

A background graphic featuring several stylized hands in various shades of beige and light gray, reaching out from the top and sides of the page. The hands are rendered in a simple, almost woodcut-like style with visible grain or texture.

Doug's Reflection

08-16-26 THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

I have a confession to make to you folks. I do NOT consider myself to be a powerful prayer warrior. My attention span isn't what it should be. At any rate, my prayer and prayer life, and probably yours too, can be difficult. Faced with the prospect of conversation with a holy God who speaks worlds into being, it should come as no surprise that we have trouble. We feel awkward and out of place. We think: "I'm not good enough for this. I'll wait until I clean up my act." Or we excuse ourselves on the ground that our vocabulary is inadequate. "Give me a few months (or a few years!) to practice and polish prayers that will be good enough for such a sacred meeting. Then I won't feel so stuttery and ill at ease." That's what's great about the Psalms. They teach us how to pray. When your prayer life hits what feels like a roadblock, turn to the Psalms!