Proper 22 – Year C

Sunday closest to October 5

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| Lamentations 1:1-6 [Lamentations 3:19-26](http://www.lectionarypage.net/YearC_RCL/Pentecost/CProp22_RCL.html#response)  *or* Psalm 137 or  [Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4](http://www.lectionarypage.net/YearC_RCL/Pentecost/CProp22_RCL.html#OLDTEST) [Psalm 37:1-10](http://www.lectionarypage.net/YearC_RCL/Pentecost/CProp22_RCL.html#PSALM)  2 Timothy 1:1-14 [Luke 17:5-10](http://www.lectionarypage.net/YearC_RCL/Pentecost/CProp22_RCL.html#GOSPEL) |  |  |
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Proper 22 – Year C

**Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Lamentations 1:1-6**

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the provinces has become a vassal. She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they have become her enemies. Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations, and finds no resting place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress. The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter. Her foes have become the masters, her enemies prosper, because the Lord has made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe. From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty. Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture; they fled without strength before the pursuer.

**Lamentations 3:19-26**

The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

OR

**Psalm 137**

1 By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept, \*

when we remembered you, O Zion.

2 As for our harps, we hung them up \*

on the trees in the midst of that land.

3 For those who led us away captive asked us for a song,

and our oppressors called for mirth: \*

"Sing us one of the songs of Zion."

4 How shall we sing the LORD'S song \*

upon an alien soil?

5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, \*

let my right hand forget its skill.

6 Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth

if I do not remember you, \*

if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

7 Remember the day of Jerusalem, O LORD,

against the people of Edom, \*

who said, "Down with it! down with it!

even to the ground!"

8 O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction, \*

happy the one who pays you back

for what you have done to us!

9 Happy shall he be who takes your little ones, \*

and dashes them against the rock!

**OR**

**Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4**

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrong-doing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous— therefore judgment comes forth perverted. I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

**Psalm 37:1-10**

1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; \*

do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, \*

and like the green grass fade away.

3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; \*

dwell in the land and feed on its riches.

4 Take delight in the LORD, \*

and he shall give you your heart's desire.

5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, \*

and he will bring it to pass.

6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light \*

and your just dealing as the noonday.

7 Be still before the LORD \*

and wait patiently for him.

8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, \*

the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; \*

do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.

10 For evildoers shall be cut off, \*

but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.

**2** **Timothy 1:1-14**

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

**Luke 17:5-10**

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you. “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

**合時儀文第二十二式**

**祝文**

全能永生的上帝，主願意垂聽，過於我們願意祈求；主又施恩惠，過於我們所盼望和所配得：求主向我們大施憐憫，赦免我們良心所畏懼的罪；更賞賜給我們除了仰賴我們的中保救主耶穌基督的功勞外，我們不配祈求的恩典。聖子和聖父、聖靈，一同永生，一同掌權，惟一上帝，永無窮盡。阿們。

**耶利米哀歌1:1-6**

先前滿有人民的城，現在何竟獨坐！先前在列國中為大的，現在竟如寡婦；先前在諸省中為王后的，現在成為進貢的。她夜間痛哭，淚流滿腮；在一切所親愛的中間沒有一個安慰她的。她的朋友都以詭詐待她，成為她的仇敵。猶大因遭遇苦難，又因多服勞苦就遷到外邦。她住在列國中，尋不著安息；追逼她的都在狹窄之地將她追上。錫安的路徑因無人來守聖節就悲傷；她的城門淒涼；她的祭司歎息；她的處女受艱難，自己也愁苦。她的敵人為首；她的仇敵亨通；因耶和華為她許多的罪過使她受苦；她的孩童被敵人擄去。錫安城（原文是女子；下同）的威榮全都失去。她的首領像找不著草場的鹿；在追趕的人前無力行走。

**耶利米哀歌3:19-26**

耶和華啊，求你記念我如茵蔯和苦膽的困苦窘迫。我心想念這些，就在裡面憂悶。我想起這事，心裡就有指望。我們不致消滅，是出於耶和華諸般的慈愛；是因他的憐憫不致斷絕。每早晨，這都是新的；你的誠實極其廣大！我心裡說：耶和華是我的分，因此，我要仰望他。凡等候耶和華，心裡尋求他的，耶和華必施恩給他。人仰望耶和華，靜默等候他的救恩，這原是好的。

**或**

詩篇 137

1 我們曾在巴比倫的河邊坐下， \*

一追想錫安就哭了。

2 我們把琴掛上 \*

掛在那裡的柳樹上。

3 因為在那裡，擄掠我們的要我們唱歌，

搶奪我們的要我們作樂， \*

說：給我們唱一首錫安歌罷。

4 我們怎能在外邦 \*

唱耶和華的歌呢？

5 耶路撒冷啊，我若忘記你， \*

情願我的右手忘記技巧。

6 我若不記念你，

若不看耶路撒冷過於我所最喜樂的， \*

情願我的舌頭貼於上膛。

7 耶路撒冷遭難的日子，

以東人說：拆毀！拆毀！直拆到根基！ \*

耶和華啊，求你記念這仇。

8 將要被滅的巴比倫城啊， \*

報復你像你待我們的，那人便為有福！

9 拿你的嬰孩摔在磐石上的， \*

那人便為有福！

**或**

**哈巴谷書** **1:1-4, 2:1-4**

先知哈巴谷所得的默示。他說：耶和華啊！我呼求你，你不應允，要到幾時呢？我因強暴哀求你，你還不拯救。你為何使我看見罪孽？你為何看著奸惡而不理呢？毀滅和強暴在我面前，又起了爭端和相鬥的事。因此律法放鬆，公理也不顯明；惡人圍困義人，所以公理顯然顛倒。我要站在守望所，立在望樓上觀看，看耶和華對我說甚麼話，我可用甚麼話向他訴冤（向他訴冤：或譯回答所疑問的）。他對我說：將這默示明明地寫在版上，使讀的人容易讀（或譯：隨跑隨讀）。因為這默示有一定的日期，快要應驗，並不虛謊。雖然遲延，還要等候；因為必然臨到，不再遲延。迦勒底人自高自大，心不正直；惟義人因信得生。

**詩篇37:1-10**

1 不要為作惡的心懷不平 \*

也不要向那行不義的、生出嫉妒。

2 因為他們如草快被割下 \*

又如青菜快要枯乾。

3 你當倚靠耶和華而行善 \*

住在地上、以他的信實為糧。

4 又要以耶和華為樂 \*

他就將你心裡所求的賜給你。

5 當將你的事交託耶和華 \*

並倚靠他、他就必成全。

6 他要使你的公義、如光發出 \*

使你的公平、明如正午。

7 當默然倚靠耶和華 \* 耐性等候他．

8 不要因那道路通達的 \*

和那惡謀成就的、心懷不平。

9 當止住怒氣、離棄忿怒 \*

不要心懷不平、以致作惡。

10 因為作惡的、必被剪除 \*

惟有等候耶和華的、必承受地土。

**提摩太後書1:1-14**

奉上帝旨意，照著在基督耶穌裡生命的應許，作基督耶穌使徒的保羅寫信給我親愛的兒子提摩太。願恩惠、憐憫、平安從父上帝和我們主基督耶穌歸與你！我感謝上帝，就是我接續祖先用清潔的良心所事奉的上帝。祈禱的時候，不住的想念你，記念你的眼淚，晝夜切切地想要見你，好叫我滿心快樂。想到你心裡無偽之信，這信是先在你外祖母羅以和你母親友妮基心裡的，我深信也在你的心裡。為此我提醒你，使你將上帝藉我按手所給你的恩賜再如火挑旺起來。因為上帝賜給我們，不是膽怯的心，乃是剛強、仁愛、謹守的心。你不要以給我們的主作見證為恥，也不要以我這為主被囚的為恥；總要按上帝的能力，與我為福音同受苦難。上帝救了我們，以聖召召我們，不是按我們的行為，乃是按他的旨意和恩典；這恩典是萬古之先，在基督耶穌裡賜給我們的，但如今藉著我們救主基督耶穌的顯現才表明出來了。他已經把死廢去，藉著福音，將不能壞的生命彰顯出來。我為這福音奉派作傳道的，作使徒，作師傅。為這緣故，我也受這些苦難。然而我不以為恥；因為知道我所信的是誰，也深信他能保全我所交付他的（或譯：他所交託我的），直到那日。從我聽的那純正話語的規模，要用在基督耶穌裡的信心和愛心，常常守著。從前所交託你的善道，你要靠著那住在我們裡面的聖靈牢牢地守著。

**路加福音 17:5-10**

使徒對主說：「求主加增我們的信心。」 主說：「你們若有信心像一粒芥菜種，就是對這棵桑樹說：『你要拔起根來，栽在海裡』，它也必聽從你們。 你們誰有僕人耕地或是放羊，從田裡回來，就對他說：『你快來坐下吃飯』呢？豈不對他說：『你給我預備晚飯，束上帶子伺候我，等我吃喝完了，你才可以吃喝』嗎？僕人照所吩咐的去做，主人還謝謝他嗎？這樣，你們做完了一切所吩咐的，只當說：『我們是無用的僕人，所做的本是我們應分做的。』」