

# Narrative Lectionary

## List of Readings for Years 1-4

The **preaching texts** are always listed first. During the fall, Old Testament texts are the primary vehicle for proclaiming the biblical story. In years when there are not 16 weeks between Labor Day and Christmas Day, the reading marked [Optional] should be omitted.

The **gospel readings** become primary texts on the Fourth Sunday of Advent. A brief accompanying reading (selected from one of the gospels before Christmas and after Easter; selected from Psalms from Christmas through Easter) is noted in parentheses. *These accompanying readings are optional.*

	<b>YEAR 1 (Matt)</b>	<b>YEAR 2 (Mark)</b>	<b>YEAR 3 (Luke)</b>	<b>YEAR 4 (John)</b>
Creation	NL101 <b>Genesis 6:5-22; 8:6-12; 9:8-17</b>  Noah, the flood, and the promise of the rainbow  <i>(Matt 8:24-27)</i>	NL201 <b>Genesis 2:4b-25</b>  Human beings in the garden; woman and man as companions  <i>(Mark 1:16-20 or Mark 10:6-8)</i>	NL301 <b>Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-17; 3:1-8</b>  Creation, Garden of Eden, fall into sin  <i>(Luke 11:4)</i>	NL401 <b>Genesis 1:1— 2:4a</b>  Creation by the word; light, life; It was good  <i>(John 1:1-5)</i>
Abraham	NL102 <b>Genesis 12:1-9</b>  Call of Abraham, promise of land, descendants, blessing to the nations  <i>(Matt 28:19-20)</i>	NL202 <b>Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7</b>  The promise of Isaac's birth to an aged Sarah and Abraham brings laughter  <i>(Mark 10:27)</i>	NL302 <b>Genesis 15:1-6</b>  God promises Abraham descendants as numerous as the stars. Abraham believed the Lord and it was reckoned to him as righteousness  <i>(Luke 3:8)</i>	NL402 <b>Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14</b>  God gives Abraham and Sarah a son in their old age. Abraham is told to sacrifice his beloved son, but God provides the ram  <i>(John 1:29)</i>

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Jacob and Joseph	<p>NL103 <b>Genesis 39:1-23</b></p> <p>Joseph is unjustly put in prison; yet God is present with him there</p> <p><i>(Matt 5:11-12)</i></p>	<p>NL203 <b>Genesis 32:[9-13] 22-30</b></p> <p>Jacob wrestles with an angel. Receives the name Israel, for he strives with God</p> <p><i>(Mark 14:32-36)</i></p>	<p>NL303 <b>Genesis 37:3-8, 17b-22, 26-34; 50:15-21</b></p> <p>Joseph's dreams lead to conflict and he is sold; God works for good</p> <p><i>(Luke 6:35)</i></p>	<p>NL403 <b>Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17</b></p> <p>Jacob obtains a blessing and flees; receives God's promise</p> <p><i>(John 1:50-51)</i></p>
Exodus	<p>NL104 <b>Exodus 14:5-7, 10-14, 21-29</b></p> <p>The sea parts at the exodus; this is God's gift of deliverance</p> <p><i>(Matt 2:13-15)</i></p>	<p>NL204 <b>Exodus 1:8-14 [1:15--2:10]; 3:1-15</b></p> <p>Israel is in slavery and calls for help. God calls Moses to bring release</p> <p><i>(Mark 12:26-27a)</i></p>	<p>NL304 <b>Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8</b></p> <p>Passover: the blood of the lamb and unleavened bread signify God's sacrifice of the lamb God's deliverance</p> <p><i>(Luke 22:14-20)</i></p>	<p>NL404 <b>Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17</b></p> <p>God reveals that his name is "I Am." Moses is a reluctant messenger, but God uses him to deliver Israel</p> <p><i>(John 8:58)</i></p>
Law and Wilderness	<p>NL105 <b>Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17</b></p> <p>God brings Israel as on eagle's wings; Ten Commandments</p> <p><i>(Matthew 5:17)</i></p>	<p>NL205 <b>Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 6:4-9</b></p> <p>Ten Commandments Love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and might</p> <p><i>(Mark 12:28-31)</i></p>	<p>NL305 <b>Exodus 32:1-14</b></p> <p>Golden calf shows unfaithfulness at the foot of Mount Sinai. Moses intercedes and God forgives.</p> <p><i>(Luke 23:34)</i></p>	<p>NL405 <b>Exodus 16:1-18</b></p> <p>People complain and God provides manna. To live by manna is to live by faith in what God gives.</p> <p><i>(John 6:51)</i></p>

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Judges	<p>NL106 <b>Joshua 24:1-15 [16-26]</b></p> <p>Story of God's deliverance. Joshua says, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord"</p> <p><i>(Matthew 4:8-10)</i></p>	<p>NL206 <b>Ruth 1:1-17</b></p> <p>Ruth is a foreigner who finds belonging among God's people. Where you go I will go, your people will be my people, your God will be my God</p> <p><i>(Mark 3:33-35)</i></p>	<p>NL306 <b>1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10</b></p> <p>Samuel's birth as God's answer to Hannah's prayer. She sings of God's care for the needy.</p> <p><i>(Luke 1:46-55)</i></p>	<p>NL406 <b>1 Samuel 3:1-21</b></p> <p>God calls Samuel in the night. He says, Speak Lord for your servant is listening. Told to warn of sin in Israel.</p> <p><i>(John 20:21-23)</i></p>
David	<p>NL107 <b>2 Sam 11:1-5, 26-27; 12:1-9; Psalm 51:1-9</b></p> <p>Nathan's parable indicts David after his sin with Bathsheba. David repents.</p> <p><i>(Matt 21:33-41)</i></p>	<p>NL207 <b>2 Sam 5:1-5; 6:1-5; Psalm 150</b></p> <p>David becomes king over all Israel, brings the Ark of the covenant to Jerusalem making it a place of worship.</p> <p><i>(Mark 11:8-10)</i></p>	<p>NL307 <b>2 Samuel 7:1-17</b></p> <p>God's promise to David concerning his heir, who will be God's Son and whose kingdom will endure forever</p> <p><i>(Luke 1:30-33)</i></p>	<p>NL407 <b>1 Sam 16:1-13 Psalm 51:10-14</b></p> <p>God does not look on outward appearance but on the heart; create in me a clean heart</p> <p><i>(John 7:24)</i></p>
Solomon to the Divided Kingdom	<p>NL108 <b>1 Kings 3:4-9, (10-15), 16-28</b></p> <p>Solomon prays for wisdom. The case of two women and one child</p> <p><i>(Matthew 6:9-10)</i></p>	<p>NL208 <b>1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29</b></p> <p>Rehoboam and the need for servant leadership; the kingdom is divided</p> <p><i>(Mark 10:42-45)</i></p>	<p>NL308 <b>1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:27-30, 41-43 [optional]</b></p> <p>Solomon fulfills the promise and builds the temple, a place of prayer for all nations</p> <p><i>(Luke 19:45-46)</i></p>	<p>NL408 <b>1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13</b></p> <p>Solomon's temple – a place of sacrifice and divine presence</p> <p><i>(John 2:19-21)</i></p>

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Elijah and Elisha	<p>NL109 <b>2 Kings 5:1-15a</b></p> <p>Elisha heals Naaman the Syrian, who was a foreigner and leper</p> <p><i>(Matthew 8:2-3)</i></p>	<p>NL209 <b>1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39</b></p> <p>Elijah calls fire from heaven on Mount Carmel to reveal God's presence</p> <p><i>(Mark 9:2-4)</i></p>	<p>NL309 <b>1 Kings 17:1-16 [17-24]</b></p> <p>Elijah and the widow; God's care for those on the margin</p> <p><i>(Luke 4:24-26)</i></p>	<p>NL409 <b>1 Kings 19:1-18</b></p> <p>Elijah at Horeb; The prophet in despair, God speaks in the silence</p> <p><i>(John 12:27-28)</i></p>
Minor prophets	<p>NL110 <b>Micah [1:3-5]; 5:2-5a; 6:6-8</b></p> <p>God's promise of a ruler from Bethlehem; God desires justice, humility</p> <p><i>(Matthew 9:13)</i></p>	<p>NL210 <b>Hosea 11:1-9</b></p> <p>God's passionate love for his children; despite their disobedience he cannot give them up</p> <p><i>(Mark 10:13-14)</i></p>	<p>NL310 <b>Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10 [4:1-11]</b></p> <p>Jonah's attempted escape from God, God's mercy on the repentant at Nineveh</p> <p><i>(Luke 18:13)</i></p>	<p>NL410 <b>Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24</b></p> <p>Let justice roll down like waters, righteousness like an ever-flowing stream</p> <p><i>(John 7:37-38)</i></p>
Isaiah	<p>NL111 <b>Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7; then 2:1-4</b></p> <p>Assyria threatens Jerusalem, and King Hezekiah despairs; Isaiah says the city will be a place of teaching; nations will beat swords into plowshares.</p> <p><i>(Matt 5:14)</i></p>	<p>NL211 <b>Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5</b></p> <p>Israel is pictured as a vineyard. God looks for the fruit of righteousness but finds only injustice. Another passage promises a faithful king (a shoot from the stump of Jesse), who will judge with righteousness.</p> <p><i>(Mark 12:1-3)</i></p>	<p>NL311 <b>Isaiah 6:1-8</b></p> <p>Call of Isaiah: Holy, holy, holy is God; the prophet's sin, cleansing and sending</p> <p><i>(Luke 5:8-10)</i></p>	<p>NL411 <b>Isaiah 9:1-7</b></p> <p>People who walked in darkness have seen a great light</p> <p><i>(John 8:12)</i></p>

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Jeremiah and Josiah	NL112 <b>Jeremiah 1:4-10; 7:1-11</b> [optional]  Jeremiah's call as promise and warning; the temple as a den of robbers  <i>(Matt 21:12-13)</i>	NL212 <b>2 Kings 22:1-10, [11-20]; 23:1-3</b>  Josiah's recovery of Scripture, reform and renewal  <i>(Luke 24:30-32)</i>	NL312 <b>Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31:31-34</b>  Jeremiah's words are written on a scroll, which is burned by the king. Jeremiah's message promises a new covenant.  <i>(Luke 22:19-20)</i>	NL412 <b>Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14</b>  Seek the welfare of the city; I know the plans I have for you  <i>(John 14:27)</i>
Into Exile	NL113 <b>Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:[3b-6], 17-19</b>  The prophet is grieved by injustice and suffering. God's reply: Faith is a way of life, not an easy answer  <i>(Matt 26:36-38)</i>	NL213 <b>Jeremiah 33:14-18</b> [optional]  Promise of the Messiah  <i>(Mark 8:27-29)</i>	NL313 <b>Daniel 6:6-27</b>  Daniel in the lions' den; deliverance; hope for God's kingdom which shall never be destroyed  <i>(Luke 23:1-5)</i>	NL413 <b>Daniel 3:1, [2-7] 8-30</b> [optional]  Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; God present in the fiery furnace  <i>(John 18:36-37)</i>
Return from Exile	NL114 <b>Esther 4:1-17</b>  For such a time as this, Esther was made queen.  <i>(Matt 5:13-16)</i>	NL214 <b>Isaiah 40:1-11</b>  Comfort, my people; a voice cries out: Make straight the way of the Lord  <i>(Mark 1:1-4)</i>	NL314 <b>Joel 2:12-13, 28-29</b>  Turning to a merciful God, the promise of the Spirit  <i>(Luke 11:13)</i>	NL414 <b>Ezekiel 37:1-14</b>  Ezekiel calls to the dry bones and they are raised to new life.  <i>(John 11:25-26)</i>

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Return from Exile	<p>NL115 <b>Isaiah 42:1-9</b></p> <p>God's servant in whom he delights. Through the Spirit he will bring justice and release to the prisoners. He will be a light to the nations</p> <p><i>(Matt 12:15-21)</i></p>	<p>NL215 <b>Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-4, 10-13</b></p> <p>Return from exile and rebuilding the temple</p> <p><i>(Luke 2:25-32)</i></p>	<p>NL315 <b>Isaiah 61:1-11</b></p> <p>The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to bring good news to the oppressed, liberty to the captives, to make an everlasting covenant</p> <p><i>(Luke 4:16-21)</i></p>	<p>NL415 <b>Isaiah 55:1-13</b></p> <p>Let anyone who is thirsty come to the waters; God's word will not return empty</p> <p><i>(John 4:13-14)</i></p>
Preparing for the Messiah's birth	<p>NL116 <b>Matthew 1:18-25</b></p> <p>Announcement of Jesus' birth to Joseph; Jesus will be Immanuel</p> <p><i>(Psalm 23:1-4)</i></p>	<p>NL216 <b>Luke 1:5-13 [14-25] 57-80</b></p> <p>John the Baptist's birth; Blessed be the God of Israel who has looked favorably on his people</p> <p><i>(Psalm 113)</i></p>	<p>NL316 <b>Luke 1:26-45 [46-56]</b></p> <p>Announcement of Jesus' birth to Mary; he will receive the throne of David and be Son of God</p> <p><i>(Psalm 113)</i></p>	<p>NL416 <b>John 1:1-18</b></p> <p>The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth</p> <p><i>(Psalm 130:5-8)</i></p>

## JESUS' LIFE

	<b>MATTHEW</b>	<b>MARK</b>	<b>LUKE</b>	<b>JOHN</b>
Christmas Eve	<p>NL117 <b>Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]</b></p> <p>Birth of Jesus</p> <p><i>(Psalm 96:10-13)</i></p>	<p>NL217 <b>Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]</b></p> <p>Birth of Jesus</p> <p><i>(Psalm 146:6-10 or Luke 1:46-55)</i></p>	<p>NL317 <b>Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]</b></p> <p>Birth of Jesus</p> <p><i>(Psalm 96)</i></p>	<p>NL417 <b>Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]</b></p> <p>Birth of Jesus</p> <p><i>(Psalm 96:7-10)</i></p>

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Christmas Day	NL118 <b>Luke 2:8-20</b>  Shepherds visit the infant Jesus  <i>(Psalm 95:6-7)</i>	NL218 <b>Luke 2:8-20</b>  Shepherds visit the infant Jesus <i>(or Matt 2:1-12)</i>  <i>(Psalm 108:1-4)</i>	NL318 <b>Luke 2:8-20</b>  Shepherds visit the infant Jesus <i>(or Matt 2:1-12)</i>  <i>(Psalm 123:1-2)</i>	NL418 <b>Luke 2:8-20</b>  Shepherds visit the infant Jesus <i>(or Matt 2:1-12)</i>  <i>(Ps 102:13-15)</i>
Christmas 1	NL119 <b>Matthew 1:1-17</b>  The genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham  <i>(Ps 132:11-12)</i>	NL219 <b>Mark 1:1-20</b>  John the Baptist, Jesus announces the kingdom, calls the disciples  <i>(Psalm 91:9-12)</i>	NL319 <b>Luke 2:21-38</b>  Simeon and Anna, Lord now you let your servant depart in peace, my eyes have seen your salvation  <i>(Psalm 131)</i>	NL419 <b>John 1:19-34</b>  John the Baptist questioned; says he is not the Christ or Elijah, but a voice in the wilderness  <i>(Psalm 32:1-2)</i>
Christmas 2	NL120 <b>Matthew 2:1-23</b>  The Magi visit the infant Jesus; flight into Egypt, massacre of the innocents, the return to Nazareth  <i>(Psalm 96:10-13)</i> <i>[opt: Ps 11:1-3]</i>	NL220 <b>Mark 1:21-45</b>  Jesus reveals the character of his power by healing a man with an unclean spirit, Peter's mother-in-law, and a leper  <i>(Psalm 103:1-5)</i>	NL320 <b>Luke 2:41-52</b>  Jesus in the temple at age twelve. He is in "his Father's house"  <i>(Psalm 2:7-8)</i>	NL420 <b>John 1:35-51</b>  Behold the Lamb of God, Call of disciples, "Come and see"  <i>(Psalm 66:1-5)</i>
Epiphany 1	NL121 <b>Matthew 3:1-17</b>  John the Baptist, Jesus is baptized to fulfill all righteousness  <i>(Psalm 2:7-8)</i>	NL221 <b>Mark 2:1-22</b>  Jesus heals a paralytic and eats with tax collectors  <i>(Psalm 103:6-14)</i>	NL321 <b>Luke 3:1-22</b>  John baptizes; bear fruit worthy of repentance, share what you have  <i>(Psalm 51:6-17)</i>	NL421 <b>John 2:1-11</b>  Wedding at Cana, water into wine  <i>(Ps 104:14-16)</i>

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Epiphany 2	NL122 <b>Matthew 4:1-17</b>  Jesus tempted in the wilderness  <i>(Psalm 91:9-12)</i>	NL222 <b>Mark 4:1-34</b>  Parables of sower and mustard seed  <i>(Psalm 126)</i>	NL322 <b>Luke 4:14-30</b>  Sermon at Nazareth  <i>(Psalm 146)</i>	NL422 <b>John 2:13-25</b>  Jesus cleanses the temple  <i>(Psalm 127:1-2)</i>
Epiphany 3	NL123 <b>Matthew 5:1-20</b>  Beatitudes, Salt of the earth Let light shine  <i>(Psalm 1:1-3)</i>	NL223 <b>Mark 5:1-20</b>  Jesus heals the Gerasene demoniac  <i>(Psalm 89:1-4)</i>	NL323 <b>Luke 5:1-11</b>  Great catch of fish, Peter will fish for people  <i>(Psalm 90:14-17)</i>	NL423 <b>John 3:1-21</b>  Jesus and Nicodemus, being born anew  <i>(Ps 139:13-18)</i>
Epiphany 4	NL124 <b>Matthew 6:7-21 [25-34]</b>  Lord's prayer, treasure in heaven; lilies of the field  <i>(Psalm 20:7)</i>	NL224 <b>Mark 5:21-43</b>  Jesus heals Jairus' daughter and the woman with the flow of blood  <i>(Psalm 131)</i>	NL324 <b>Luke 6:1-16</b>  Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath (plucking grain, healing a man) and call of disciples  <i>(Psalm 92)</i>	NL424 <b>John 4:1-42</b>  Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at well, speaks of living water  <i>(Psalm 42:1-3)</i>
Epiphany 5	NL125 <b>Matthew 7:1-14, 24-29</b>  Speck in the eye, narrow gate, wise man builds house on rock  <i>(Psalm 37:16-18)</i>	NL225 <b>Mark 6:1-29</b>  Jesus is rejected at Nazareth, Sending of the Twelve, Death of John the Baptist  <i>(Psalm 122)</i>	NL325 <b>Luke 7:1-17</b>  Healing the centurion's slave by a word and raising the widow's son at Nain  <i>(Ps 119:105-107)</i>	NL425 <b>John 4:46-54 [5:1-18]</b>  Healing official's son, faith in the word of promise ; Jesus heals one who shows no faith  <i>(Psalm 40:1-5)</i>



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Epiphany 6	NL126 <b>Matt 13:24-43</b>  Parable of wheat and weeds  <i>(Psalm 84:1-7)</i>	NL226 <b>Mark 7:1-23</b>  What defiles one comes from within  <i>(Psalm 51:1-3, 6-7)</i>	NL326 <b>Luke 7:18-35</b>  Tell John what you see and hear  <i>(Psalm 146:5-10)</i>	NL426 <b>John 6:35-59</b>  Bread of Life from heaven  <i>(Psalm 34:1-10)</i>
Epiphany 7	NL127 <b>Matt 14:13-33</b>  Feeding the 5,000; walking on the sea  <i>(Psalm 95:1-5)</i>	NL227 <b>Mark 7:24-37</b>  Healing the daughter of a Syro-Phoenician woman and a deaf man  <i>(Psalm 31:14-16)</i>	NL327 <b>Luke 7:36-50</b>  Sinful woman weeps at Jesus' feet and is forgiven  <i>(Psalm 130:3-6)</i>	NL427 <b>John 7:37-52</b>  Jesus' promise of the Spirit's living water  <i>(Ps 147:1-11)</i>
Epiphany 8	NL128 <b>Matt 15:10-20</b>  Things that defile  <i>(Psalm 15:1-3)</i>	NL228 <b>Mark 8:14-26</b>  Do you not see?  <i>(Psalm 131)</i>	NL328 <b>Luke 8:1-3, 16-21</b>  True family of Jesus  <i>(Psalm 123:1-2)</i>	NL428 <b>John 8:12-30</b>  Light of the world  <i>(Psalm 36:7-9)</i>
Trans-figuration	NL129 <b>Matthew 16:24--17:8</b>  Passion prediction, bearing the cross, Transfiguration  <i>(Psalm 41:7-10)</i>	NL229 <b>Mark 8:27--9:8</b>  Peter's confession, passion prediction, bearing the cross, Transfiguration  <i>(Psalm 27:1-3)</i>	NL329 <b>Luke 9:28-45</b>  Transfiguration, healing a boy with a demon, passion prediction  <i>(Psalm 36:5-10)</i>	NL429 <b>John 9:1-41</b>  Jesus is the light of the world – brings light to the eyes of a man born blind  <i>(Psalm 27:1-4)</i>

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Ash Wednesday	NL130 <b>Matthew 18:1-9</b>  Debate about who is the greatest, become like a child; if your right hand causes sin cut it off  <i>(Psalm 146:7c-10 or Psalm 51:1-3)</i>	NL230 <b>Mark 9:30-37</b>  Passion prediction, debate about who is the greatest, call to become a servant  <i>(Psalm 32:1-5)</i>	NL330 <b>Luke 9:51-62</b>  Jesus starts for Jerusalem, rejected in Samaria, Don't put your hand to the plow and turn back (the challenge of following Jesus)  <i>(Psalm 5:7-8)</i>	NL430 <b>John 10:1-18</b>  Jesus the gate and good shepherd, who lays down his life  <i>(Psalm 23)</i>
Lent 1	NL131 <b>Matt 18:15-35</b>  Church discipline, forgiving 70 x 7, parable of unforgiving servant  <i>(Psalm 32:1-2)</i>	NL231 <b>Mark 10:17-31</b>  Rich man called to sell all he has and follow Jesus  <i>(Psalm 19:7-10)</i>	NL331 <b>Luke 10:25-42</b>  Parable of the Good Samaritan  <i>(Psalm 15)</i>	NL431 <b>John 11:1-44</b>  Raising Lazarus, Jesus as the resurrection and life  <i>(Ps 104:27-30)</i>
Lent 2	NL132 <b>Matthew 20:1-16</b>  Parable of laborers in vineyard  <i>(Psalm 16:5-8)</i>	NL232 <b>Mark 10:32-52</b>  Passion prediction, Son of man came not to be served but to serve, heals blind Bartimaeus  <i>(Psalm 34:11-14)</i>	NL332 <b>Luke 13:1-9, 31-35</b>  Tower in Siloam and need for repentance, parable of fig tree that bore no fruit, lament over Jerusalem  <i>(Psalm 122)</i>	NL432 <b>John 13:1-17</b>  Footwashing as a sign of Jesus' love and example  <i>(Psalm 51:7-12)</i>

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Lent 3	NL133 <b>Matthew 22:1-14</b>  Parable of the wedding banquet  ( <i>Psalm 45:6-7</i> )	NL233 <b>Mark 12:1-12 [13-17]</b>  Parable of the wicked tenants; pay taxes to Caesar  ( <i>Psalm 86:8-13</i> )	NL333 <b>Luke 15:1-32</b>  Parables of the lost sheep, lost coin, Prodigal Son  ( <i>Ps 119:167-176</i> )	NL433 <b>John 18:12-27</b>  Trial before Annas, Peter's denial  ( <i>Psalm 17:1-7</i> )
Lent 4	NL134 <b>Matthew 25:1-13 [14-30]</b>  Parables of the bridesmaids, talents  ( <i>Psalm 43:3-4</i> )	NL234 <b>Mark 12:28-44</b>  Great command, scribes seek honor, a widow gives all  ( <i>Psalm 89:1-4</i> )	NL334 <b>Luke 16:19-31</b>  Parable of the rich man and Lazarus  ( <i>Psalm 41:1-3</i> )	NL434 <b>John 18:28-40</b>  Jesus and Pilate, kingdom not from this world  ( <i>Ps 145:10-13</i> )
Lent 5	NL135 <b>Matt 25:31-46</b>  Parable of the Last judgment  ( <i>Psalm 98:7-9</i> )	NL235 <b>Mark 13:1-8, 24-37</b>  The end of the age, Call to be watchful  ( <i>Psalm 102:12-17</i> )	NL335 <b>Luke 18:31--19:10</b>  Healing a blind man, Zacchaeus. Jesus saves the lost  ( <i>Ps 84:1-4, 10-12</i> )	NL435 <b>John 19:1-16a</b>  Jesus is condemned; no king but Caesar  ( <i>Psalm 146</i> )
Palm/ Passion Sunday	NL136 <b>Matthew 21:1-17</b>  Triumphal entry, cleansing temple  ( <i>Ps 118:25-29</i> )	NL236 <b>Mark 11:1-11 Mark 14:3-9</b>  Triumphal entry; Woman anoints Jesus at Bethany  ( <i>Psalm 118:25-29</i> )	NL336 <b>Luke 19:29-44</b>  Triumphal entry, weeping over the city, which does not know what makes for peace ( <i>Psalm 118:19-23</i> )	NL436 <b>John 19:16b-22</b> [Optional: John 12:12-27 – Triumphal entry] Sign above the cross proclaims crucified king  ( <i>Psalm 24</i> )

## Narrative Lectionary Readings (Years 1 - 4)

Maundy Thursday	NL137 <b>Matt 26:17-30</b>  Preparing for the Last Supper, mention of betrayal, Words of Institution  <i>(Ps 116:12-15)</i>	NL237 <b>Mark 14:22-42</b>  Words of Institution, Peter's denial foretold, prayer in Gethsemane  <i>(Psalm 116:12-19)</i>	NL337 <b>Luke 22:1-27</b>  Preparation for the Last Supper, Words of Institution, Jesus is one who serves  <i>(Psalm 34:8-10)</i>	NL437 <b>John 19:23-30</b>  Woman, behold your son, I thirst, It is finished  <i>(Psalm 26:3)</i>
Good Friday	NL138 <b>Matt 27:27-61</b>  Crucifixion, My God, my God why have you forsaken me  <i>(Psalm 22:1-2, [14-18])</i>	NL238 <b>Mark 15:16-39</b>  Mocking, Crucifixion, My God, my God why have you forsaken me  <i>(Psalm 22:1-2, 14-21)</i>	NL338 <b>Luke 23:32-47</b>  Crucifixion, Father forgive them, Today in Paradise, Into your hands I commend my Spirit  <i>(Psalm 31:5-13)</i>	NL438 <b>John 19:31-42</b>  His bones are not broken (as Passover Lamb), water from the side, a royal burial  <i>(Psalm 31:9-18)</i>
Easter	NL139 <b>Matthew 28:1-10</b>  Resurrection, empty tomb, women encounter the risen Jesus  <i>(Ps 118:19-24)</i>	NL239 <b>Mark 16:1-8</b>  Resurrection, empty tomb and fleeing in fear  <i>(Psalm 118:21-27)</i>	NL339 <b>Luke 24:1-12</b>  Empty tomb, women perplexed, bring the message.  <i>(Ps 118:17, 21-24)</i>	NL439 <b>John 20:1-18</b>  Resurrection, empty tomb, calls Mary by name  <i>(Ps 118:21-29)</i>

## Narrative Lectionary Readings (Years 1 - 4)

### EARLY CHURCH

Easter 2	<p>NL140 <b>Matt 28:16-20</b></p> <p>Great com- mission, Go and make disciples of all nations</p> <p><i>(Psalm 40:9-10)</i></p>	<p>NL240 <b>Acts 1:1-14</b></p> <p>You shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and to the ends of the earth</p> <p><i>(Mark 6:7-13)</i></p>	<p>NL340 <b>Luke 24:13-35</b></p> <p>Emmaus road; Our hearts burned along the road</p> <p><i>(Psalm 30)</i></p>	<p>NL440 <b>John 20:19-31</b></p> <p>Giving of Spirit, appearance to Thomas</p> <p><i>(Ps 145:13-21)</i></p>
Easter 3	<p>NL141 <b>Acts 10:1-17, 34-48</b></p> <p>Peter's vision shows that God cleanses people of every nation</p> <p><i>(Matt 9:36-37)</i></p>	<p>NL241 <b>Acts 3:1-10</b></p> <p>Healing at the Beautiful Gate, I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you, in the name of Jesus rise and walk</p> <p><i>(Mark 6:53-56)</i></p>	<p>NL341 <b>Acts 6:1--7:2a, 44-60</b></p> <p>Controversy in the early church; some set aside for service. Stephen forgives and is martyred.</p> <p><i>(Luke 23:33-34a, 46)</i></p>	<p>NL441 <b>Acts 9:1-19a</b></p> <p>Paul and Ananias, each called into Christ's service (locally and globally)</p> <p><i>(Matt 6:24)</i></p>
Easter 4	<p>NL142 <b>Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-18</b></p> <p>Beginning of Paul's mission. Healing at Lystra, gospel to the Gentile world</p> <p><i>(Matt 10:40-42)</i></p>	<p>NL242 <b>Acts 17:1-9 1 Thess. 1:1-10</b></p> <p>Founding church at Thessalonica, social conflict there; Paul's thanksgiving for the church at Thessalonica</p> <p><i>(Mark 13:9-11)</i></p>	<p>NL342 <b>Acts 8:26-39</b></p> <p>Ethiopian reads the Scriptures, comes to believe</p> <p><i>(Luke 24:44-47)</i></p>	<p>NL442 <b>Acts 16:16-34</b></p> <p>Paul and Silas in prison at Philippi, jailor and his family are baptized</p> <p><i>(Luke 6:18-19, 22-23)</i></p>

## Narrative Lectionary Readings (Years 1 - 4)

Easter 5	<p>NL143 <b>Romans 1:1-17</b></p> <p>Gospel as power of God for salvation to all, both Jews and Greeks</p> <p><i>(Matt 9:10-13)</i></p>	<p>NL243 <b>Acts 18:1-4</b> <b>1 Cor 1:10-18</b></p> <p>Founding the church at Corinth; Factions in the church and the Word of the cross</p> <p><i>(Mark 9:34-35)</i></p>	<p>NL343 <b>Acts 15:1-18</b></p> <p>Council at Jerusalem Faith gives identity to both Jews and Gentiles</p> <p><i>(Luke 2:29-32)</i></p>	<p>NL443 <b>Acts 17:16-31</b></p> <p>Paul's sermon at Athens: What you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you</p> <p><i>(John 1:16-18)</i></p>
Easter 6	<p>NL144 <b>Romans [3:28-30] 5:1-11</b></p> <p>God's love poured into our hearts</p> <p><i>(Matt 11:28-30)</i></p>	<p>NL244 <b>1 Cor 13:1-13</b></p> <p>Faith, hope, and love abide, but the greatest of these is love</p> <p><i>(Mark 12:28-31)</i></p>	<p>NL344 <b>Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21</b></p> <p>Conflict with Peter at Antioch Justification by faith, living by faith</p> <p><i>(Luke 18:9-14)</i></p>	<p>NL444 <b>Philippians 1:1-18a</b></p> <p>Paul in prison, thankful for the Philippians' partnership</p> <p><i>(Luke 9:46-48)</i></p>
Easter 7	<p>NL145 <b>Romans 6:1-14</b></p> <p>We were buried with him by baptism into death, so that we might walk in newness of life; hope of resurrection</p> <p><i>(Matt 6:24)</i></p>	<p>NL245 <b>1 Cor 15:1-26, 51-57</b></p> <p>Jesus' resurrection and the future resurrection; death as the last enemy</p> <p><i>(Mark 12:26-27a)</i></p>	<p>NL345 <b>Gal 3:1-9, 23-29</b></p> <p>Neither Jew or Greek, slave or free, male and female; one in Christ</p> <p><i>(Luke 1:68-79)</i></p>	<p>NL445 <b>Phil 2:1-13</b></p> <p>Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who became obedient to death</p> <p><i>(Luke 6:43-45)</i></p>

## Narrative Lectionary Readings (Years 1 - 4)

Day of Pentecost	<p>NL146  <b>Acts 2:1-4;</b>  <b>Romans 8:14-38</b></p> <p>The groaning of creation, Spirit helps us in our weakness, nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus</p> <p><i>(Matt 28:16-20)</i></p>	<p>NL246  <b>Acts 2:1-4;</b>  <b>1 Cor 12:1-13</b></p> <p>Faith as the principal work of the Spirit; other gifts of the Spirit for the common good</p> <p><i>(Mark 1:4-8)</i></p>	<p>NL346  <b>Acts 2:1-4;</b>  <b>Galatians 4:1-7</b>  <b>[5:16-26]</b></p> <p>God pours the Spirit into hearts so that we can call on God as Father. Fruit of the Spirit</p> <p><i>(Luke 11:11-13)</i></p>	<p>NL446  <b>Acts 2:1-21</b>  <b>Phil 4:4-7</b></p> <p>Pentecost and gift of the Spirit as miracle of communication; rejoice in the Lord always. The peace of God</p> <p><i>(John 14:16-17)</i></p>
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### SUMMER PREACHING SERIES

The remainder of the year (Sunday after Pentecost to the Sunday before Labor Day) consists of preaching series on Biblical books or topics that fall outside the narrative cycle.

Each summer session contains at least three units, including at least one series from the Old Testament; one series from the New Testament; and one catechetical series (Ten Commandments, Sacraments, Creeds or Lord's Prayer).

Please consult [www.workingpreacher.org/narrativefaq](http://www.workingpreacher.org/narrativefaq) for the latest Summer Preaching Series readings.