

Year C; First Sunday of Advent
Liturgical Elements
Developed for December 1, 2024
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

Lectionary Texts

- Jeremiah 33:14-16
- Psalm 25:1-10
- 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
- Luke 21:25-36

CALL TO WORSHIP (*from Psalm 25*)

One: To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls,

All: O my God, in you we trust; do not let us be put to shame.

One: Make us to know your ways, O Lord;

All: teach us your paths.

One: Lead us in your truth, and teach us,

All: for you are the God of our salvation; for you we wait all day long.

One: Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord,

All: and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Let us worship God!

***CALL TO CONFESSION** (*from Psalm 25*)

The Psalmist writes, “Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness’ sake, O Lord!” Let us humbly confess our sins that they might be forgiven.

***SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (30 seconds)

***CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*from Luke 21, Psalm 25*)

Gracious God, our Lord commanded his disciples and us to be on guard for his return so that we would not be weighed down by worries around collecting money, energy and resources — that we would not be distracted by drunkenness or worries of this life. We too often are weighed down by these things and not on alert in anticipation for your return and for the advance of the Kingdom of God. Forgive our distracted focus, and bring us into your paths of steadfast love and faithfulness. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*from Psalm 25*)

The Psalmist continues, “The Lord leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.” Let us follow the path of the Lord and trust in his forgiveness. **Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(from Luke 21)*

Merciful God, you sent your Son that he would teach us your paths and that he would sacrifice his life that we might have eternal life. He would initiate your kingdom here on earth, but he wouldn't leave that work to us alone. You sent your Holy Spirit to continue to guide us in those paths but also to guide us in further developing your kingdom alongside you. With thanksgiving, we offer these gifts for that continued work in his 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.

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