

Compliments of:



LIVING THE WORD

Teaching God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 4



Planning Tool

For Preaching, Worship, and
Faith Formation

September 12, 2021 to June 5, 2022

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Living the Word: Teaching God's Story (Narrative Lectionary, Year 4)
Narrative Lectionary Planning Tool (For Preaching, Worship, and Faith Formation)
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Narrative Lectionary Readings

Fall

Theme	Date	Season/Festival	Other Festival/Observance	LrW Lesson #	Lectionary Text	Story Title	Notes
God Provides Blessings	9/12/2021	Pentecost 16	Labor Day (9/6)	#4-1	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	God's Good Creation	
	9/19/2021	Pentecost 17		#4-2	Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14	Abraham and Isaac	
	9/26/2021	Pentecost 18		#4-3	Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17	Jacob Steals a Blessing	
	10/3/2021	Pentecost 19	World Communion	#4-4	Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17	The Burning Bush	
Called by God	10/10/2021	Pentecost 20	Thanksgiving (CA) (10/11)	#4-5	Exodus 16:1-18	Manna and Quail	
	10/17/2021	Pentecost 21		#4-6	1 Samuel 3:1-21	God Calls Samuel	
	10/24/2021	Pentecost 22		#4-7	1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 51:10-14	God Chooses David	
	10/31/2021	Pentecost 23	Reformation Day	#4-8	1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13	Solomon's Temple	
Promises of Hope	11/7/2021	All Saints' Sunday	Veterans Day (11/11)	#4-9	1 Kings 19:1-18	God Visits Elijah	
	11/14/2021	Pentecost 25		#4-10	Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24	Let Justice Roll Down	
	11/21/2021	Christ the King	Thanksgiving (US) (11/25)	#4-11	Isaiah 9:1-7	A Light in the Darkness	

Note: Readings with standard numbers (e.g. #4-14) are readings covered in all curriculum products. The readings with letters (e.g. #4-C1) are available only in *Living the Word: Cross+Gen Worship, Living the Word: Contexts & Connections*, and *Living the Word: Sharing God's Story @ Home*.



Narrative Lectionary Readings

Winter

Theme	Date	Season/Festival	Other Festival/Observance	LtW Lesson #	Lectionary Text	Story Title	Notes
God's Presence Brings Life	11/28/2021	Advent 1		#4-12	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14	Hope for the Future	
	12/5/2021	Advent 2		#4-13	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Valley of the Dry Bones	
	12/12/2021	Advent 3		#4-14	Isaiah 55:1-13	Seek the Lord	
	12/19/2021	Advent 4		#4-15	John 1:1-18	The Word Became Flesh	
God's Presence Brings Life	12/25/2021	Christmas		#4-C1	Luke 2:1-20	The Savior Is Born	
	12/26/2021	Christmas 1*	New Year's Day (1/1)	#4-C2	John 1:19-34	The Lamb of God	
Encountering the Messiah	1/2/2022	Christmas 2	Epiphany (1/6)	#4-16	John 1:35-51	Come and See	
	1/9/2022	Epiphany 1	Baptism of the Lord	#4-17	John 2:1-11	The Wedding at Cana	
	1/16/2022	Epiphany 2		#4-18	John 2:13-25	Cleansing the Temple	
Invitation to Abundant Life	1/23/2022	Epiphany 3		#4-19	John 3:1-21	Nicodemus Visits Jesus	
	1/30/2022	Epiphany 4		#4-20	John 4:1-42	The Woman at the Well	
	2/6/2022	Epiphany 5		#4-21	John 4:46-54 [5:1-18]	Healing Miracles	
	2/13/2022	Epiphany 6		#4-22	John 6:35-59	The Bread of Life	
	2/20/2022	Epiphany 7		#4-23	John 7:37-52	Life-giving Water	
	2/27/2022	Transfiguration		#4-24	John 9:1-41	Spiritual Blindness	

* The text for December 26 is included in the Living the Word lesson for January 2 for all products other than *Living the Word: Cross+Gen Worship*, *Living the Word: Contexts & Connections*, and *Living the Word: Sharing God's Story @ Home*.



Narrative Lectionary Readings

Spring

Theme	Date	Season/Festival	Other Festival/Observance	LrW Lesson #	Lectionary Text	Story Title	Notes
Following Jesus	3/2/2022	Ash Wednesday		#4-L1	John 10:1-18	The Good Shepherd	
	3/6/2022	Lent 1		#4-25	John 11:1-44	Jesus Raises Lazarus	
	3/13/2022	Lent 2		#4-26	John 13:1-17	Jesus Serves	
	3/20/2022	Lent 3		#4-27	John 18:12-27	Peter Denies Jesus	
	3/27/2022	Lent 4		#4-28	John 18:28-40	Jesus before Pilate	
God's Kingdom Revealed	4/3/2022	Lent 5		#4-29	John 19:1-16a	Jesus Is Sentenced	
	4/10/2022	Palm Sunday	Passion Sunday	#4-30	John 19:16b-22 [12:12-27]	A Different Kind of King	
	4/14/2022	Maundy Thursday		#4-L2	John 19:23-30	The Crucifixion	
	4/15/2022	Good Friday		#4-L3	John 19:31-42	Jesus Is Buried	
	4/17/2022	Easter Sunday**		#4-R1	John 20:1-18	Jesus Is Risen!	
Good News Spreads	4/24/2022	Easter 2		#4-31	John 20:19-31	Thomas Doubts	
	5/1/2022	Easter 3		#4-32	Acts 9:1-19a	Saul's Conversion	
	5/8/2022	Easter 4	Mother's Day	#4-33	Acts 16:16-34	Paul and Silas in Prison	
	5/15/2022	Easter 5		#4-34	Acts 17:16-31	Paul in Athens	
Living in Hope	5/22/2022	Easter 6	Ascension Day (5/26)	#4-35	Philippians 1:1-18a	The Church in Philippi	
	5/29/2022	Easter 7	Memorial Day (5/30)	#4-36	Philippians 2:1-13	Living Like Jesus	
	6/5/2022	Pentecost		#4-37	Acts 2:1-21; Philippians 4:4-7	The Holy Spirit	

** The text for Easter Sunday is included in the *Living the Word* lesson for April 24 for all products other than *Living the Word: Cross+Gen Worship*, *Living the Word: Contexts & Connections*, and *Living the Word: Sharing God's Story @ Home*.



Called by God, Blessed to Serve (Year 4, 2021-2022)

The stories of the Year 4 Narrative Lectionary tell of God's invitation into relationship given to all people, and the ways in which God provides gifts of grace at every turn. While Abraham seemed too old to father a nation, Moses too quiet to lead a people, and David too young to take over Israel, we see throughout the Old Testament that God repeatedly calls the unexpected to step out in faith. As the people answer God's call, God never fails to equip them for the journey. Throughout Scripture, gifts of grace are given to those answering God's call, especially at some of the most trying moments. From gifts of manna in the wilderness to the promise of new life for the struggling Israelites, God's call to discipleship is never without God's blessing and provision each step of the way. As God chooses to dwell among us in Jesus Christ, God's commitment to relationship is distinctly clear. Jesus' invitations to abundant life reveal a relentless love that desires that all people know and serve God. His teachings reveal a kingdom that opposes traditional expectations of power and importance, always calling the least expected into God's mission of redemption. As the hope of the resurrection spreads, God's grace abounds in everyday moments and throughout the significant challenges of the early church. These early churches learn to rejoice, even in trials, always trusting in God's provision. Each of us are invited into a life of discipleship by our loving Creator. God's continued presence and abounding grace allow us to answer God's call and, through those blessings, to live in hope as we serve Jesus through our neighbor.

God Provides Blessings

Pentecost: Sept. 12 to Oct. 10, 2021

God created humans to be in relationship with their Creator and blessed them with all they would need. Desiring the best for us, God regularly calls us back into relationship, and invites imperfect people to be part of God's beautiful story of redemption. This relationship with God requires trust, and often challenges us to step out in this trust. Abraham, as well as Moses and the Israelites, were called to leave all they knew and trust in God's provision. Yet, when God calls, God also provides all that is needed to live faithfully as a blessing to others.

Called by God

Pentecost: Oct. 17 to Nov. 7, 2021

God's call is often surprising to us, as God looks not on the outside, but at the heart. God continues to invite unlikely people to be great leaders and pillars of the faith. These imperfect leaders answer God's call, allowing God to work through them in remarkable ways, even as their faults are sometimes evident. God's presence serves as a constant source of strength and peace and equips them to serve, though challenges may abound.

Promises of Hope

Pentecost: Nov. 14 to Nov. 21, 2021

As the Israelites turn away from God and forget their calling to serve as a blessing to all nations, the prophets call them back to relationship with their Creator. The prophets offer promises of hope to a people lost and dejected, reminding them that God will never abandon them and promises a future filled with hope. The people may have turned from God, but God will not turn away from them. God's plan for their future, and ours, is bright and filled with hope.

God's Presence Brings Life

Advent: Nov. 28 to Dec. 25, 2021

God's everlasting promise to be in relationship with the Israelites and all creation allows hope to take root in even the most hopeless circumstances. God continues to provide and be faithful, bringing life where there was once death, like dry bones being gathered back to life. As texts move into the New Testament in this Advent season, hope is ultimately embodied in human form as God will go to any length to show love, even becoming flesh and dwelling with us. God's presence is found among us in the humble form of a child in Jesus, the one who brings true life to all.



Encountering the Messiah

Epiphany: Dec. 26, 2021 to Jan. 16, 2022

In the beginning of John's Gospel, Jesus' ministry is launched with his baptism by John. These stories represent a series of first encounters: Jesus' first interaction with the disciples, his first miracle, and his first conflict with the religious establishment. While these early stories in the Gospel reveal Jesus' power and his call to discipleship, they also set up questions regarding his true identity as Jesus hints—even now—that he is headed to the cross.

Invitation to Abundant Life

Epiphany: Jan. 23 to Feb. 27, 2022

Jesus' ministry continues as he calls those around him into new life. Each interaction reveals more about Jesus' identity and the promises of God, as well as God's desire for all to know abundant life. From invitations to be born anew through the Spirit, to promises of living water, these encounters with Jesus leave the individuals changed and further illustrate Jesus' purpose and ministry of bringing life to all.

Following Jesus

Lent: Mar. 2 to Mar. 20, 2022

Upon entering Lent, the time when we draw near to Jesus as we prepare to remember his death and resurrection, more is revealed about Jesus' call to discipleship. Jesus invites all to follow him and promises to be the good shepherd providing and caring for his flock. His disciples are to listen to his voice and serve as he serves. Jesus' great love is clear as he weeps over Lazarus' death, and his great power evident as he raises him back to life. In Peter's denial, we see that we often struggle to live up to this call to follow Jesus.

God's Kingdom Revealed

Lent: Mar. 27 to Apr. 15, 2022

As we follow Jesus to the cross, Jesus' kingdom repeatedly clashes with the one of this world. God's kingdom is described as one much more powerful than the one of Pilate and the high priests. Still, Jesus remains obedient, trusting that all power comes from God and continuing his journey to the cross. As the crowd denies their faith and proclaims Caesar their only lord, Jesus is crucified with the mocking inscription of King of the Jews. Jesus dies, and is buried in the garden in a quiet ceremony, but the true power of God's kingdom is yet to be revealed.

Good News Spreads

Easter: Apr. 17 to May 8, 2022

On Easter morning, Jesus calls Mary by name, and the good news of Jesus' resurrection begins to spread. As more and more see the risen Messiah, their doubt changes to belief and the story of Easter is shared, that all might believe this good news. Through the faithful service of disciples, those who are least likely, like Saul and the jailer, also come to believe in the hope of Jesus.

Living in Hope

Easter to Pentecost: May 15 to Jun. 5, 2022

The early church continues to proclaim the gospel, inviting others into the life of discipleship. These church leaders learn to live in hope, trusting that God's grace is sufficient even in trials. They continue to rejoice in God's goodness and love in all situations as they are equipped to serve in Jesus' name. As they answer God's call to be the church, the gifts of God's grace are ever present.

Preaching Text

Genesis 1:1–2:4a

God creates the heavens, the earth, and everything that fills them. God does not do the work of creation haphazardly; instead, God separates and orders creation with great care.

Accompanying Text

John 1:1-5

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.)

Preaching Text

Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14

God tests Abraham by asking him to sacrifice his son, Isaac. Abraham does not refuse; God sees Abraham's faith and God provides the offering in place of Isaac.

Accompanying Text

John 1:29

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.)

Preaching Text

Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17

With the help of his mother Rebekah, Jacob steals his brother Esau's blessing. Despite the deception, God visits Jacob in a dream and promises to bless him.

Accompanying Text

John 1:50-51

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.)

Preaching Text

Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17

God remembers the covenant with the Israelites and sends Moses to lead the people out of slavery in Egypt. Moses is reluctant, but God assures him that God will be with him and give him words to speak.

Accompanying Text

John 8:58

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.)

Preaching Text

Exodus 16:1-18

When the Israelites experience hunger in the wilderness, they long for their days as slaves and complain against Moses and Aaron. Moses prays to God and God answers Moses' prayer by giving the Israelites manna and quail to eat.

Accompanying Text

John 6:51

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.)

Preaching Text

1 Samuel 3:1-21

The Lord calls Samuel, a young boy, into service as a prophet. For his first act of prophesy, he must tell his mentor that the Lord would deliver punishment for his family's sins. Samuel obeys, and is rewarded by the Lord.

Accompanying Text

John 20:21-23

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.)

Preaching Text

1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 51:10-14

God sent Samuel to anoint a new king, and everyone was surprised to see that God chose David, a young shepherd boy. Despite his sins, David would keep returning to God with a devoted and contrite heart.

Accompanying Text

John 7:24

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

1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13

David had hoped to build the temple, but God had other plans. Solomon was blessed to complete the work his father had begun, and he did it with the highest-quality materials and celebrated it with great ceremony.

Accompanying Text

John 2:19-21

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.)

Preaching Text

1 Kings 19:1-18

Queen Jezebel, who worshipped Baal, set out to kill Elijah. He fled. Alone, many days' journey from anyone else, Elijah gave up on his own power, and it was at this point that God unexpectedly came to meet him.

Accompanying Text

John 12:27-28

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.)

Preaching Text

Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24

Amos reminds God's people, who are often tempted to worship other gods, to remember to trust in God alone and treat others with justice.

Accompanying Text

John 7:37-38

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.)

Preaching Text

Isaiah 9:1-7

God's people have been sitting in darkness because of war, chaos and displacement. But Isaiah's words remind them to come into light of God's presence, and there they receive a beautiful promise.

Accompanying Text

John 8:12

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.)

Preaching Text

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

God sends God's people into exile, promising to deliver them in 70 years. In the meantime, they are encouraged to live new lives, trusting that God is with them. With time, God's plan and purpose will reveal themselves.

Accompanying Text

John 14:27

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.)

Preaching Text

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel experiences a valley of dry bones which symbolize the house of Israel. Instructed by the Lord, he prophesies to the bones and they come together and live. God promises to create new life and a restored relationship with Israel.

Accompanying Text

John 11:25-26

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.)

Preaching Text

Isaiah 55:1-13

The Lord calls upon Israel to listen to the promise of an everlasting covenant and to seek the Lord by forsaking wicked ways and unrighteous thoughts. This new covenant and relationship will be accomplished by the Lord's word.

Accompanying Text

John 4:13-14

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.)

Preaching Text

John 1:1-18

The Gospel of John begins with a poetic hymn that sets the stage for the story of Jesus' ministry, death, and resurrection. As the Word, Jesus is intimately connected with God and present in the creation of the world.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 130:5-8

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.)

Preaching Text

Luke 2:1-20

The during the Roman occupation of Judea, Mary gives birth to her child. The birth of the Messiah in Bethlehem is announced to a group of shepherds by an angel of the Lord, who then find the child and glorify God.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 123:1-2

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.)

Preaching Text

John 1:19-34

John the baptizer affirms his own identity as merely a messenger, and points to Jesus as the Lamb of God.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 32:1-2

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.)

Preaching Text

John 1:35-51

Jesus begins to gather followers, encouraging them to see more than the signs and miracles he performs but the saving work God is doing through him.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 66:1-5

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.)

Preaching Text

John 2:1-11

Jesus' public ministry begins with a miracle at a wedding in Cana. When the wine runs out, Jesus transforms water into wine, providing more than enough for the needs of the feast.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 104:14-16

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.)

Preaching Text

John 2:13-25

Jesus travels to Jerusalem, where he chases money-changers and merchants out of the temple and has his first confrontation with religious authorities.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 127:1-2

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.)

Preaching Text

John 3:1-21

A Pharisee comes to Jesus under cover of darkness, asking questions and seeking understanding. As Jesus explains his ministry, the Pharisee becomes more confused.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 139:13-18

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.)

Preaching Text

John 4:1-42

Jesus encounters a Samaritan woman at a well. The ensuing conversation breaks several cultural taboos, and brings the woman and her village to believe in Jesus.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 42:1-3

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.)

Preaching Text

John 4:46-54 [5:1-18]

A royal official asked Jesus to travel with him to heal his son. Jesus tells the man that his son was healed. The man finds out that his son was healed when Jesus spoke those words to him. Jesus then heals another man on the Sabbath, causing disagreements with religious officials.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 40:1-5

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.)

Preaching Text

John 6:35-59

Jesus tells his followers that he is the bread of life. Jesus says that anyone who believes in him will have eternal life. People did not understand what Jesus was saying. He explained that through him, all his believers will be connected to each other and will live forever.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 34:1-10

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.)

Preaching Text

John 7:37-52

At the Festival of Booths, Jesus teaches that all who are thirsty should come to him and drink. Those who drink from the water will receive the Holy Spirit. Jesus' teachings caused division among the people.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 147:1-11

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.)

Preaching Text

John 9:1-41

Jesus heals a man born blind. Through the investigation of the Jewish authorities, the man comes to understand who Jesus is, even as the authorities themselves become more and more stubborn in their disbelief.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 27:1-4

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.)

Preaching Text

John 10:1-18

Jesus identifies himself as the gate in which the sheep, his followers, enter the fold; and as the good shepherd whom the sheep follow. Contrasting himself with a hired hand, Jesus notes that the sheep will know his voice, and that he is willing to die for them.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 23

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.)

Preaching Text

John 11:1-44

Lazarus, the brother of Martha and Mary, is sick. Upon hearing this news, Jesus waits to travel, and in the interim, Lazarus dies. Jesus goes to Bethany and commands Lazarus, who has been dead for four days, to rise. And he does.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 104:27-30

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.)

Preaching Text

John 13:1-17

After sharing a meal, Jesus does the radical task of washing his disciples' feet, an act of humble service. Jesus commands that his followers do likewise.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 51:7-12

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.)

Preaching Text

John 18:12-27

Right before this story, Jesus was arrested. Now he has been taken into the courts of the high priest. Peter follows Jesus into the courts. But when asked if he is a disciple of Jesus, Peter denies his relationship three times.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 17:1-7

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.)

Preaching Text

John 18:28-40

Jesus is brought by his opponents to the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate. Under Pilate's questioning, Jesus states that his kingdom is not from this world and that he has come to testify to the truth. A bewildered Pilate says he has no case against him.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 145:10-13

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

John 19:1-16a

The trial of Jesus reaches its conclusion amid cries of "Crucify him!" that come from his opponents. Throughout the entire ordeal, Pontius Pilate and his soldiers unintentionally state the truth: Jesus is indeed royalty. The nature of kingship goes beyond their understanding.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 146

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.)

Preaching Text

John 19:16b-22 [12:12-27]

Jesus is hailed as a king with enthusiastic praise as he enters the city of Jerusalem and a mocking inscription as he exits. Jesus is indeed the Lord, but not as the crowds or Pilate grasp; he is a different kind of king.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 24

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.)

Preaching Text

John 19:23-30

At the foot of the cross, soldiers divide Jesus' clothes, women stand near, and Jesus' mother and beloved disciple become family. Hanging on the cross above them, Jesus completes his mission and fulfills Scripture with dignity and nobility by giving up his spirit.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 26:3

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.)

Preaching Text

John 19:31-42

Pilate has the bodies of the crucified removed. Jesus' body is pierced by a spear, and blood and water flow, which is attested by an eyewitness. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus care for Jesus' body and bury it in a tomb.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 31:9-18

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.)

Preaching Text

John 20:1-18

Not knowing what to expect, Mary goes to the tomb of Jesus on the first Easter. Finding the tomb empty, she runs to get Peter and John, who come and leave perplexed. After they are gone, Mary meets her risen Lord, but she does not recognize him until he calls her by name.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 118:21-29

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.)

Preaching Text

John 20:19-31

Jesus appears to his disciples, gives them the Holy Spirit and sends them out to proclaim the Gospel. Thomas misses out, but Jesus appears again to him. And though he does not condemn Thomas for his unbelief, Jesus warns Thomas against equating seeing and believing.

Accompanying Text

Psalm 145:13-21

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.)

Preaching Text

Acts 9:1-19a

Saul was a fierce persecutor of the early followers of Jesus. On his way to Damascus, God struck him blind. God sent Ananias, who reluctantly agreed to heal Saul and send him down his path towards spreading the gospel to all nations.

Accompanying Text

Matthew 6:24

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.)

Preaching Text

Acts 16:16-34

After Paul casts a demon out of a woman, he and his companion Silas are beaten and imprisoned by the city officials. However, through their prayer and joyful demeanor, and an earthquake from God, Paul and Silas are set free and convert the jail keeper and his family.

Accompanying Text

Luke 6:18-19, 22-23

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.)

Preaching Text

Acts 17:16-31

In former times, people worshipped gods in figures made of wood, stone, and metal. Now, the God who made the earth and sustains all people has been revealed in a human (Jesus) whom God raised from the dead.

Accompanying Text

John 1:16-18

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.)

Preaching Text

Philippians 1:1-18a

Despite his imprisonment for preaching the gospel, Paul rejoices in the Philippians and rejoices even more that the gospel of Christ continues to spread.

Accompanying Text

Luke 9:46-48

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.)

Preaching Text

Philippians 2:1-13

Despite his equality with God, Jesus chose the path of humble humanity, for which God exalted him above everything in heaven and earth.

Accompanying Text

Luke 6:43-45

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.)

Preaching Text

Acts 2:1-21; Philippians 4:4-7

The Holy Spirit falls on the disciples on Pentecost and allows them to preach the good news to people of all nations and languages. Paul calls upon the Philippians to rejoice that God has redeemed them.

Accompanying Text

John 14:16-17

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.)

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Preaching Text

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Accompanying Text

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Objective(s) for the Week
What outcome do you want from the sermon, education, and worship for the participants?

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Themes for Preaching & Children's Message

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Themes for Worship and Music

Empty rectangular box for themes.

Themes for Faith Formation

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Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

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- **NEW!** *Living the Word: God's Story @ Home (NL)* – Bring faith formation home with this simple curriculum designed especially for families based on the Narrative Lectionary! Available for the full year or by quarter.
- *Living the Word: Kids (NL, PK-2nd)* – An engaging curriculum for lower elementary students to explore God's story through the Narrative Lectionary. Available for the full year or by quarter.
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Revised Common Lectionary (Years A & B, B & C)

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- *Spirit & Truth: Kids (PK-2nd)* – A one-of-a-kind curriculum that teaches lower elementary students about worship, the liturgy, and the church year through illustrated stories and activities. Available for the full year or units on Liturgy, Church Festivals, Advent (PK-6th), Christmas Worship (PK-6th), and as individual lessons.
- *Spirit & Truth: Kids (3rd-6th)* – A one-of-a-kind curriculum that teaches upper elementary students about worship, the liturgy, and the church year through fun skits, short Bible studies, and activities. Available for the full year or units on Liturgy, Church Festivals, Advent (PK-6th), Christmas Worship (PK-6th), and as individual lessons.

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