### the Revised Common LECTIONARY



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# **EPIPHANY**

| Year A   |  | (Tile  | \$ V                            |                                 | To M               |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Jan. 6, 2017 - Feb. 26,<br>2017  | Epiphany<br>Year A   | First reading                                    | Psalm                           | Second reading                  | Gospel             |
| Home<br>Year A (2016 - 2017)   | Epiphany of the Lord<br>January 6, 2017<br>ART PRAYER                                      | Isaiah 60:1-6                                    | Psalm 72:1-7,<br>10-14          | Ephesians<br>3:1-12             | Matthew<br>2:1-12  |
| Advent Christmas Epiphany Epiphany of the Lord Baptism of the Lord Second Sunday after   | Baptism of the Lord<br>January 8, 2017<br>First Sunday after the<br>Epiphany<br>ART PRAYER | Isalah 42:1-9                                    | Psalm 29                        | Acts 10:34-43                   | Matthew<br>3:13-17 |
| the Epiphany Third Sunday after the Epiphany Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany  | Second Sunday after<br>the Epiphany<br>January 15, 2017<br>ART PRAYER                      | Isalah 49:1-7                                    | Psalm 40:1-11                   | 1 Corinthians<br>1:1-9          | John 1:29-42       |
| <ul> <li>Presentation of the<br/>Lord</li> <li>Fifth Sunday after the<br/>Epiphany</li> </ul>  | Third Sunday after<br>the Epiphany<br>January 22, 2017<br>ART PRAYER                       | Isalah 9:1-4                                     | Psalm 27:1,<br>4-9              | 1 Corinthians<br>1:10-18        | Matthew<br>4:12-23 |
| <ul> <li>Sixth Sunday after the<br/>Epiphany</li> <li>Seventh Sunday after<br/>the Epiphany</li> <li>Transfiguration Sunday</li> </ul> | Fourth Sunday after<br>the Epiphany<br>January 29, 2017<br>ART PRAYER                      | Micah 6:1-8                                      | Psalm 15                        | 1 Corinthians<br>1:18-31        | Matthew<br>5:1-12  |
| Lent Holy Week Easter Season after Pentecost Year B (2017 - 2018)  | Presentation of the<br>Lord<br>February 2, 2017<br>ART PRAYER                              | Malachi 3:1-4                                    | Psalm 84<br>or<br>Psalm 24:7-10 | Hebrews<br>2:14-18              | Luke 2:22-40       |
| Advent<br>Christmas<br>Epiphany<br>Lent  | Fifth Sunday after<br>the Epiphany<br>February 5, 2017<br>ART PRAYER                       | Isaiah 58:1-9a<br>(9b-12)                        | Psalm 112:1-9<br>(10)           | 1 Corinthians<br>2:1-12 (13-16) | Matthew<br>5:13-20 |
| Holy Week Easter Season after Pentecost Year C (2018 - 2019) Advent  | Sixth Sunday after<br>the Epiphany<br>February 12, 2017<br>ART PRAYER                      | Deuteronomy<br>30:15-20<br>or<br>Sirach 15:15-20 | Psalm 119:1-8                   | 1 Corinthians<br>3:1-9          | Matthew<br>5:21-37 |
| Christmas  | Seventh Sunday   | Leviticus  | Psalm                           | 1 Corinthians                   | Matthew            |

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| Lent Holy Week Easter Season after Pentecost Year B (2017 - 2018)  | Presentation of the<br>Lord<br>February 2, 2017<br>ART PRAYER                              | Malachi 3:1-4                                    | Psalm 84<br>or<br>Psalm 24:7-10 | Hebrews<br>2:14-18              | Luke 2:22-40       |
| Advent<br>Christmas<br>Epiphany<br>Lent  | Fifth Sunday after<br>the Epiphany<br>February 5, 2017<br>ART PRAYER                       | Isaiah 58:1-9a<br>(9b-12)                        | Psalm 112:1-9<br>(10)           | 1 Corinthians<br>2:1-12 (13-16) | Matthew<br>5:13-20 |
| Holy Week<br>Easter<br>Season after Pentecost<br>Year C (2018 - 2019)  | Sixth Sunday after<br>the Epiphany<br>February 12, 2017<br>ART PRAYER                      | Deuteronomy<br>30:15-20<br>or<br>Sirach 15:15-20 | Psalm 119:1-8                   | 1 Corinthians<br>3:1-9          | Matthew<br>5:21-37 |
| Advent<br>Christmas  | Seventh Sunday   | Leviticus  | Psalm                           | 1 Corinthians                   | Matthew            |

| <b>Year B</b> (2017 - 2018)<br>Advent                     | ART PRAYER   |  |                           |  |                    |
|---|--|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Christmas Epiphany Lent Holy Week                         | Fifth Sunday after<br>the Epiphany<br>February 5, 2017<br>ART PRAYER           | Isaiah 58:1-9a<br>(9b-12)                        | Psalm 112:1-9<br>(10)     | 1 Corinthians<br>2:1-12 (13-16)            | Matthew<br>5:13-20 |
| Easter Season after Pentecost Year C (2018 - 2019) Advent | Sixth Sunday after<br>the Epiphany<br>February 12, 2017<br>ART PRAYER          | Deuteronomy<br>30:15-20<br>or<br>Sirach 15:15-20 | Psalm 119:1-8             | 1 Corinthians<br>3:1-9                     | Matthew<br>5:21-37 |
| Christmas Epiphany Lent Holy Week Easter                  | Seventh Sunday after<br>the Epiphany<br>February 19, 2017<br>ART PRAYER        | Leviticus<br>19:1-2, 9-18                        | Psalm<br>119:33-40        | 1 Corinthians<br>3:10-11, 16-23            | Matthew<br>5:38-48 |
| Season after Pentecost                                    | Transfiguration Sunday February 26, 2017 (Last Sunday before Lent)             | Exodus<br>24:12-18                               | Psalm 2<br>or<br>Psalm 99 | 2 Peter<br>1:16-21                         | Matthew<br>17:1-9  |
|   | ART PRAYER   |  |                           |  |                    |
|   | Eighth Sunday after<br>the Epiphany<br>Not Observed This<br>Year<br>ART PRAYER | Isaiah 49:8-16a                                  | Psalm 131                 | 1 Corinthians<br>4:1-5                     | Matthew<br>6:24-34 |
|   | Ninth Sunday after<br>the Epiphany<br>Not Observed This<br>Year<br>ART PRAYER  | Deuteronomy<br>11:18-21, 26-28                   | Psalm 31:1-5,<br>19-24    | Romans<br>1:16-17,<br>3:22b-28,<br>(29-31) | Matthew<br>7:21-29 |

## Confession of Faith In a Mennonite Perspective

# Article 7. Sin

We confess that, beginning with Adam and Eve, humanity has disobeyed God, given way to the tempter, and chosen to sin. Because of sin, all have fallen short of the Creator's intent, marred the image of God in which they were cre-ated, disrupted order in the world, and limited their love for others. Because of sin, humanity has been given over to the enslaving powers of evil and death.1

Sin is turning away from God and making gods of creation and of ourselves. We sin by making individual and group choices to do unrighteousness and injustice. We sin by omitting to do good and neglecting to give God the glory due our Creator and Redeemer. In sinning, we become unfaithful to the covenant with God and with God's people, destroy right relationships, use power selfishly, do violence, and become separated from God. As a result, we are not able to worship God rightly.

Through sin, the powers of domination, division, destruction, and death have been unleashed in humanity and in all of creation. They have, in turn, further subjected human beings to the power of sin and evil, and have increased burdensome work and barren rest. The more we sin, the more we become trapped in sin. By our sin we open ourselves to the bondage of demonic powers.4 Because of sin and its consequences, the efforts of human beings on their own to do the good and to know the truth are constantly corrupted. 5

The enslaving nature of sin is apparent in the powers of evil, which work through both individuals and groups and in the entire created order. These powers, principalities, and elemental spirits of the universe often hold people captive and work through political, economic, social, and even religious systems to turn people away from justice and righteousness.6 But thanks be to God, who has not allowed the powers to reign supreme over creation or left humanity without hope.

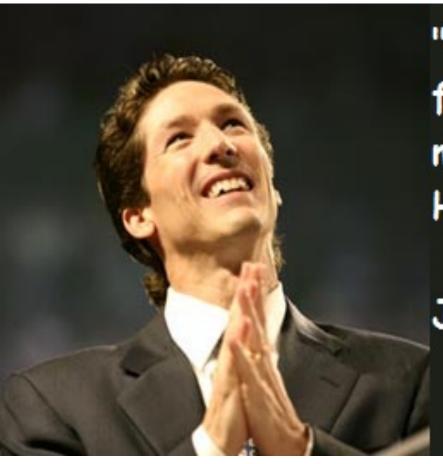


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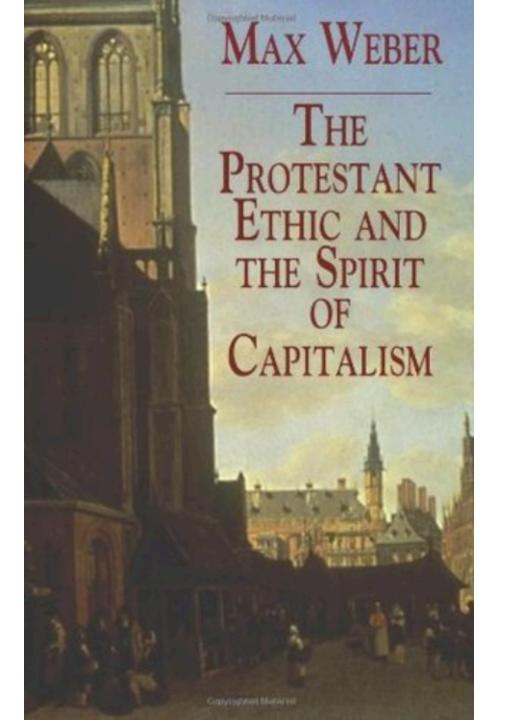
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"God wants us to prosper financially, to have plenty of money, to fulfill the destiny He has laid out for us."

Joel Osteen





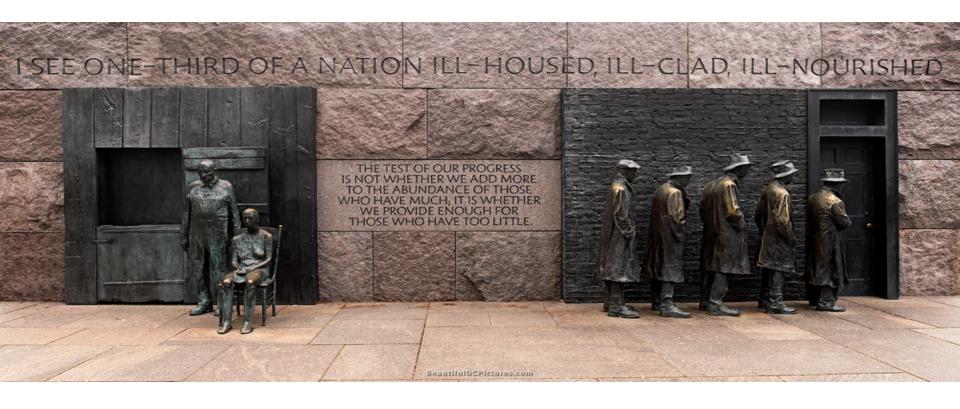
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#### Lumpenproletariat

Roughly translated as *slum workers* or *the mob*, this term identifies the class of outcast, degenerated and submerged elements that make up a section of the population of industrial centers. It includes beggars, prostitutes, gangsters, racketeers, swindlers, petty criminals, tramps, chronic unemployed or unemployables, persons who have been cast out by industry, and all sorts of declassed, degraded or degenerated elements. In times of prolonged crisis (depression), innumerable young people also, who cannot find an opportunity to enter into the social organism as producers, are pushed into this limbo of the outcast. Here demagogues and <u>fascists</u> of various stripes find some area of the mass base in time of struggle and social breakdown, when the ranks of the *Lumpenproletariat* are enormously swelled by ruined and declassed elements from all layers of a society in decay.

The term was coined by Marx in <u>The German Ideology</u> in the course of a critique of Max Stirner. In passage of *The Ego and His Own* which Marx is criticising at the time, Stirner frequently uses the term *Lumpe* and applies it as a prefix, but never actually used the term "lumpenproletariat." *Lumpen* originally meant "rags," but began to be used to mean "a person in rags." From having the sense of "ragamuffin," it came to mean "riff-raff" or "knave," and by the beginning of the eighteenth century it began to be used freely as a prefix to make a range of perjorative terms. By the 1820s, "lumpen" could be tacked on to almost any German word.

The term was later used in the <u>Communist Manifesto</u> (where it is translated as "dangerous classes") and in <u>Class Struggles in France</u>, and elsewhere.





The family is not bound by blood, history or distance...but of love, respect and joy in being with one another.

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