

The Lessons Appointed for Use on the  
**Sunday closest to August 24**

Year A  
Proper 16  
RCL



*Track 2*

Isaiah 51:1-6  
Psalm 138  
Romans 12:1-8  
Matthew 16:13-20

**Old Testament**

**Isaiah 51:1-6**

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,  
you that seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah who bore you;

for he was but one when I called him,  
but I blessed him and made him many.

For the LORD will comfort Zion;  
he will comfort all her waste places,  
and will make her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people,  
and give heed to me, my nation;  
for a teaching will go out from me,  
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,  
my salvation has gone out  
and my arms will rule the peoples;

the coastlands wait for me,  
and for my arm they hope.

Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
and look at the earth beneath;

for the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and those who live on it will die like gnats;  
but my salvation will be for ever,  
and my deliverance will never be ended.

## **The Response**

### **Psalm 138**

#### *Confitebor tibi*

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; \*  
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple  
and praise your Name, \*  
because of your love and faithfulness;
- 3 For you have glorified your Name \*  
and your word above all things.
- 4 When I called, you answered me; \*  
you increased my strength within me.
- 5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD, \*  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
- 6 They will sing of the ways of the LORD, \*  
that great is the glory of the LORD.
- 7 Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly; \*  
he perceives the haughty from afar.
- 8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; \*  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;  
your right hand shall save me.
- 9 The LORD will make good his purpose for me; \*  
O LORD, your love endures for ever;  
do not abandon the works of your hands.

## **The Epistle**

### **Romans 12:1-8**

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.