**2016 Worship Planning Workbook**

**Pentecost Sunday through Christ the King Sunday**

provided by

**The Miller Summer Youth Institute**

at

**Pittsburgh Theological Seminary**

**What is this resource?**

What you’re looking at, whether on paper or on a screen, is a workbook intended to help you plan and prepare for leading worship. For each Sunday between Pentecost and Christ the King Sunday, you’ll find a **Planning Page** and a **Free-writing Page.**

On the **Planning Page** you will find:

* The name of the Sunday (such as “Trinity Sunday” or “Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time”);
* Scripture readings based on the Revised Common Lectionary Passages for that Sunday;
* Planning and outline space;
* Some thoughts on one of the passages from a member of the PTS community or a historical figure (with citations referring to authors and works represented in the Bibliography at the end of the Workbook);
* The liturgical color of the day and an alternative color; and
* A spot for a “To Do” worship planning list.

On the **Free-writing Page** you will find:

* Each reference for that Sunday’s passage, and
* Space to write some brief reflection on each passage.

If you tend to like working on paper, feel free to print a hard copy of this workbook for your use. If you only have a paper copy and would prefer a digital copy, visit [www.pts.edu/YearC](http://www.pts.edu/YearC). This web page will also provide you with information about outside resources mentioned in this workbook.

**How do I use the Workbook?**

Everyone plans worship differently. You will find this workbook most helpful if you use it in a way that complements what you’re already doing. One method for using it might be as follows:

1. Take some time to do planning in advance—whatever amount of time you have available. Look at the **Planning Page** for each Sunday you’re covering in a given session. Get an idea of the season and the colors you want to use.
2. Flip to the **Free-writing Page** for each of those Sundays. Read each Scripture passage, and jot down the first ideas or themes that come to your mind. This activity doesn’t need to take long. It’s better to do it quickly and sustainably than to take more time than you truly have available.
3. As each week approaches, re-read your **Free-writing Page** notes. If any one of the sections captures your imagination, consider using that passage as your primary text.
4. Return to the **Planning Page** and jot down a potential sermon title or theme drawn from your brief free-writing. This title or theme can guide your thought process and research.
5. As you research, consider the quotations provided in the **Scripture Resources** column. If you plan to use any or some of these passages, they may provide additional insight as you develop your worship plan.
6. Once you’ve completed some initial research, use the **Notes/Themes/Outline** column to sketch out some detailed thoughts on your primary passage or passages. When you come to composing the sermon for that week, these written thoughts will give you a great starting point.
7. Under the **To Do** column, make notes about the music you’d like to use, people to contact about participating in worship, additional resources you need to find, or any other tasks you need to complete to be ready for worship.

A completed sample of the daily worksheets is included for your reference. But if you find that you’d rather use the worksheets in a totally different way, feel free to do so!

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| **SAMPLE** for **July 3, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **14th Sunday of Ordinary Time/7th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| 2 Kings 5:1-14 | Pss 30; 66:1-9 | Gal 6:1-16 | Luke 10:1-20 |
| *Naaman seems to view himself as a hero from an ancient myth in that he seems to expect that he will need to commit some act of great bravery or valor to earn a magical cure from the mysterious holy man.*  *Elisha has no interest in perpetuating this story. He almost seems to yawn as he sends a servant to give Naaman his very ordinary instructions: Take a bath.*  *Naaman was understandably disappointed and perhaps even furious.*  *Thankfully a servant points out the irony in Naaman’s refusal. If he was prepared to do something difficult or extraordinary, why not embrace the chance to do something ordinary?* | *Ps 30:11: “You have turned my mourning into dancing.”*  *Notice that this doesn’t mean that there is never mourning.*  *God doesn’t turn the psalmist’s dancing into other dancing.*  *The psalmist has to mourn. Only then can it be turned to dancing.*  *So often we want to skip the mourning and get straight to the dancing, but that’s not how life works. You can’t get to Easter without Good Friday. You can’t get to the promised land without the wilderness. You can’t get to the house of the Lord forever until you pass through the valley of the shadow of death.* | *Bear one another’s burdens.*  *I like the math of this passage.*  *Let’s say two people need to move 200 pounds from point A to point B. Each person is capable of moving 100 pounds.*  *If the first person has 5 and the second has 195, then they’re going to move a total of 5 pounds. The first person will succeed and the second will fail.*  *If they work together and share the burden at 100 each, they move a total of 200 pounds. Both reach their capacity (which is more fulfilling anyway) and the total that they move is greater. The burden is identical, 200 pounds, but the success is nearly 40 times greater.* | *Lambs in the midst of wolves.*  *I love this. It’s completely backwards. Typically, our image is the wolf in sheep’s clothing, in the midst of sheep, ready to eat. This is the opposite.*  *A lamb in the midst of wolves. It’s a dangerous, desperate, daunting task.*  *The best part is that, on some level, perhaps the lamb’s job is gradually to turn the wolves into sheep. With each wolf that becomes an herbivore, the odds shift ever so slightly.*  *It’s so subversive— fascinating and exciting imagery.* |

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| **SAMPLE** for **July 3, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **14th Sunday of Ordinary Time/7th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| 2 Kings 5:1-14  Pss 30; 66:1-9  Gal 6:1-16  Luke 10:1-20 | *Thought/themes from 2 Kings and Galatians 6*  *Bearing one another’s burdens. Sometimes, we expect to bear burdens. Some burdens we’re even willing to bear.*  *Consider 2 Naamans: the one that existed in his own mind vs. the Naaman others knew.*  *Himself as the Hero—great trials and stories of triumph*  *To others, a sick man*  *Elisha essentially frees him from the burden of the heroic trial as well as the burden of the sickness by doing something extraordinarily commonplace.*  *Imagine what this newly freed hero can do for someone else now that he is released from that expected burden.*  *Examples of burdens we bear or expect to bear, or examples of burdens we could bear for others* | Gal 6:10  “Therefore as we have opportunity—At whatever time or place, and in whatever manner we can. The opportunity in general is our lifetime; but there are also many particular opportunities.”  John Wesley  *Good to look at stories like the Myth of Hercules and his trials, or Sadak and the Waters of Oblivion*  *Maybe look into archetypes and storytelling for what Naaman expects of himself.*  *The above Wesley quote fits well in this sermon.* | This week, try to begin sketching out sheets for August and/or September.  *It’s July 3rd, so announce the picnic.*  *Check with Walter about assisting in worship.*  *We probably need to have some patriotic music since the sermon doesn’t seem to be heading toward anything July 4thish.*  *Check with sound board on microphone levels—have been wrong lately.*  *DON’T FORGET TO ANNONCE PICNIC LIKE LAST YEAR.* |
| Sermon Title |
| *An Extraordinarily Commonplace Act of Heroism* |
| Music |
| *I sing a song of the saints of God (maybe?)* |
| Color: Green  Alternate Color:  Red |

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| **May 15, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Acts 2:1-21  Ps 104:24-35  Rom 8:14-17  Jn 14:8-27 |  | “After the Spirit had come upon the crowd in Jerusalem, Peter tried to orient them, to give them some grounding. He recounted prophecies spoken by Joel and by David. He reassured the people that they could know with certainty that God had made Jesus both Lord and Messiah—and maybe, maybe those in the crowd, those who were soon to join the new community, understood the wonders around them. Maybe they didn’t. What we hear in today’s text is that they were cut to the heart.”  Rev. Dr. Heather Vacek   “We cannot control the Spirit of Christ any more than we can control the wind, but we know when the Spirit has moved us. Sometimes you can almost see the Spirit coming; it is like sitting in a sailboat on a still day and waiting for the wind. As you sit passively in the boat, unable to sail, you see the wind coming on the water. When it comes close, you watch it fill your sails and you feel its movement. When the Holy Spirit comes close, it also creates movement.”  Rev. Dr. William Carl III, p. 80 | This week, try to take a morning or afternoon to start sketching some brief thoughts on the worksheets through June or July. |
| Sermon Title |
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| Music |
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| **May 15, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **Pentecost** | | | |
| Acts 2:1-21 | Ps 104:24-35 | Rom 8:14-17 | Jn 14:8-27 |
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| **May 22, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **Trinity Sunday/First Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Prov 8:1-31  Ps 8  Rom 5:1-5  Jn 16:12-15 |  | John 16  “God as Trinity is the only source for our theology. This God is the one divine reality. God as Trinity is the way God relates to humanity, and the God whom the church knows. It is this God who has reached out to provide salvation for the world.”  Rev. Dr. Don McKim, p. 14 |  |
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| Music |
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| **May 22, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **Trinity Sunday / First Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Prov 8:1-31 | Ps 8 | Rom 5:1-5 | Jn 16:12-15 |
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| **May 29, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **9th Sunday of Ordinary Time/2nd Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| 1 Kings 18:20-39  Ps 96  Gal 1:1-12  Luke 7:1-10 |  | Gal 1:6  “He might have handled the Galatians more uncourteously, and have inveighed against them more roughly after this manner: ‘Out upon this backsliding I am ashamed of you; your unthankfulness grieveth me; I am angry with you;’ or else thus tragically have cried out against them: ‘O ungracious world, O wicked dealings,’ &c. But forasmuch as his purpose is to raise up them that were fallen, and with a fatherly care to call them back again from their error to the purity of the gospel, he leaveth those rough and sharp words, especially in the first entrance, and most gently and mildly speaketh with them.”  Martin Luther, p. 166 |  |
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| **May 29, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **9th Sunday of Ordinary Time/2nd Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| 1 Kings 18:20-39 | Ps 96 | Gal 1:1-12 | Luke 7:1-10 |
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| **June 5, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **10th Sunday of Ordinary Time/3nd Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| 1 Kings 17:8-24  Pss 146; 30  Gal 1:11-24  Luke 7:11-17 |  | Gal 1:23-24  “What modesty in thus again mentioning the facts of his persecuting and laying waste the Church, and in thus making infamous his former life, while he passes over the illustrious deeds he was about to achieve! He might have told, had he wished it, all his successes, but he mentions none of these and stepping with one word over a vast expanse, he says merely, ‘I came into the regions of Syria and Cilicia;’ and, ‘they had heard, that he, which once persecuted us, now preacheth the faith of which he once made havoc.’ The purpose of the words, ‘I was unknown to the Churches of Judæa,’ is to show, that so far from preaching to them the necessity of circumcision, he was not known to them even by sight.”  St. John Chrysostom, p. 13 | This week, try to begin sketching out sheets for July and/or August. |
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| **June 5, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **10th Sunday of Ordinary Time/3nd Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| 1 Kings 17:8-24 | Pss 146; 30 | Gal 1:11-24 | Luke 7:11-17 |
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| **June 12, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **11th Sunday of Ordinary Time/4th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| 1 Kings 21:1-21  Pss 5:1-8; 32  Gal 2:15-21  Luke 7:36-8:3 |  | Luke 7:41-42  “A gentle, subtle move is observable in the parable. As the parable opens, the creditor is naturally assumed to be God and the debtors represent the condition of fallen humankind. As the parable unfolds, the debtors cannot pay, and once again the creditor is clearly God. But then the creditor ‘freely forgave them both’ and the obvious symbol for God begins to look like a symbol for Jesus.”  Dr. Kenneth Bailey, pp. 253-54 |  |
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| **June 12, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **11th Sunday of Ordinary Time/4th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| 1 Kings 21:1-21 | Pss 5:1-8; 32 | Gal 2:15-21 | Luke 7:36-8:3 |
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| **June 19, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **12th Sunday of Ordinary Time/5th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| 1 Kings 19:1-15  Pss 42; 43  Gal 3:23-29  Luke 8:26-39 |  | Ps 42:3  “‘Where is your God?’ As we strive to be people of faith, questions like these help us to break out of our comfort zones and into a faith that is too big to fully understand. It is good to serve God, who is not afraid of our questions.”  Rev. Erin Davenport, LSW, |  |
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| **June 19, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **12th Sunday of Ordinary Time/5th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| 1 Kings 19:1-15 | Pss 42; 43 | Gal 3:23-29 | Luke 8:26-39 |
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| **June 26, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **13th Sunday of Ordinary Time/6th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| 1 Kings 2:1-14  Pss 77:1-20; 16  Gal 5:1-25  Luke 9:51-62 |  | Gal 5:22  “The ‘fruit of the Spirit’ brings us back to where we started: the constant, and sometimes disturbing, stress on the need to live a serious Christian life. Why? Not to earn salvation. Not to achieve value and goodness. But rather to please God, to show our thanksgiving for what we have received, and to express our joy to the one who has not only created us but also provided us with redemption.”  Rev. Dr. Jim Davison, p. 41 |  |
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| **June 26, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **13th Sunday of Ordinary Time/6th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| 1 Kings 2:1-14 | Pss 77:1-20; 16 | Gal 5:1-25 | Luke 9:51-62 |
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| **July 3, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **14th Sunday of Ordinary Time/7th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| 2 Kings 5:1-14  Pss 30; 66:1-9  Gal 6:1-16  Luke 10:1-20 |  | Gal 6:10  “Therefore as we have opportunity—At whatever time or place, and in whatever manner we can. The opportunity in general is our lifetime; but there are also many particular opportunities.”  John Wesley | This week, try to begin sketching out sheets for August and/or September. |
| Sermon Title |
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| **July 3, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **14th Sunday of Ordinary Time/7th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| 2 Kings 5:1-14 | Pss 30; 66:1-9 | Gal 6:1-16 | Luke 10:1-20 |
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| **July 10, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **15th Sunday of Ordinary Time/8th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Amos 7:7-17  Pss 82; 25:1-10  Col 1:1-14  Luke 10:25-37 |  | Luke 10:25-37  “Loving God with our heart, soul, strength and mind is our way of acknowledging in gratitude his initiative in accepting us. Acceptance by God leads the way to self-esteem, to the possibility of freedom to love others more fully. Belief in this divine initiative leads to abundant life in community with each other.”  Rev. Dr. C. Samuel Calian, p. 15  “Jesus always gave love the preeminence…. He put love first. When the heart was involved, He gave it the right of way. We are apt to do this in reverse. When decisions are made, we give way to reason and ‘rationalize’ our way out rather than ‘love’ it out. As a result, marriage relationships often suffer, friendship bonds are weakened, neighborly ties are strained. On a larger scale it erupts in arms races, broken treaties, and international mistrust. The mind never prompts us to go beyond the required limits; only the heart enables us to go the second mile.”  Miller family, p. 221 | This week, continue sketching out sheets for August and/or September. |
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| **July 10, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **15th Sunday of Ordinary Time/8th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Amos 7:7-17 | Pss 82; 25:1-10 | Col 1:1-14 | Luke 10:25-37 |
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| **July 17, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **16th Sunday of Ordinary Time/9th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Amos 8:1-12  Pss 52; 15  Col 1:15-28  Luke 10:38-42 |  | Col 1:15-28  “By his resurrection, heaven and earth are brought back to their divinely created and determined order. Christ is Lord in creation, and in the re-creation of all things.”  Rev. Susan Blank  Col 1:25  “For Paul, Christians were once slaves of sin, but as Christians they are slaves of Christ. The notion of ‘slave of Christ’ is Paul’s way of expressing both the liberation Christians experience in Christ and the commitment a Christian feels toward Christ.”  Rev. Dr. Susan Nelson, p. 161 |  |
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| **July 17, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **16th Sunday of Ordinary Time/9th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Amos 8:1-12 | Pss 52; 15 | Col 1:15-28 | Luke 10:38-42 |
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| **July 24, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **17th Sunday of Ordinary Time/10th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Hos 1:2-10  Pss 85; 138  Col 2:6-19  Luke 11:1-13 |  | Hos 1:10  “God judges to entice and implore God’s people to return, and God’s Lo-ammi, ‘you are not my people and I am not your God’ (Hos 1:9), is always immediately followed by the covenantal promises: ‘Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in theplace where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ it shall be said to them, ‘Children of the living God’ (Hos 1:10).”  Rev. Dr. Edwin Chr. Van Driel |  |
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| **July 24, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **17th Sunday of Ordinary Time/10th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Hos 1:2-10 | Pss 85; 138 | Col 2:6-19 | Luke 11:1-13 |
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| **July 31, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **18th Sunday of Ordinary Time/11th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Hos 11:1-11  Pss 107:1-9, 43; 49:1-12  Col 3:1-11  Luke 12:13-21 |  | Col 3:3  “In faith we know that the resurrected Jesus through the Holy Spirit has claimed us, laid hold on us and joined us to himself, thus to be part of his resurrected life. This is the central mystery of justification by faith by which we receive the benefits of Christ. In other words, faith confesses its trust that our ‘life is hidden with Christ in God.’ (Colossians 3:3).”  Rev. Dr. Andrew Purves, p. 62 | This week, try to begin sketching out sheets for September and/or October. |
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| **July 31, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **18th Sunday of Ordinary Time/11th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Hos 11:1-11 | Pss 107:1-9, 43; 49:1-12 | Col 3:1-11 | Luke 12:13-21 |
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| **August 7, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **19th Sunday of Ordinary Time/12th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Isa 1:1-20  Pss 50:1-8, 22-23; 33:12-22  Heb 11:1-16  Luke 12:32-40 |  | Isa 1:2-9  “We tend to think of the prophets as men who called for reform and pleaded for repentance. Isaiah did not do that. It was too late for reform. The first words of our text (vss. 2-3) are put in the form of an ancient lawsuit. Isaiah says God has a case against Israel, it has already been tried, and Israel has been found guilty. All that Isaiah can do is announce the verdict, the reason for it, and the sentence.”  Rev. Dr. Donald Gowan, *Reclaiming*, p. 132 |  |
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| **August 7, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **19th Sunday of Ordinary Time/12th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Isa 1:1-20 | Pss 50:1-8, 22-23; 33:12-22 | Heb 11:1-16 | Luke 12:32-40 |
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| **August 14, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **20th Sunday of Ordinary Time/13th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Isa 5:1-7  Pss 80:1-19; 82  Heb 11:29-12:2  Luke 12:49-56 |  | Luke 12  “Jesus was expressing an outcome that was predictable, given the context in which he lived. You see, we have to remember that in Jesus’ day, the decision to become a disciple of Christ was often an unpopular one. After all, Jesus stood against many of the religious and political leaders in his society; he spread teachings that were quite radical, things like loving your enemies and turning the other cheek, for example. He was called a heretic by some and a blasphemer by others. In short, joining up with Jesus was risky. All those things Jesus says in our text today about family members being set against one another, well, those things were really happening.”  Rev. Dr. Leanna Fuller |  |
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| **August 14, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **20th Sunday of Ordinary Time/13th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Isa 5:1-7 | Pss 80:1-19; 82 | Heb 11:29-12:2 | Luke 12:49-56 |
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| **August 21, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **21st Sunday of Ordinary Time/14th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Jer 1:4-10  Pss 71:1-6; 103:1-8  Heb 12:18-29  Luke 13:10-17 |  | “God’s call tends to come when there is spiritual, political or personal unrest, destruction, injustice, or disobedience. Such was the case when Jeremiah perceived God was calling him to service. Jeremiah lived in a period of political and moral crisis; he witnessed his country lose its independence and suffer as a result of the constant fighting between the Assyrians and Babylonians. It was into this time of transition, political unrest, exile, and oppression that the youth Jeremiah realized there was a call upon his life to be a messenger of the Lord.”  Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy |  |
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| **August 21, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **21st Sunday of Ordinary Time/14th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Jer 1:4-10 | Pss 71:1-6; 103:1-8 | Heb 12:18-29 | Luke 13:10-17 |
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| **August 28, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time/15th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Jer 2:4-13  Pss 81:1-16; 112  Heb 13:1-16  Luke 14:1-14 |  | “Idolatry is not holding on to the wrong things; it’s holding on to good things wrongly, including God. When this kind of holding happens these things become worthless, so to speak—not worthless in themselves, but worthless with regard to the godly role we’ve given them. This holding on amounts to digging cisterns for ourselves—cisterns which, as Jeremiah would remind us, are cracked.”  Rev. Dr. L. Roger Owens | This week, do some work on September worksheets, and start working on October, if not begun already. |
| Sermon Title |
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| Color: Green  Alternate Color:  Red |

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| **August 28, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time/15th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Jer 2:4-13 | Pss 81:1-16; 112 | Heb 13:1-16 | Luke 14:1-14 |
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| **September 4, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time/16th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Jer 18:1-11  Pss 139:1-18; 1  Philem 1-21  Luke 14:25-33 |  | Ps 1  “What makes a person happy? Often in our modern world, happiness is tied to material possessions and ‘feeling good.’ Happiness for many is determined by owning the biggest and best or having pleasurable relationships. In the Psalter, however, ‘happiness’ is something more permanent and stable that grows out of a dependence on God.”  Rev. Dr. Jerome Creach, *Psalms*, p. 23  “The destiny of the righteous in this psalm is to know, and be known, by God—to enter into a relationship with the divine, to become like trees in the temple garden, drawing life from God and bearing fruit for God. The means to that end set forth in this psalm is immersion in God’s Torah. Such seekers will not seek in vain; as Jesus promises in the Sermon on the Mount, ‘Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you’ (Matt 7:7).”  Rev. Dr. Steven Tuell |  |
| Sermon Title |
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| Music |
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| **September 4, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time/16th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Jer 18:1-11 | Pss 139:1-18; 1 | Philem 1-21 | Luke 14:25-33 |
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| **September 11, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **24th Sunday of Ordinary Time/17th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Jer 4:11-28  Pss 14; 51:1-10  1 Tim 1:12-17  Luke 15:1-10 |  | 1 Tim 1:15  “The favors of God so far exceed human hope and expectation, that often they are not believed. For God has bestowed upon us such things as the mind of man never looked for, never thought of. It is for this reason that the Apostles spend much discourse in securing a belief of the gifts that are granted us of God. For as men, upon receiving some great good, ask themselves if it is not a dream, as not believing it; so it is with respect to the gifts of God.”  St. John Chrysostom, p. 419 |  |
| Sermon Title |
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| Music |
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| **September 11, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **24th Sunday of Ordinary Time/17th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Jer 4:11-28 | Pss 14; 51:1-10 | 1 Tim 1:12-17 | Luke 15:1-10 |
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| **September 18, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **25th Sunday of Ordinary Time/18th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Jer 8:18-9:1  Pss 79:1-9; 113  1 Tim 2:1-7  Luke 16:1-13 |  | “He is a generous man because he dismissed the steward but did not jail him. . . . The steward is not commended for his ethics (he is a son of this age/world) but for his accurate perception of his master’s nature. He correctly reads his master. The steward experiences extraordinary mercy at the beginning of the story. He opts to risk everything in the confidence that this mercy and generosity are at the core of his master’s identity.”  Dr. Kenneth Bailey, pp. 340, 342 |  |
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| **September 18, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **25th Sunday of Ordinary Time/18th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Jer 8:18-9:1 | Pss 79:1-9; 113 | 1 Tim 2:1-7 | Luke 16:1-13 |
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| **September 25, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **26th Sunday of Ordinary Time/19th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Jer 32:1-15  Pss 9:1-16; 146  1 Tim 6:6-19  Luke 16:19-31 |  | 1 Tim 6:15  “We are commonly hasty in our wishes, and not far from prescribing a day and hour to God, as if we should say, that he must not delay to perform anything that he has promised; and for that reason the Apostle takes an early opportunity of restraining excessive haste, by expecting the coming of Christ. For that is the meaning of the words, ‘which in his seasons he will show.’ When men know that the proper time for anything is not fully come, they wait for it more patiently.”  John Calvin, Commentary on 1 Timothy | This week, do some work on October worksheets, and start working on November, if not begun already. |
| Sermon Title |
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| Music |
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| **September 25, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **26th Sunday of Ordinary Time/19th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Jer 32:1-15 | Pss 9:1-16; 146 | 1 Tim 6:6-19 | Luke 16:19-31 |
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| **October 2, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **World Communion Sunday – 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time/19th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Lam 1:1-6  Ps 137  2 Tim 1:1-14  Luke 17:5-10 |  | Lam 1:1-6  “There is no normal life that is free of pain. It’s the very wrestling with our problems that can be the impetus for our growth”  Rev. Fred Rogers (Mister Rogers), p. 164  Luke 17  “Over and over we hear Jesus proclaiming that He eats with the disciples and even with sinners, and that He is anxious to come in and eat with us. The disciples are friends and companions, not servants. But throughout these times, Jesus remains in authority; the believer is called to follow His example in service, but Jesus is always the Master.”  Ellen E. Larson and David V. Esterline, p. 48 | Would you like to see another workbook for future seasons? Let us know at [SYI@PTS.edu](mailto:SYI@PTS.edu) |
| Sermon Title |
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| Color: White (If celebrating Communion)  Alternate Color: Red or Green |

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| **October 2, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **World Communion Sunday – 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time/19th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Lam 1:1-6 | Ps 137 | 2 Tim 1:1-14 | Luke 17:5-10 |
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| **October 9, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **28th Sunday of Ordinary Time/21st Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Jer 29:1-7  Pss 66:1-12; 111  2 Tim 2:8-15  Luke 17:11-19 |  | Ps 66  “There may have been one deliverance in particular, which the Psalmist celebrates here in the name of the Church, but he includes the many and various mercies which God had all along conferred upon his chosen people.”  John Calvin, *Commentary on the Psalms*, Volume II |  |
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| **October 9, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **28th Sunday of Ordinary Time/21st Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Jer 29:1-7 | Pss 66:1-12; 111 | 2 Tim 2:8-15 | Luke 17:11-19 |
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| **October 16, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **29th Sunday of Ordinary Time/22nd Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Jer 31:27-34  Pss 119:97-104; 121  2 Tim 3:14-4:5  Luke 18:1-8 |  | Ps 119  “. . . the psalm communicates the important idea that Torah is all-encompassing; it underlies everything and applies to everything. Torah is a source of protection, of God’s refuge, for anyone who meditates on it.”  Rev. Dr. Jerome Creach, *Destiny of the Righteous*, p. 141 |  |
| Sermon Title |
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| **October 16, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **29th Sunday of Ordinary Time/22nd Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Jer 31:27-34 | Pss 119:97-104; 121 | 2 Tim 3:14-4:5 | Luke 18:1-8 |
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| **October 23, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **30th Sunday of Ordinary Time/23rd Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Joel 2:23-32  Ps 65  2 Tim 4:6-18  Luke 18:9-14 |  | “Even thanksgiving can become distorted, however, and gratitude can become nothing other than an expression of pride and selfishness: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector’ (Luke 18:11). But worship that draws us into God’s living Word bases gratitude not in the identities that we would give ourselves, but in the identity that Christ has won for us by giving himself up to death, even death on a Cross.”  Rev. Dr. John Burgess, *After Baptism*, p. 57 |  |
| Sermon Title |
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| **October 23, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **30th Sunday of Ordinary Time/23rd Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Joel 2:23-32 | Ps 65 | 2 Tim 4:6-18 | Luke 18:9-14 |
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| **October 30, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **31st Sunday of Ordinary Time/24th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Hab 1:1-4; 2:1-4  Ps 119:137-144  2 Thess 1:1-12  Luke 19:1-10 |  | “How often in the Gospels the breakthrough to communion occurs when Jesus calls a person by name. ‘Peter.’ ‘Zaccheus.’ ‘Mary.’ He speaks, and suddenly they awaken out of their slumber and come back to their senses. His Word calls them out of themselves into relationship with him.”  Rev. Dr. John Burgess, *Thinking Theologically*, p. 20 | This week, do some work on November worksheets, and start thinking about Advent! |
| Sermon Title |
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| **October 30, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **31st Sunday of Ordinary Time/24th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Hab 1:1-4; 2:1-4 | Ps 119:137-144 | 2 Thess 1:1-12 | Luke 19:1-10 |
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| **November 6, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **All Saint’s Observance or 32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time/25th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Hag 1:15-2:9  Pss 145:1-21; 98; 17:1-9  2 Thess 2:1-17  Luke 20:27-38 |  | “[Haggai] was convinced they were in fact in the early stages of Yahweh’s creation of a new era, and that they had something to contribute.”  Rev. Dr. Donald Gowan, *Theology of the Prophetic* *Books*, p. 164 |  |
| Sermon Title |
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| Music |
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| **November 6, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **All Saint’s Observance or 32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time/25th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Hag 1:15-2:9 | Pss 145:1-21; 98; 17:1-9 | 2 Thess 2:1-17 | Luke 20:27-38 |
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| **November 13, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time/26th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Isa 65:17-25  Pss 12; 98  2 Thess 3:6-13  Luke 21:5-19 |  | Luke 21:19  “Be calm and serene, masters of yourselves, and superior to all irrational and disquieting passions. By keeping the government of your spirits, you will both avoid much misery, and guard the better against all dangers.”  John Wesley |  |
| Sermon Title |
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| Music |
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| **November 13, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time/26th Sunday after Pentecost** | | | |
| Isa 65:17-25 | Pss 12; 98 | 2 Thess 3:6-13 | Luke 21:5-19 |
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| **November 20, 2016 – Year C: Planning Page**  **Christ the King Sunday** | | | |
| Scripture | Notes/Themes/Outline | Scripture Resources | To Do |
| Jer 23:1-6  Luke 1:68-79  Col 1:11-20  Luke 23:33-43 |  | “Zechariah primarily rejoices in the fulfillment of God’s purposes in his nephew, relegating the oracle about his own son to a poignant afterthought.”  Dr. Edith Humphrey, p. 120 | Be sure to sign up for the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Advent devotional! Also, if you liked this resource, email us at [SYI@PTS.edu](mailto:SYI@PTS.edu). |
| Sermon Title |
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| We hope this calendar has been helpful! Take time this week to relax—  Advent will be busy! |

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| **November 20, 2016 – Year C: Free-writing Page**  **Christ the King Sunday** | | | |
| Jer 23:1-6 | Luke 1:68-79 | Col 1:11-20 | Luke 23:33-4 |
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