

**Year C; Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Liturgical Elements**  
**Developed for July 20, 2025**  
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

**Lectionary Texts**

- Amos 8:1-12
- Psalm 52
- Colossians 1:15-28
- Luke 10:38-42

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*from Colossians 1*)

One: Jesus is the image of the invisible God,

**All: the firstborn of all creation;**

One: for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,

**All: things visible and invisible,**

One: whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers —

**All: all things have been created through him and for him.**

One: He himself is before all things,

**All: and in him all things hold together.**

One: He is the head of this body, the church;

**All: he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead. Let us worship God: the Father, his Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.**

**CALL TO CONFESSION** (*from Amos 8*)

Our society drives us to be productive and efficient — even challenging us to get our fair income for the work of our hands and the produce of the earth. This can come at the expense of the needy and the poor. It can remove us from festivals and celebration of sabbath. Let us confess when we have put income before that which God requires of us.

**CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*from Amos 8*)

**God of mercy and justice, you have created for us in Jesus a world of tremendous abundance and beauty. You have blessed us with the expectations of rest and worship. We, though, can make production, efficiency, and income our primary focus — an idol we replace for your intentions and for you. We neglect the needy and the poor, and we neglect you, O God. Forgive our selfishness and our worldly ways. Have mercy on us, and turn us toward you. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*from Colossians 1*)

All were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, but Jesus has now reconciled us in his fleshly body through death presenting us as holy and blameless and irreproachable before God provided that we are steadfast in faith and in hope as promised in the gospel. Trust in Jesus and know that you are forgiven. **Amen.**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(from Colossians 1)*

**Loving God, despite the state of humanity, you sent Jesus, the image of the invisible God. You created in him all that is in heaven and on earth — all upon which we depend and live. You provide leaders and rulers to guide us. Jesus remains head of the church directing and guiding us through your Spirit and through the scriptures. He has demonstrated our salvation in being the firstborn of the dead — a down payment and demonstration for our own resurrection. In thankfulness for your many blessings, we offer these tithes for the work of his 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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