

The Lay Reader's Script for the 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 16, 2013

Lay Reader: Gary Brown

After the Prelude, please begin the Call to Worship...

One: **Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!**

All: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

One: **I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.**

All: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

After the Gloria Patri, and after everyone is seated, please say...**“Let us pray our Prayer for Illumination.”**
We are the family of God. There is no language or human medium that can communicate the beauty and significance of that relationship. It is beyond the comprehension of earthbound creatures. Yet it is this intimacy that God makes possible for us through Jesus Christ. As a child boldly approaches his or her father and mother in love and need, so God is the one who conceived us, birthed us, and has nurtured us in our journey as His family. We know that God hears us and rejoices in the faith of all His children. We praise our God who rejoices in the love of His family and wants us to share His love with our world. Amen.

And now the First Reading from the second book of Corinthians Chapter 8 *“Encouragement to Be Generous”*:

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints—and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you. Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love

for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something— now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have.

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**