

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*from Psalm 19 and James 3*)

Merciful God, the Psalmist writes, "Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer." Our words are not always acceptable to you. Our words are not always said in love and with grace. We can bless you with the same tongue that we use to curse our neighbor. Forgive our sin, and grow us into your ways, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (*from Mark 8*)

Jesus offers salvation to those who follow him — those who deny themselves and take up their cross. Lose your life for Jesus and receive his salvation and forgiveness.
Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(from Mark 8)*

Gracious God, despite that we failed to follow your ways, you came in human form as the Son of Man, who underwent great suffering, was rejected by the elders and other religious leaders, and was killed but to rise again after three days. In thankfulness, we offer these gifts that your name and your works might be known throughout the earth. 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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