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PUBLISHING

Narrative Lectionary

Living the Word

Teaching God's Story

Narrative Lectionary, Year 3



Planning Tool

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

September 13, 2020 to May 23, 2021

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Living the Word: Teaching God's Story (Narrative Lectionary, Year 3) 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
Promises Made, Promises Broken	9/13/2020	Rally Day	Labor Day (9/7)	#3-1	Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-17; 3:1-8	Creation and Fall	
	9/20/2020	Pentecost 16		#3-2	Genesis 15:1-6	God's Promise to Abram	
	9/27/2020	Pentecost 17		#3-3	Genesis 37:3-8, 17b-22, 26-34; 50:15-21	Joseph and His Brothers	
	10/4/2020	Pentecost 18	World Communion	#3-4	Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8	The Promises of Passover	
	10/11/2020	Pentecost 19	Thanksgiving (CA) (10/12)	#3-5	Exodus 32:1-14	The Golden Calf	
	10/18/2020	Pentecost 20		#3-6	1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10	Hannah Promises Samuel to God	
	10/25/2020	Pentecost 21	Reformation Day (10/31)	#3-7	2 Samuel 7:1-17	God's Promise to David	
God Sightings	11/1/2020	Pentecost 22	All Saints' Day	#3-8	1 Kings 17:1-16 [17-24]	The Widow of Zarephath	
	11/8/2020	Pentecost 23	Veterans Day (11/11)	#3-9	Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10 [4:1-11]	Jonah and the Big Fish	
	11/15/2020	Pentecost 24		#3-10	Isaiah 6:1-8	Isaiah's Vision in the Temple	
	11/22/2020	Christ the King	Thanksgiving (US) (11/26)	#3-11	Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31:31-34	A New Covenant	

*The *Living the Word* (LtW) Lesson # refers to the Narrative Lectionary resources published by Spirit & Truth Publishing including: *Kids* (PK-2nd, 3rd-6th), *Youth* (6th-12th), *Small Groups*, and *Cross+Gen Education*. Lesson #s with letters in them (e.g. #3-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 3

2020-2021

Narrative Lectionary Readings

Winter

Theme	Date	Season/Festival	Other Festival/Observance	LtW Lesson #	Lectionary Text	Story	Notes
The Hope of the Messiah	11/29/2020	Advent 1		#3-12	Daniel 6:6-27	Hope in the Lions' Den	
	12/6/2020	Advent 2		#3-13	Joel 2:12-13, 28-29	Joel's Prophecy of Hope	
	12/13/2020	Advent 3		#3-14	Isaiah 61:1-11	Isaiah's Prophecy of Hope	
	12/20/2020	Advent 4		#3-15	Luke 1:26-45 [46-56]	Mary and Elizabeth's Visitors	
Revelation of the Son of Man	12/25/2020	Christmas		#3-C1	Luke 2:1-20	Jesus Is Born!	
	12/27/2020	Christmas 1**	New Year's Day (1/1)	#3-C2	Luke 2:21-38	Baby Jesus in the Temple	
	1/3/2021	Christmas 2	Epiphany (1/6)	#3-16	Luke 2:41-52	Boy Jesus in the Temple	
	1/10/2021	Epiphany 1	Baptism of Our Lord	#3-17	Luke 3:1-22	Jesus and John the Baptist	
	1/17/2021	Epiphany 2		#3-18	Luke 4:14-30	Jesus Brings Good News	
	1/24/2021	Epiphany 3		#3-19	Luke 5:1-11	Jesus Fishes for People	
	1/31/2021	Epiphany 4		#3-20	Luke 6:1-16	The Lord of the Sabbath	
	2/7/2021	Epiphany 5		#3-21	Luke 7:1-17	Healing the Sick, Raising the Dead	
2/14/2021	Transfiguration		#3-22	Luke 9:28-45	The Transfiguration		

**The text for December 27 is included in the *Living the Word* lesson for January 3 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
Journey to the Cross	2/17/2021	Ash Wednesday		#3-L1	Luke 9:51-62	Walking toward Jerusalem	
	2/21/2021	Lent 1		#3-23	Luke 10:25-42	The Samaritan, Martha and Mary	
	2/28/2021	Lent 2		#3-24	Luke 13:1-9, 31-35	Jesus Preaches Repentance	
	3/7/2021	Lent 3		#3-25	Luke 15:1-32	The Lost Is Found	
	3/14/2021	Lent 4		#3-26	Luke 16:19-31	The Rich Man and Lazarus	
	3/21/2021	Lent 5		#3-27	Luke 18:31-19:10	Zacchaeus	
	3/28/2021	Palm Sunday***	Passion Sunday	#3-28	Luke 19:29-44	Triumphal Entry	
	4/1/2021	Maundy Thursday		#3-L2	Luke 22:1-27	The Lord's Supper	
	4/2/2021	Good Friday		#3-L3	Luke 23:32-47	Jesus Is Crucified	
	4/4/2021	Easter		#3-R1	Luke 24:1-12	Jesus Has Risen!	
Birth of the Church	4/11/2021	Easter 2****		#3-29	Luke 24:13-35	The Road to Emmaus	
	4/18/2021	Easter 3		#3-30	Acts 6:1-7:2a, 44-60	Community and Condemnation	
	4/25/2021	Easter 4		#3-31	Acts 8:26-39	Philip Baptizes the Ethiopian	
	5/2/2021	Easter 5		#3-32	Acts 15:1-18	The First Church Council	
	5/9/2021	Easter 6	Mother's Day	#3-33	Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21	Saved by Faith	
	5/16/2021	Easter 7	Ascension Day (5/13)	#3-34	Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29	A Church Divided	
	5/23/2021	Pentecost	Memorial Day (5/31)	#3-35	Acts 2:1-4; Galatians 4:1-7 [5:16-26]	God Sends the Holy Spirit	

***The texts for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are included in the *Living the Word* lesson for March 28 for all products other than *Contexts & Connections*, *Cross+Gen Worship* and @ *Home* inserts.

****The text for Easter Sunday is included in the *Living the Word* lesson for April 11 for all products other than *Contexts & Connections*, *Cross+Gen Worship* and @ *Home* inserts.



Our God, Revealed in the Story (Year 3, 2020-2021)

The story of the Bible reveals a God of promise, relationship, mercy, and new life. God is revealed in the rocky relationship with God's covenant people. The prophets look back to the history of Israel's relationship with their Creator, and forward toward the coming of the promised Messiah. God is revealed fully in Jesus, the Messiah. Jesus shows us a loving God in his teachings, healings, and relationships with outcasts. Jesus' commitment to love leads him to Jerusalem and the cross. Finally, God is revealed in a church that was born in the good news first proclaimed by faithful women. We all have news to tell, and this story of the early church shows us that we can spread the gospel in all circumstances, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Promises Made, Promises Broken

Pentecost: Sept. 13 to Oct. 25, 2020

Throughout the history of God's people, God has made covenants (agreements with promises on both sides) with God's beloved people. But a tragic pattern emerged. God and the people made promises to each other, and then the people failed to live God's way. God made promises to Adam and Eve at creation, but they ate the forbidden fruit. God delivered the people of Israel from slavery and gave them the Torah, but they worshipped a golden calf. However, God always keeps God's promises, as God did with Abram, Joseph, Hannah, and David. Even when the people have broken their part of the covenant, God is faithful, and renews the promise again and again.

God Sightings

Pentecost: Nov. 1 to Nov. 22, 2020

In the parts of the Bible known as the Histories and the Prophets, we hear stories about the prophets that reveal God to us in many ways. The widow of Zarephath experienced God's provision through the miracle of the flour and oil lasting for as long as it was needed. Jonah ran from God, but God found him anyway. Isaiah experienced a powerful vision of God in the temple calling him to serve as a prophet. The prophet Jeremiah heard the words of God promising forgiveness for the people and a new covenant. We, too, can see glimpses of God, if we just look for them!

The Hope of the Messiah

Advent: Nov. 29 to Dec. 20, 2020

God sent prophets to the peoples of Israel and Judah, often bringing words of warning and condemnation for idolatry and injustice, calling the people to get back on the right path. However, in times of suffering, the prophets gave God's people words of hope—that God would rescue them from their troubles. God delivered Daniel from the lions' den. Joel spoke of a hope that comes out of repentance, and Isaiah prophesied of the hope that comes through the Messiah—the one who will deliver humanity from suffering and oppression. Finally, the Messiah's birth is foretold to his mother by an angel and confirmed by her cousin Elizabeth.

Revelation of the Son of Man

Christmas & Epiphany: Dec. 25, 2020 to Jan. 31, 2021

The Messiah has arrived at last. The season of Epiphany celebrates how God is revealed through Jesus. Simeon and Anna proclaim baby Jesus as the promised savior. As a boy, Jesus returned to the temple, revealing his deep understanding of God to the teachers. Jesus was named God's beloved son at his baptism, the one whom John the Baptist had announced. Jesus himself reveals his own mission in Nazareth, declaring that he is the fulfillment of prophecy. He then sets about the work of the kingdom as he calls his disciples and challenges the religious leaders.



2020-2021 Themes

Jesus Heals

Epiphany: Feb. 7 to Feb. 14, 2021

After Jesus reveals that he is the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophesy, he demonstrates that fulfillment by healing the sick and releasing those oppressed by sin and by demons. He explains his purpose to John's followers and—in the ultimate revelation—is transfigured in front of his disciples on the mountaintop. God shines through Jesus in more ways than one.

Journey to the Cross

Lent & Holy Week: Feb. 17 to Apr. 2, 2021

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday with a clear destination in mind. Jesus sets his face toward Jerusalem and, in doing so, sets his course toward his own suffering and death. He pauses only to remind his followers to set their faces in the right direction—to repent, serve others, and follow him, even to death. As we journey toward Holy Week, we are reminded again and again to turn around and face Jerusalem.

Birth of the Church

Easter & Pentecost: Apr. 4 to May 23, 2021

Although many people think of Pentecost as “the birthday of the church,” the church was born at the empty tomb. There the women decided to quell their terror and take the angel's words back to the waiting disciples. The women proclaimed the resurrection to the other disciples, and with that proclamation, those assembled started to become the church of the risen Christ. The disciples at Emmaus saw Jesus revealed in the breaking of the bread, just as Jesus is revealed when we break bread together at the altar or a table. The early church encountered differences of opinion and style but, with the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, has continued to grow and share the story of the resurrection.



Preaching Text

Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-17; 3:1-8

God created the first human out of dust, breathing life into him. God provided all the trees and fruits of the garden for Adam and Eve to eat except for the tree of knowledge. A serpent tempts Eve into eating the fruit, who in turn tempts Adam. The two were ashamed and hid from God.

Accompanying Text

Luke 11:4

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

Genesis 15:1-6

God promises to faithful Abram that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars at night. Abram believes God's promise.

Accompanying Text

Luke 3:8

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Genesis 37:3-8, 17b-22, 26-34; 50:15-21

Joseph is the envy of his brothers, so they decide to sell him into slavery. When Joseph is reunited with his brothers, Joseph forgives them, celebrating how God had brought good out of their bad deed.

Accompanying Text

Luke 6:35

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

Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8

The Israelites celebrate the first Passover. Moses instructs the Israelites how they are to commemorate God delivering them out of slavery in Egypt going forward.

Accompanying Text

Luke 22:14-20

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Exodus 32:1-14

The Israelites make a golden calf to worship, forgetting God had rescued them from slavery in Egypt. God planned to punish the people, but Moses asked God to remember God's promises to the Israelites. God changes God's mind and welcomes the people of Israel back.

Accompanying Text

Luke 23:34

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 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10

Hannah asks God for a son, promising that if God answers her prayer she will dedicate her son to God. God does answer her prayer and she has a son who she names Samuel. Hannah says a prayer of thanksgiving.

Accompanying Text

Luke 1:46-55

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 Samuel 7:1-17

King David realizes that he lives in a palace and yet the Ark of the Covenant is placed in a tent. David decides to build a temple to be the new dwelling place for the ark. God replies that David's son is to build the temple instead, promising that God will continue to dwell with the people of Israel forever.

Accompanying Text

Luke 1:30-33

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 17:1-16 [17-24]

The prophet Elijah predicts that there will be a drought. He goes to Zarephath where a widow shows him hospitality. God promises through Elijah that oil and food will not run out so that there is enough to feed the entire household for many days.

Accompanying Text

Luke 4:24-26

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

Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10 [4:1-11]

God told Jonah to go to Nineveh with a message for the people to turn to God. Jonah disobeyed and traveled by boat in the opposite direction. A storm came and Jonah realized it was because of his disobedience. He was thrown overboard and was swallowed by a big fish. God spoke to him again, telling him to return to Nineveh. This time Jonah obeyed. The people of Nineveh turned from their evil ways.

Accompanying Text

Luke 18:13

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Isaiah 6:1-8

The prophet Isaiah had a vision of God in the temple. A seraphim touched Isaiah's lips with coal and told him his sins were forgiven. God asked who God could send out with an important message, and Isaiah said, "Here I am, send me."

Accompanying Text

Luke 5:8-10

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

Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31:31-34

Jeremiah receives a message from God which is written on a scroll. The scroll is given to the king to be read in front of the people, but the king burns it. Jeremiah is instructed to create a new scroll. Even though the people broke the last covenant to worship and obey God alone, God promised to create a new covenant with the people and forgive their sins.

Accompanying Text

Luke 22:19-20

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Daniel 6:6-27

King Darius of Persia was pressured by his officials to make it so that anyone caught worshipping anyone other than the king would be thrown into a den of lions. Daniel trusted in the God of Israel and continued to worship God in defiance of the law. He was thrown into the den of lions as punishment, but God sent an angel to protect Daniel.

Accompanying Text

Luke 23:1-5

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

Joel 2:12-13, 28-29

Even though the people of Judah have turned away from God, Joel speaks of hope in the coming Day of the Lord. Joel calls the people to repent, promising that God is merciful, gracious, and loving.

Accompanying Text

Luke 11:13

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Isaiah 61:1-11

The prophet Isaiah proclaims a message of good news to the oppressed: God will provide justice, comfort, and hope to the people of Israel.

Accompanying Text

Luke 4:16-21

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Luke 1:26-45 [46-56]

The angel Gabriel visits Mary to let her know that she would have a baby and that she should name him Jesus. He also said that Mary's older relative Elizabeth was going to have a son. When Mary visited her, Elizabeth's baby leaped for joy, and Elizabeth knew that Mary was carrying the Messiah.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 113:9

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

Luke 2:1-20

Jesus is born to Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem. Angels appear to shepherds and announce the birth of Jesus, the Messiah.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 123:1-2

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

Luke 2:21-38

The infant Jesus is taken to the temple where he is presented and circumcised. While there, the righteous man Simeon and the prophet Anna proclaim Jesus to be the salvation of all people.

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Luke 2:41-52

Jesus' family went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover when Jesus was young. On the way home, his parents could not find him. After a long search, they found Jesus in the temple learning from and instructing the teachers.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 2:7-8

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Luke 3:1-22

John the Baptist draws large crowds calling people to be baptized by water to forgive their sins and prepare for the coming of the Messiah. Jesus comes to John and asks to be baptized. As he is baptized, the Holy Spirit descends on him and a voice from heaven declares him as God's beloved Son.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 51:13

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Luke 4:14-30

Jesus teaches in the synagogue of his home town in Nazareth. He reads from the prophet Isaiah about how God cares for the oppressed and marginalized in society. Jesus tells those gathered that he is the fulfillment of the Scripture. The people are upset and drive him out of town. Jesus continues on his way.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 146:7b-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.)

Preaching Text

Luke 5:1-11

Jesus teaches a crowd by the lake. He gets into a boat to continue to speak. Afterward, Jesus instructs the fisher—Simon—to drop his nets into the water. He does and the nets are filled with fish; Simon recognizes that Jesus is the Lord. Jesus tells Simon Peter, James, and John that it is time for them to put down their fishing nets. From now on, their job will be to catch people.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 90:14-17

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Luke 6:1-16

Jesus is challenged by the religious leaders twice about Sabbath rules. Jesus declares “the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.” Jesus is then challenged when he heals a man on the Sabbath, but Jesus says one should do good by healing on the Sabbath. He then prays and chooses his twelve disciples.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 92:4

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

Luke 7:1-17

Jesus healed two different people. The first person he healed was the servant of a Roman centurion. The second person Jesus healed was the son of a widow. The son had died and Jesus raised him to life. Both of these people were outsiders, but Jesus provided healing and welcome to them.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 119:105-107

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

Luke 9:28-45

Jesus took three disciples to a mountaintop to pray. There, Jesus' clothing became a dazzling white. The disciples saw Moses and Elijah with Jesus, then a cloud came and God announced that Jesus is God's Son and chosen one. Jesus then returns from the mountain to heal a boy tormented by a demon.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 36:5-10

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Luke 9:51-62

Jesus began his journey to Jerusalem. On the way, he encounters a series of three potential followers who each have an excuse as to why they cannot follow Jesus immediately. Jesus rebukes each one, urging them to follow him to the cross.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 5:7-8

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Luke 10:25-42

A lawyer questions Jesus, asking him who is considered a neighbor. Jesus responds by telling the Parable of the Good Samaritan. Jesus then goes to the home of Martha and Mary. Mary listens at Jesus' feet, while Martha is busy with chores. Martha asks Jesus to get Mary to help her, Jesus responds that Mary is doing the better thing by focusing on being a disciple.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 15

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

Luke 13:1-9, 31-35

Jesus emphasizes the need for people to repent and return to God. Jesus is questioned two times about tragic events. People look for where to place blame, but Jesus calls for everyone to repent. He tells a Parable of the Fig Tree that continually does not bear fruit. This passage ends with Jesus' lament over Jerusalem.

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 Worship and Music

Themes for Faith Formation

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Luke 15:1-32

Jesus tells three different but related parables. The first is the parable of a shepherd who abandons his flock to find one missing sheep. The second is of a woman who searches her entire house to find a coin. The third is of a wasteful son who squanders his early inheritance. He is forgiven by his father, and his return home is celebrated.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 119:176

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

Luke 16:19-31

Jesus tells a parable about a rich man and a man named Lazarus who was homeless. The rich man refused to share his abundance. Both men die. Lazarus is carried to Abraham's side and the rich man to a place of suffering. The rich man asks for Lazarus to bring him relief or to be sent to warn his family, but Abraham refuses.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 41:1-3

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

Luke 18:31–19:10

Jesus foretells his death and resurrection and heals a blind man. As Jesus enters Jericho, a crowd gathers. Jesus see Zacchaeus in a tree and invites himself to his house, which the people grumble about. This experience changes the tax collector and he repents, promising to return more than what he has taken from other people.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 84:10

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.)

Triumphal Entry

Journey to the Cross

Passion Sunday

Preaching Text

Luke 19:29-44

Outside of Jerusalem, Jesus sends his disciples ahead of him, telling them they will find a colt and to bring it back. Jesus rides the colt into the city while people praise God for all of the great things they have seen.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 118:20

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

Luke 22:1-27

Judas Iscariot agrees to betray Jesus to the leaders. Jesus' disciples prepare for the Passover meal, at which he institutes the Lord's Supper. Jesus knows that one disciple will betray him. The disciples argue about who is the greatest. Jesus teaches them that the greatest is the servant of all.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 34:8-10

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

Luke 23:32-47

Jesus is crucified alongside two criminals. One of the criminals derides Jesus, while the other asks Jesus to remember him when he comes into his kingdom. Jesus replies “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” Jesus commends his spirit into his Father’s hands before breathing his last.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 31:5a

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

Luke 24:1-12

Three women go to the tomb and discover that the tomb is empty and Jesus is not there. Two men appeared and tell them that Jesus has risen! The women return to the rest of the disciples and tell them the good news.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 118:17, 21-24

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

Luke 24:13-35

Two of Jesus' disciples were walking to Emmaus. Jesus approaches them and they do not recognize him. They talk about Jesus' crucifixion on the way and then sit down for dinner when they arrive. Jesus breaks bread with them, their eyes are opened, and they recognize Jesus.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 30:11

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 6:1–7:2a, 44-60

In the early days of the church, the disciples send out several people to spread the word of God. One is Stephen. Stephen does many miracles and brings many people to Jesus, drawing attention of persecutors who arrest him. Stephen preaches a final sermon and then is stoned to death, becoming the first martyr.

Accompanying Text

Luke 23:33-34a, 46

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 8:26-39

An angel tells Philip to head south to Gaza. On the way, he encounters an Ethiopian eunuch. Philip travels with him, and they talk about Jesus and Scripture. Philip shares with him the gospel. The Ethiopian asks to be baptized. Philip does so and then is snatched away by the Spirit. The Ethiopian rejoices in his baptism!

Accompanying Text

Luke 24:44-47

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 15:1-18

The church continues to grow as the disciples preach to Jews and Gentiles alike. There is disagreement over whether Gentiles should follow the Jewish laws before becoming Christian. The apostles gather in Jerusalem to discuss. Today's story ends with James reminding them that the good news of Jesus is for all people.

Accompanying Text

Luke 2:29-32

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21

In a Letter to the Galatians, Paul describes how he was a persecutor of early Christians but stopped after God revealed Jesus to him. He shares that he and Cephas (Peter) disagreed on how to interact with Gentiles. Paul reminds Peter and the Galatians that a relationship with God does not come through works but through faith.

Accompanying Text

Luke 18:9-14

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

Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29

Paul continues his Letter to the Galatians, addressing judging people by their works. Paul celebrates that in Jesus we have freedom and that all are children of God. There are no barriers to keep us from God; instead we are all part of the blessing of Abraham.

Accompanying Text

Luke 1:68-79

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 2:1-4; Galatians 4:1-7 [5:16-26]

In Acts 2, the Spirit descended upon the disciples as they were gathered together for Pentecost. Then, Paul reminds the Galatians that Jesus came to show us how to live and set us free, so that we could be children of God. The Spirit helps us to understand Jesus' message of love and peace and guides us to share it with others. In doing this, we have a deeper and fuller relationship with God.

Accompanying Text

Luke 11:11-13

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Accompanying Text

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.)

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-6th)*

Education

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

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Living the Word
Teaching God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 3 (2020-2021)