

Narrative Lectionary 2025-26

Readings for Year 4 (John)

The **preaching texts** are always listed first. During the fall, Old Testament texts are the primary vehicle for proclaiming the biblical story. 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.*

September 7	<p>NL401 Creation by the Word</p> <p>Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p>Genesis 1:1—2:4a Creation by word; light, life; it was good.</p> <p><i>(John 1:1-5)</i></p>
September 14	<p>NL402 Binding of Isaac</p> <p>Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p>Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14</p> <p>God gives Abraham and Sarah a son in their old age. Abraham is told to sacrifice his son, but God provides the ram.</p> <p><i>(John 1:29)</i></p>
September 21	<p>NL403 Jacob's Dream</p> <p>Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p>Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17</p> <p>Jacob gets a blessing by trickery, flees, dreams of a ladder with angels ascending and descending. Receives God's promise.</p> <p><i>(John 1:50-51)</i></p>
September 28	<p>NL404 God's Name Is Revealed</p> <p>Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p>Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17</p> <p>God's name is revealed: "I Am." Moses is a reluctant messenger, but God uses him to deliver Israel.</p> <p><i>(John 8:58)</i></p>

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October	5	<p>NL405 God Provides Manna</p> <p>Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p>Exodus 16:1-18</p> <p>People complain, God provides manna. Manna requires faith in what God gives.</p> <p><i>(John 6:51)</i></p>
October	12	<p>NL406 God Calls Samuel</p> <p>Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p>1 Samuel 3:1-21</p> <p>God calls Samuel in the night. He says, Speak Lord for your servant is listening. Told to warn others of sin in Israel.</p> <p><i>(John 20:21-23)</i></p>
October	19	<p>NL407 God Calls David</p> <p>Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p>1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 51:10-14</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>
October	26	<p>NL408 Solomon's Temple</p> <p>Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost (or Reformation Sunday)</p>	<p>1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13</p> <p>Solomon's temple – a place of sacrifice and divine presence.</p> <p><i>(John 2:19-21)</i></p>
November	2	<p>NL409 God Speaks to Elijah</p> <p>Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost (or All Saints Sunday)</p>	<p>1 Kings 19:1-18</p> <p>Elijah at Horeb; The prophet in despair, God speaks in the silence.</p> <p><i>(John 12:27-28)</i></p>
November	9	<p>NL410 Amos: Justice Rolls Down</p> <p>Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p>Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24</p> <p>Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.</p> <p><i>(John 7:37-38)</i></p>

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November 16	<p>NL411 Isaiah: A Child Is Born</p> <p>Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p>Isaiah 9:1-7</p> <p>People who walked in darkness have seen a great light.</p> <p><i>(John 8:12)</i></p>
November 23	<p>NL412 Jeremiah's Letter to Exiles</p> <p>Christ the King / Reign of Christ Sunday</p>	<p>Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14</p> <p>Seek the welfare of the city; I know the plans I have for you.</p> <p><i>(John 14:27)</i></p>
November 30	<p>NL413 Daniel</p> <p>First Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>Daniel 3:1, [2-7] 8-30</p> <p>Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; God present in the fiery furnace</p> <p><i>(John 18:36-37)</i></p>
December 7	<p>NL414 Ezekiel: Valley of Dry Bones</p> <p>Second Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>Ezekiel 37:1-14</p> <p>Ezekiel prophesies to the dry bones and they are raised to new life.</p> <p><i>(John 11:25-26)</i></p>
December 14	<p>NL415 Word Accomplishes God's Purpose</p> <p>Third Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>Isaiah 55:1-13</p> <p>Anyone who is thirsty, come drink; the word accomplishes God's purpose.</p> <p><i>(John 4:13-14)</i></p>
December 21	<p>NL416 Word Made Flesh</p> <p>Fourth Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>John 1:1-18</p> <p>The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.</p> <p><i>(Psalm 130:5-8)</i></p>

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December	24	NL417 Birth of Jesus Christmas Eve	Luke 2:1-14 [15-20] Birth of Jesus. <i>(Psalm 96:7-10)</i>
December	25	NL418 Shepherds Visit Christmas Day	Luke 2:8-20 Shepherds visit the infant Jesus. <i>(Psalm 123:1-2 or 123:2)</i>
December	28	NL419 A Voice in the Wilderness First Sunday of Christmas	John 1:19-34 John the Baptist questioned; says he is not the Christ or Elijah. <i>(Psalm 32:1-2)</i>
January	4	NL420 Jesus Says Come and See Second Sunday of Christmas	John 1:35-51 Behold the Lamb of God, Call of disciples, “Come and see.” <i>(Psalm 66:1-5)</i>
January	11	NL421 Wedding at Cana Baptism of Our Lord	John 2:1-11 Wedding at Cana, water into wine. <i>(Psalm 104:14-16)</i>
January	18	NL422 Jesus Cleanses the Temple Second Sunday after Epiphany	John 2:13-25 Jesus cleanses the temple, signifying the destruction and raising of his body. <i>(Psalm 127:1-2)</i>
January	25	NL423 Nicodemus Third Sunday after Epiphany	John 3:1-21 Jesus and Nicodemus, being born anew, God’s love for the world. <i>(Psalm 139:13-18)</i>

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February	1	<p>NL424 The Woman at the Well</p> <p>Fourth Sunday after Epiphany</p>	<p>John 4:1-42</p> <p>Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at well, speaks of living water and true worship.</p> <p><i>(Psalm 42:1-3)</i></p>
February	8	<p>NL425 Healing Stories</p> <p>Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</p>	<p>John 4:46-54 [5:1-18]</p> <p>Healing official's son, faith in the word of promise; Jesus heals one who shows no faith</p> <p><i>(Psalm 40:1-5)</i></p>
February	15	<p>NL429 The Man Born Blind</p> <p>Transfiguration of Our Lord</p>	<p>John 9:1-41</p> <p>Jesus is the light of the world – brings light to the eyes of a man born blind.</p> <p><i>(Psalm 27:1-4)</i></p>
February	18	<p>NL430 The Good Shepherd</p> <p>Ash Wednesday</p>	<p>John 10:1-18</p> <p>Jesus as gate and good shepherd, who lays down his life.</p> <p><i>(Psalm 23)</i></p>
February	22	<p>NL431 Jesus Raises Lazarus</p> <p>First Sunday in Lent</p>	<p>John 11:1-44</p> <p>Raising Lazarus, Jesus as the resurrection and life.</p> <p><i>(Psalm 104:27-30)</i></p>
March	1	<p>NL432 Jesus Washes Feet</p> <p>Second Sunday in Lent</p>	<p>John 13:1-17</p> <p>Footwashing as a sign of Jesus' love and example.</p> <p><i>(Psalm 51:7-12)</i></p>

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March	8	NL433 Peter's Denial Third Sunday in Lent	John 18:12-27 Jesus' trial before Annas, Peter's denial. <i>(Psalm 17:1-7)</i>
March	15	NL434 Jesus and Pilate Fourth Sunday in Lent	John 18:28-40 My kingdom is not from this world. <i>(Psalm 145:10-13)</i>
March	22	NL435 Jesus Condemned Fifth Sunday in Lent	John 19:1-16a Jesus is condemned, they have no king but Caesar. <i>(Psalm 146)</i>
March	29	NL436 The Crucified Messiah Palm/Passion Sunday	John 19:16b-22 <i>Opt.: John 12:12-27, Triumphal Entry</i> Sign above the cross proclaims the crucified king. <i>(Psalm 24)</i>
April	2	NL437 Jesus' Last Words Maundy Thursday	John 19:23-30 Woman, behold your son; I thirst; It is finished. <i>(Psalm 26:3)</i>
April	3	NL438 Jesus the Passover Lamb Good Friday	John 19:31-42 Jesus' bones are not broken, water from his side, a royal burial. <i>(Psalm 31:9-18)</i>
April	5	NL439 Resurrection Resurrection of Our Lord	John 20:1-18 Empty tomb, Jesus calls Mary by name. <i>(Psalm 118:21-29)</i>

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April	12	NL440 Thomas Second Sunday of Easter	John 20:19-31 Jesus gives Spirit, appears to Thomas. <i>(Psalm 145:13-21)</i>
April	19	NL441 Paul's Conversion Third Sunday of Easter	Acts 9:1-19a Paul and Ananias, each called into Christ's service (locally and globally). <i>(Matthew 6:24)</i>
April	26	NL442 Paul and Silas Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 16:16-34 Paul and Silas in prison at Philippi, jailor and his family are baptized <i>(Luke 6:18-19, 22-23)</i>
May	3	NL443 Paul's Sermon at Athens Fifth Sunday of Easter	Acts 17:16-31 Sermon at Athens: What you worship as unknown, I proclaim to you. <i>(John 1:16-18)</i>
May	10	NL444 Partnership in the Gospel Sixth Sunday of Easter	Philippians 1:1-18a Paul in prison, thankful for the Philippians' partnership in the gospel. <i>(Luke 9:46-48)</i>
May	17	NL445 The Christ Hymn Seventh Sunday of Easter	Philippians 2:1-13 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who became obedient to death. <i>(Luke 6:43-45)</i>

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May	24	NL446 Pentecost; Rejoice in the Lord Day of Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21; Philippians 4:4-7 Gift of the Spirit as miracle of communication (Acts). Rejoice in the Lord always. The peace of God (Phil). <i>(John 14:16-17)</i>
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