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# Narrative Lectionary

## *Living the Word*

*Teaching God's Story*

*Narrative Lectionary, Year 2*



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## Planning Tool

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**For Preaching, Worship,  
and Faith Formation**

September 8, 2019 to May 31, 2020

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Living the Word: Teaching God's Story (Narrative Lectionary, Year 2) Narrative  
Lectionary Planning Tool

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# Narrative Lectionary Readings

## Fall

Theme	Date	Season/Festival	Other Festival/Observance	LtW* Lesson #	Lectionary Text	Story	Notes
God Creates Family	9/8/2019	Rally Day	Labor Day (9/3)	#2-1	Genesis 2:4b-25	God Creates Humans	
	9/15/2019	Pentecost 14		#2-2	Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7	God Gives a Promised Child	
	9/22/2019	Pentecost 15		#2-3	Genesis 32:[9-13] 22-30	Jacob Wrestles	
	9/29/2019	Pentecost 16		#2-4	Exodus 1:8-14 [15-2:10]; 3:1-15	Moses and the Burning Bush	
Responding to God's Love	10/6/2019	Pentecost 17	World Communion	#2-5	Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 6:4-9	Love the Lord Your God	
	10/13/2019	Pentecost 18	Thanksgiving (CA) (10/14)	#2-6	Ruth 1:1-17	Ruth Follows Naomi	
God's Way of Leading	10/20/2019	Pentecost 19		#2-7	2 Samuel 5:1-5; 6:1-5; Psalm 150	David Becomes King	
	10/27/2019	Pentecost 20	Reformation Day (10/31)	#2-8	1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29	The Kingdom Divided	
	11/3/2019	Pentecost 21	All Saints' Day (11/1)	#2-9	1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39	Fire from Heaven	
Our Sin, God's Faithfulness	11/10/2019	Pentecost 22	Veterans Day (11/11)	#2-10	Hosea 11:1-9	God's Beloved Children	
	11/17/2019	Pentecost 23		#2-11	Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5	Israel, God's Vineyard	
	11/24/2019	Christ the King	Thanksgiving (US) (11/28)	#2-12	2 Kings 22:1-10, [11-20]; 23:1-3	Josiah Finds the Scroll	

\*The *Living the Word* (LtW) Lesson # refers to the resources published by Spirit & Truth Publishing including: *Kids* (PK-2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>), *Youth* (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>), *Small Groups*, and *Cross+Gen Education*. Lesson #s with letters in them (e.g. #2-C1) are included in *Contexts & Connections* and *Cross+Gen Worship*, but not in the other curricula.



*Living the Word*

Teaching God's Story  
Narrative Lectionary, Year 2

2019-2020

# Narrative Lectionary Readings

## Winter

Theme	Date	Season/Festival	Other Festival/Observance	LtW Lesson #	Lectionary Text	Story	Notes
Promises Made, Promises Kept	12/1/2019	Advent 1		#2-13	Jeremiah 33:14-18	A Righteous Branch from David	
	12/8/2019	Advent 2		#2-14	Isaiah 40:1-11	Comfort, Comfort My People	
	12/15/2019	Advent 3		#2-15	Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-4, 10-13	Returning from Exile	
	12/22/2019	Advent 4		#2-16	Luke 1:5-13 [14-25] 57-80	The Birth of John the Baptist	
Promises Made, Promises Announced	12/25/2019	Christmas		#2-C1	Luke 2:1-20	The Promised Messiah Arrives	
	12/29/2019	Christmas 1**	New Year's Day (1/1)	#2-C2	Mark 1:1-20	Jesus' Ministry Begins	
God's Kingdom	1/5/2020	Christmas 2	Epiphany (1/6)	#2-17	Mark 1:21-45	Jesus Heals Many	
	1/12/2020	Epiphany 1	Baptism of Our Lord	#2-18	Mark 2:1-22	Jesus Forgives Sins	
	1/19/2020	Epiphany 2		#2-19	Mark 4:1-34	Jesus Teaches in Parables	
	1/26/2020	Epiphany 3		#2-20	Mark 5:1-20	Jesus Heals an Outcast	
	2/2/2020	Epiphany 4		#2-21	Mark 5:21-43	A Woman Healed, a Girl Raised	
	2/9/2020	Epiphany 5		#2-22	Mark 6:1-29	Jesus Sends Out the Twelve	
	2/16/2020	Epiphany 6		#2-23	Mark 7:1-23	What Makes You Unclean	
The Power of the Kingdom	2/23/2020	Transfiguration		#2-24	Mark 8:27-9:8	Transfiguration	

\*\* The text for December 29 is included in the *Living the Word* lesson for January 5 for all products other than *Contexts & Connections*, *Cross+Gen Worship*, and *@ Home* inserts.



## Spring

Theme	Date	Season/Festival	Other Festival/Observance	LtW Lesson #	Lectionary Text	Story	Notes
The Call to Serve	2/26/2020	Ash Wednesday		#2-L1	Mark 9:30-37	Who Is the Greatest?	
	3/1/2020	Lent 1		#2-25	Mark 10:17-31	Jesus and the Rich Man	
	3/8/2020	Lent 2		#2-26	Mark 10:32-52	Jesus Came to Serve	
	3/15/2020	Lent 3		#2-27	Mark 12:1-12 [13-17]	Parable of the Wicked Tenants	
	3/22/2020	Lent 4		#2-28	Mark 12:28-44	The Widow's Gift	
The Power of God's Love	3/29/2020	Lent 5		#2-29	Mark 13:1-8, 24-37	The End of the Age	
	4/5/2020	Palm Sunday**	Passion Sunday	#2-30	Mark 11:1-11; 14:3-9	Triumphal Entry and Anointing	
	4/9/2020	Maundy Thursday		#2-L2	Mark 14:22-42	Prayer in Gethsemane	
	4/10/2020	Good Friday		#2-L3	Mark 15:16-39	The Death of Jesus	
	4/12/2020	Easter		#2-R1	Mark 16:1-8	The Empty Tomb	
God Works through Us	4/19/2020	Easter 2		#2-31	Acts 1:1-14	Jesus Commissions the Disciples	
	4/26/2020	Easter 3		#2-32	Acts 3:1-10	Peter Heals	
	5/3/2020	Easter 4		#2-33	Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	The Church at Thessalonica	
	5/10/2020	Easter 5	Mother's Day	#2-34	Acts 18:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18	The Church at Corinth	
	5/17/2020	Easter 6	Ascension Day (5/21)	#2-35	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	The Greatest of These Is Love	
The Power of God's Love	5/24/2020	Easter 7	Memorial Day (5/25)	#2-36	1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57	Death, the Last Enemy	
	5/31/2020	Pentecost		#2-37	Acts 2:1-4; 1 Corinthians 12:1-13	Many Gifts, One Spirit	



## Living out God's Kingdom (Year 2, 2019-2020)

God's plan for our world has not changed since the moment of creation. God created a world for people to work side-by-side in a community of love, justice, and peace. However, humanity rejected that ideal and turned to selfishness, oppression, and violence. The world turned upside down, but God never gave up. Throughout Scripture, God established a vision of a peaceful kingdom. God's people continued to turn away, and God continued to love them. From this love came a promise of a future leader who would establish God's kingdom for everyone. This Messiah came in the person of Jesus whose ministry embodied the kingdom of God. Jesus' mission led to his death on a cross, but through his sacrifice he triumphed over sin and death. After his resurrection, Jesus commissioned his followers and gave them his Holy Spirit. It was now their work to spread the good news throughout the world, including the promise of the end of death and the final arrival of the kingdom.

### **God Creates Family**

*Pentecost: Sept. 8 to Sept. 22, 2019*

Our families, whatever they might look like, provide the love and nurture we need. Even when our families fail to give us love, God is always there as our loving parent. God created the first family to work together to do God's work (Genesis 2). God gave an elderly couple the impossible promise of a baby boy, which God kept with the birth of Isaac (Genesis 18 & 21). Isaac's son Jacob cheated his brother Esau, and Jacob feared Esau's revenge when he returned years later. After a night of struggle with a stranger, Jacob prevailed. He was blessed and given the name his descendants would claim for all generations, Israel (Genesis 32).

### **Responding to God's Love**

*Pentecost: Sept. 29 to Oct. 13, 2019*

One of the clear themes throughout Scripture is that God loves us. When the people of Israel were suffering in slavery, God showed love by rescuing them (Exodus 3). When we experience God's gracious love, we are called to respond with love. We are to love God and to love the people and creation that God has so lovingly made (Deuteronomy 5 & 6). The story of Ruth's

love and loyalty toward her mother-in-law provides a beautiful example for us to follow (Ruth 1).

### **God's Way of Leading**

*Pentecost: Oct. 20 to Nov. 3, 2019*

The history of God's people is filled with examples of good leaders and those who led the people astray. God chose David to leave his sheep to shepherd all of Israel. David served God and his people, becoming an example of a flawed, but faithful servant leader (2 Samuel 5 & 6). However, Rehoboam did not follow his grandfather's example. At his coronation, he rejected the advice of his elders to become a servant leader. His actions split the kingdom (1 Kings 12). After the kingdom was divided, Queen Jezebel and her husband King Ahab led the people to serve the Canaanite god, Baal. In contrast, Elijah serves the LORD. The LORD is shown to be the one true God by sending fire from heaven, vindicating Elijah's leadership (1 Kings 18).





## Our Sin, God's Faithfulness

*Pentecost: Nov. 10 to Nov. 24, 2019*

Both the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah disobey God's Torah. Instead of loving God with all they had, they worshipped other gods. Instead of loving their neighbors, those who had power oppressed those who did not. However, God never stopped loving the people and kept calling them back from their disobedience (Hosea 11). God expected justice from the people but saw injustice, and so God allowed the people to experience the consequences of their sin. God did not stop there but promised to send a righteous leader (Isaiah 5 & 11). Generations later, the faithful king Josiah found a Book of the Law in the temple. He is horrified by how far the people have strayed from God's way and repented on behalf of the people (2 Kings 22–23).

## Faith in God's Promises

*Advent & Christmas: Dec. 1 to Dec. 25, 2019*

Our God is a God of promises. The people kept committing idolatry and injustice, so God gave them a consequence for their sin. Their temple was destroyed, and they were exiled from their homeland. But, God's promise went further than punishment. God promised to send a leader to establish a kingdom of peace and justice (Jeremiah 33). Even before that peaceful kingdom came, God promised to comfort the people and bring them back from their exile (Isaiah 40). God kept that promise, when, after more than 50 years, the people could return to their land and rebuild the temple (Ezra 1 & 3). The miraculous birth of John, the forerunner and baptizer, signaled that the promise of the Messiah would soon be fulfilled (Luke 1). This promise was finally kept with the birth of Jesus, the Son of God (Luke 2).

## God's Kingdom Announced

*Christmas & Epiphany: Dec. 29, 2019 to Jan. 19, 2020*

The Gospel of Mark begins with John the Baptizer announcing the coming of the Messiah. The Gospel then tells about the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Jesus' ministry centered on the announcement that the kingdom of God was near, the kingdom of peace and justice promised through the prophets (Mark 1). This kingdom could be seen in the miraculous actions of Jesus as he healed many (Mark 1), loved and forgave sinners (Mark 2), and taught in parables (Mark 4).

## The Power of the Kingdom

*Epiphany: Jan. 26 to Feb. 23, 2020*

The people could see the power of God at work in Jesus' ministry. He showed them that his kingdom was a new reality of freedom and wholeness. Even Gentiles saw the power of God's kingdom when Jesus freed a man from a legion of unclean spirits (Mark 5). He demonstrated power over disease and death when he healed a grown woman and brought a young girl back to life (Mark 5). Jesus shared this power with twelve disciples and sent them out to multiply his ministry (Mark 6). Jesus criticized the religious leaders for focusing on human traditions. When they did that, they ignored what was most important, loving and worshipping with a heart made clean by God's power (Mark 7). Finally, Jesus revealed his identity as the Messiah to Peter, James, and John when he was transfigured before their eyes (Mark 8 & 9).

## The Call to Serve

*Lent: Feb. 26 to Mar. 22, 2020*

We are called to love God and each other. However, this love is not a feeling or emotion, it is when we focus our hearts, minds, and wills on the good of another. In other words, it is when



## 2018-2019 Themes

we serve someone else, the opposite of selfishness. Putting this love into action spreads the kingdom of God. We follow the greatest commandments (Mark 12) with acts of service toward God and others. Therefore, the greatest in God's kingdom are those who are servants to all (Mark 9). Service toward others is more important than any wealth, possessions, or power we might have (Mark 10). Jesus is the greatest in the kingdom, not by being the most powerful, but by being the perfect servant (Mark 10). Leaders who act selfishly are poor stewards of what God has given them. Instead, we should build our loving community on Jesus, the cornerstone of God's kingdom (Mark 12). God's true temple is not a building made of stone, but the hearts of those who, through faith, obey the commandments to love (Mark 12).

### God's Triumph

*Lent, Holy Week & Easter: Mar. 29 to Apr. 12, 2020*

We do not yet live fully in God's kingdom, but in a world of selfishness, oppression, and violence. We see the kingdom breaking in, often in small ways as people live out God's vision. But, the good news is that God is ultimately in charge and will triumph over all evil. Our suffering, and our success, is only temporary. This message can sound scary, but it is truly a message of hope (Mark 13). The people celebrated this hope when Jesus arrived in Jerusalem (Mark 11). An unnamed woman honors Jesus as the Messiah when she anoints him with a costly perfume (Mark 14). Little did the people understand that God's greatest triumph would come, not through military victory, but through the Messiah's painful death on a cross (Mark 15). Jesus dreaded this path, but he courageously followed God's will (Mark 14). This story does not end when Jesus's body was

placed in a tomb. Instead, Jesus triumphs over death itself by rising again and leaving that tomb empty (Mark 16).

### God Works through Us

*Easter: Apr. 19 to May 10, 2020*

The resurrection of Jesus is only the beginning of God's mission for the world. Before his ascension, Jesus sends out his followers to spread God's kingdom (Acts 1). These apostles continue Jesus' work, empowered by God's own Spirit (Acts 3). One way we can do God's work is by being examples of love (Acts 17, 1 Thessalonians 1). Unity in the church comes from God working through us so that the good news of Jesus continues to spread (Acts 18, 1 Corinthians 1).

### The Power of God's Love

*Easter & Pentecost: May 17 to May 31, 2020*

Not only are we called to live God's love, but God gives us the power to do so. Love makes our actions truly worthwhile, as Paul beautifully describes (1 Corinthians 13). God gives us gifts through the Holy Spirit so that we can accomplish our mission as the Body of Christ (Acts 2, 1 Corinthians 12). It is the power of God's love that creates God's kingdom on earth and will bring resurrection for us all (1 Corinthians 15).



### Preaching Text

Genesis 2:4b-25

God forms the first human from dust and God's own breath. Then, God creates animals, but none of these could be Adam's partner. God separates this first human into male and female, creating the first family.

### Accompanying Text

Mark 1:16-20

### Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

### Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

### Themes for Worship and Music

### Themes for Faith Formation

### Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7

God appeared to Abraham and promises that Sarah and Abraham will have a son. Sarah laughs in disbelief when she hears this, since both she and Abraham were quite old. God's promise comes true, and with joyous laughter they name their child Isaac.

## Accompanying Text

*Mark 10:27*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

**Preaching Text**

Genesis 32:[9-13] 22-30

On a journey to reunite with his estranged brother, Jacob encounters an unknown man. The two wrestle and Jacob is injured. Before the man leaves, Jacob demands a blessing and receives one along with a new name: Israel.

***Accompanying Text***

*Mark 14:32-36*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**

## Preaching Text

Exodus 1:8-14 [15- 2:10]; 3:1-15

There is a new Pharaoh in Egypt who is cruel and enslaves the Israelites. The people cry out to God in their suffering. God hears and sends a shepherd named Moses to Pharaoh with God's sacred name.

## Accompanying Text

*Mark 12:26-27a*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Sunday, October 6, 2019

# Love the Lord Your God

Pentecost 17

Responding to God's Love

## Preaching Text

Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 6:4-9

Now that the people of Israel have been liberated from slavery, they need to be taught how to live in freedom. God speaks through Moses to show them how to live with each other and remain faithful to the LORD.

## Accompanying Text

Mark 12:28-31

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)



## Preaching Text

Ruth 1:1-17

An Israelite family moves to Moab after a famine hits their homeland. While in Moab the sons marry Moabite women. When these sons die, one wife pledges to remain faithful to her mother-in-law Naomi and to the GOD of Israel.

## Accompanying Text

Mark 3:33-35

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

**Preaching Text**

2 Samuel 5:1-5; 6:1-5; Psalm 150

David is anointed king over all of Israel. In one of his first acts, he brings the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem. This makes Jerusalem the political and religious capital of Israel.

***Accompanying Text***

*Mark 11:8-10*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**

## Preaching Text

1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29

When Rehoboam became king of Israel, he refused to serve his people. Because of this, the kingdom split: Israel to the north and Judah to the south. Jeroboam became king in the north. He had the people worship golden calves.

## Accompanying Text

Mark 10:42-45

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

**Preaching Text**

1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39

A contest was set up between the prophets of the god Baal and Elijah, a prophet of God, to prove whether the LORD or Baal was the true God. Elijah won the contest when God sent down fire from heaven.

***Accompanying Text***

*Mark 9:2-4*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**

**Preaching Text**

Hosea 11:1-9

The LORD speaks to the people of Israel through the prophet Hosea and reminds them of past healing and love. They will experience exile because of their disloyalty; but they will not be abandoned by God, who will restore the relationship.

***Accompanying Text***

*Mark 10:13-14*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**



**Preaching Text**

Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5

Isaiah uses the image of a vineyard to describe God's love for Israel and Judah as well as God's anger at their betrayal. In a separate passage, Isaiah offers the hope of a coming ruler who will act with righteousness and faithfulness.

***Accompanying Text***

*Mark 12:1-3*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**

## Preaching Text

2 Kings 22:1-10, [11-20], 23:1-3

King Josiah is given a book of the law that was recently found by the high priest Hilkiah. After consulting the prophetess Huldah, Josiah leads the people of Judah in renewing the nation's covenant with God.

## Accompanying Text

Luke 24:30-32

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

**Preaching Text**

Jeremiah 33:14-18

The prophet Jeremiah shares a message from God: God will send the Messiah to Israel and Judah. The Messiah will bring safety and security to the people and all will know that God is present among them.

***Accompanying Text***

*Mark 8:27-30*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**

## Preaching Text

Isaiah 40:1-11

God comforts the people of Israel living in exile. Through a voice crying in the wilderness, God promises to rescue them, and God's word will last forever. God will protect God's people like a shepherd protects a flock of sheep.

## Accompanying Text

Mark 1:1-4

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-4, 10-13

King Cyrus of Persia allows the people of Israel to return from their exile in Babylon. The people soon get to work rebuilding the temple. They praise God when the foundation of the temple was laid.

## Accompanying Text

Luke 2:25-32

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)



## Preaching Text

Luke 1:5-13 [14-25] 57-80

An angel came to the priest Zechariah and promised that he and his wife Elizabeth will have a son. Zechariah prophesied that his son would become a prophet. The son would grow up to become John the Baptist.

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 113*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Promises Made, Promises Kept

### Preaching Text

Luke 2:1-20

The promised Messiah is born in Bethlehem. Angels appear in the sky to announce this good news to shepherds. The shepherds then find the infant Jesus. They go out and announce the good news to others!

### Accompanying Text

*Psalm 146:5-10*

### Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

### Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

### Themes for Worship and Music

### Themes for Faith Formation

### Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

**Preaching Text**

Mark 1:1-20

John the Baptist preaches at the Jordan River, calling on people to repent and be baptized. Jesus is baptized and tempted in the wilderness. He then begins his ministry by proclaiming that God's kingdom has arrived.

***Accompanying Text***

*Psalm 91:9-12*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**

**Preaching Text**

Mark 1:21-45

Jesus brings God's kingdom to earth through his words and deeds as he teaches with authority, heals the sick, and casts out demons. His reputation grows throughout Galilee as news of his actions spread far and wide.

***Accompanying Text***

*Psalm 103:1-5*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**

**Preaching Text**

Mark 2:1-22

Jesus' ministry continues in Capernaum. He teaches, heals, forgives, and befriends sinners. His astounding behavior draws criticism from the scribes and Pharisees, who say he is claiming to do what only God can accomplish.

***Accompanying Text***

*Psalm 103:6-14*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**



**Preaching Text**

Mark 4:1-34

Jesus preaches to large crowds about the kingdom of God by using parables while explaining everything in private to his disciples.

***Accompanying Text***

*Psalm 126*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**

## Preaching Text

Mark 5:1-20

Jesus meets a man who is possessed by demons and casts them out into a herd of pigs. Jesus tells the grateful man to share his experience of God's mercy with his friends and family.

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 89:1-4*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

**Preaching Text**

Mark 5:21-43

A local leader asks Jesus to heal his daughter. On the way, a woman touches Jesus' cloak and is healed from her illness. When Jesus reaches the leader's daughter she has already died. Jesus raises the daughter from the dead.

***Accompanying Text***

*Psalm 131*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**

## Preaching Text

Mark 6:1-29

After being rejected at Nazareth, Jesus sends the twelve disciples out to spread the good news.

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 122*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

Mark 7:1-23

Jesus challenges the Pharisees about the need to follow their traditions and customs. He declares that a clean heart is more important than clean hands, and what a person does is more important than what a person eats.

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 51:1-3, 6-7*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

Mark 8:27–9:8

Peter proclaims that Jesus is the Messiah. Six days later, Jesus is transfigured on the mountaintop. A voice from the heavens proclaims, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!”

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 27:1-4*

## Themes for Preaching & Children’s Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

Mark 9:30-37

As they walk with Jesus, the disciples argue about who is the greatest. Jesus teaches them that the one who is greatest is the servant of all. Jesus will demonstrate this in his death and resurrection.

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 32:1-5*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

Mark 10:17-31

Jesus is questioned about what it takes to inherit eternal life. The answer is difficult for those who think it is about what they do, but Jesus reminds his followers it is God who provides salvation.

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 19:7-10*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)



## Preaching Text

Mark 10:32-52

Jesus teaches his disciples as they walk toward Jerusalem. James and John ask for places of honor, but Jesus teaches that the kingdom of God is not about places of honor, but about service to others.

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 34:11-14*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

**Preaching Text**

Mark 12:1-12 [13-17]

Jesus has arrived in Jerusalem and is teaching in the temple about what will happen to him. When he tells the Parable of the Wicked Tenants, the religious leaders realize that he is speaking against them and confront him with questions meant to trap him.

***Accompanying Text***

*Psalm 86:8-13*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**

## Preaching Text

Mark 12:28-44

Jesus teaches in the temple about loving God and loving neighbor. He then criticizes those who make a show of their giving and praises the widow who is willing to give all that she has to God's kingdom.

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 89:1-4*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

Mark 13:1-8, 24-37

Jesus tells his disciples that the temple in Jerusalem will be destroyed; they should beware of being led astray. He speaks of an unknown time when the Son of Man will come and that they should stay alert.

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 102:12-17*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

# Triumphal Entry and Anointing

God's Triumph

## Preaching Text

Mark 11:1-11; 14:3-9

Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a colt as people spread their cloaks on the road, wave leafy branches, and shout "Hosanna!" Later at the home of Simon, a woman anoints his head with costly oil.

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 118:25-29*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

**Preaching Text**

Mark 14:22-42

Jesus shares bread and wine with his disciples, saying they are his body and blood. They go to Gethsemane where Jesus prays, and his disciples fall asleep. Jesus prays to avoid suffering, but also that God's will be done.

***Accompanying Text***

*Psalm 116:12-19*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**

## Preaching Text

Mark 15:16-39

Jesus is mocked by Roman soldiers and led out to be crucified. He is crucified, mocked, cries out to God, drinks sour wine, and then dies. The temple curtain is torn, and a centurion says that Jesus was God's Son.

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 22:1-2, 14-21*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

# The Empty Tomb

God's Triumph

## Preaching Text

Mark 16:1-8

Three women go to Jesus' tomb and discover the tomb is empty. A young man tells them that Jesus has been raised and that they should go tell his disciples to meet him in Galilee. They flee in terror.

## Accompanying Text

*Psalm 118:21-27*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)



## Preaching Text

Acts 1:1-14

Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus tells his disciples that they will receive the Holy Spirit and go out to the ends of the world to be witnesses. Jesus then ascends into heaven and the disciples return to Jerusalem.

## Accompanying Text

Mark 6:7-13

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

Acts 3:1-10

Peter and John go to the temple to pray where they encounter a man lame from birth. Peter heals the man in the name of Jesus Christ and he walks, leaps, and praises God in front of the crowds.

## Accompanying Text

Mark 6:53-56

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul and Silas travel to Thessalonica where Paul preaches in the synagogue. Some are persuaded but others became jealous and attacked believers. Paul later writes to the church in Thessalonica, telling them how thankful he is of their faith.

## Accompanying Text

Mark 13:9-11

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

Acts 18:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Paul arrives in Corinth and partners with Aquila and Priscilla in tent-making. He also begins speaking in the synagogue about Jesus Christ. In his letter to the Corinthian church, Paul encourages agreement and unity as he proclaims the gospel.

## Accompanying Text

*Mark 9:34-35*

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Paul emphasizes the centrality of love to a community experiencing conflict. Then he offers a description by which we will recognize love.

## Accompanying Text

Mark 12:28-31

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57

Paul defends the resurrection of Jesus. He reminds the Corinthians about those who saw the resurrected Jesus. Paul ends with the good news that death is not final. The final word is our victory over death through Jesus.

## Accompanying Text

Mark 12:26-27a

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

## Preaching Text

Acts 2:1-4; 1 Corinthians 12:1-13

On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit comes to bring gifts. Paul reminds the Corinthians that there are a variety of gifts, but all come from one God, one Spirit. It takes all the gifts together to be the body of Christ.

## Accompanying Text

Mark 1:4-8

## Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

## Objective(s) for the Week

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

## Themes for Worship and Music

## Themes for Faith Formation

## Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

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**Preaching Text**

***Accompanying Text***

**Objective(s) for the Week**

*What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?*

**Themes for Preaching & Children's Message**

**Themes for Worship and Music**

**Themes for Faith Formation**

**Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)**



# Congregational Resources for the Narrative Lectionary

From Spirit & Truth Publishing

## Worship

- *Living the Word: Exploring God's Story Together (Cross+Generational Worship)*
- *Living the Word: Singing God's Story (PK-6<sup>th</sup>)*

## Education

- *Living the Word: Exploring God's Story Together (Cross+Generational Education)*
- *Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story (PK-2<sup>nd</sup>)*
- *Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>)*
- *Living the Word: Teaching Youth God's Story (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)*
- *Living the Word: Small Group Guides (YA-A)*

## Devotions

- *Living the Word: Sharing God's Story @ Home*

## Bible Background

- *Living the Word: Contexts & Connections*

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***Living the Word***  
**Teaching God's Story**  
*Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2019-2020)*