

Year C; Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Liturgical Elements
Developed for August 3, 2025
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

Lectionary Texts

- Hosea 11:1-11
- Psalm 107:1-9, 43
- Colossians 3:1-11
- Luke 12:13-21

CALL TO WORSHIP (*from Psalm 107*)

One: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

All: his steadfast love endures forever.

One: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,

All: those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands.

One: God rescues those who have wandered,

All: and we have been those who have wandered far from him.

One: Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,

All: for his wonderful works to humankind.

One: For he satisfies the thirsty,

All: and the hungry he fills with good things.

One: Let those who are wise give heed to these things,

All: and consider the steadfast love of the LORD. Let us worship God!

CALL TO CONFESSION (*from Luke 12*)

Jesus challenges us to be on our guard against all kinds of greed. Let us confess where greed has led us and when we have hoarded things that would be of critical use to those around us.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*from Luke 12*)

Faithful God, you created all that surrounds us – the land and the sea, the universe, plants and animals of all types, and every raw material we use to shape new things with our hands. Though you are faithful to us, we are not always faithful to you. We lose faith and hoard items – things that are in great need to others, at times things we will never use, at yet other times things that distract us from you. We ask your forgiveness where we have let greed be our guide. Help us to live into Jesus' observation that one's life does not consist of the abundance of possessions. Grow our trust in you. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(from Colossians 3)*

Those who are in Christ have been raised with Christ. Their lives are hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is their focus is revealed they will likewise be revealed with him in glory. Seek the things that are from above — where Christ is, and trust in the forgiveness he offers. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(from Colossians 3)*

Triune God, you are both one and three in deep connection as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. You offer that as we cast off our old selves and clothe ourselves with our new selves sanctified in you that we will be renewed in knowledge. As all in Christ are renewed, you create a community of Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free where Christ is all and in all. In thankfulness, we give these offerings that all may know your 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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