

**Year B; Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Liturgical Elements**  
**Developed for August 18, 2024**  
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

**Lectionary Texts** (Semicontinuous)

- 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14
- Psalm 111
- Ephesians 5:15-20
- John 6:51-58

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*from Psalm 111*)

One: Praise the Lord!

**All: We will give thanks to the Lord with our whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

One: Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.

**All: Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.**

One: He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful.

**All: He provides food for those who fear him.**

One: He has shown his people the power of his works.

**All: The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.**

One: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;

**All: all those who practice it have a good understanding.**

One: His praise endures forever

**All: Let us worship God!**

**CALL TO CONFESSION** (*from 1 Kings 2*)

As Solomon took the throne from his father, King David, God asked him what God should give him. Rather than asking for long life or riches or the life of his enemies, Solomon asked to have an understanding mind to govern God's people — able to discern between good and evil. Let us confess times when we have not pursued God's wisdom but the world's wisdom or wisdom that is convenient for ourselves.

**CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*from Ephesians 5*)

**Almighty and loving God, your servant, the Apostle Paul, tells us to be careful in how we live, but we can be unwise. We can be foolish. We can fail to make the most of our time for your kingdom. Help us to understand your will more and more and align our will to your perfect will. Fill us with your Spirit, and fill us with your melodies and your songs. We pray this in the name of the one who modeled your wisdom before humanity — our Lord Jesus, the Messiah. Amen.**

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

Jesus told the Jews who argued with him, “Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and he will raise them up on the last day.” But he tells us what it means to eat his flesh and drink his blood. It is to abide in Jesus. Abide in Jesus, know we are forgiven, and anticipate life eternal. **Amen.**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(from John 6)*

**God, our righteousness, you came in human form that in our Lord Jesus you might give your flesh and blood for the life of the world. You didn’t merely send manna as with ancestors of old, you sent your very son into this world that his sacrifice might be food that would bring us eternal life. Grow us in understanding, in worship, and in abiding in you, and accept these tithes with our gratitude. 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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