

Compliments of:



LIVING THE WORD

Teaching God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 2



Planning Tool

For Preaching, Worship, and
Faith Formation

September 10, 2023 to May 19, 2024

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Living the Word: Teaching God's Story (Narrative Lectionary, Year 2)
Narrative Lectionary Planning Tool (For Preaching, Worship, and Faith Formation)
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Fall

Theme	Date	Season/Festival	Other Festival/Observance	LrW Lesson #	Lectionary Text	Story Title	Notes
God Creates Family	9/10/2023	Pentecost 15	Labor Day (9/4)	#2-1	Genesis 2:4b-25	God Creates Humans	
	9/17/2023	Pentecost 16		#2-2	Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7	God Gives a Promised Child	
	9/24/2023	Pentecost 17		#2-3	Genesis 32:[9-13] 22-30	Jacob Wrestles	
Responding to God's Love	10/1/2023	Pentecost 18	World Communion Sunday	#2-4	Exodus 1:8-14 [1:15-2:10]; 3:1-15	Moses and the Burning Bush	
	10/8/2023	Pentecost 19	Thanksgiving (CA) (10/9)	#2-5	Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 6:4-9	Love the Lord Your God	
	10/15/2023	Pentecost 20		#2-6	Ruth 1:1-17 [4:13-17]	Ruth Follows Naomi	
God's Way of Leading	10/22/2023	Pentecost 21		#2-7	2 Samuel 5:1-5; 6:1-5; Psalm 150	David Becomes King	
	10/29/2023	Pentecost 22	Reformation Day	#2-8	1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29	The Kingdom Divided	
	11/5/2023	All Saints' (Pentecost 23)	Veterans Day (11/11)	#2-9	1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39	Fire from Heaven	
Our Sin, God's Faithfulness	11/12/2023	Pentecost 24		#2-10	Hosea 11:1-9	God's Beloved Children	
	11/19/2023	Pentecost 25	Thanksgiving (US) (11/23)	#2-11	Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5	Israel, God's Vineyard	
	11/26/2023	Christ the King		#2-12	2 Kings 22:1-10, [11-20]; 23:1-3	Josiah Finds the Scroll	



Narrative Lectionary Readings

Winter

Theme	Date	Season/Festival	Other Festival/Observance	LtW Lesson #	Lectionary Text	Story Title	Notes
Promises Made, Promises Kept	12/3/2023	Advent 1		#2-13	Jeremiah 33:[10-11] 14-18	A Righteous Branch	
	12/10/2023	Advent 2		#2-14	Isaiah 40:1-11	Comfort My People	
	12/17/2023	Advent 3		#2-15	Ezra 1:1-4, 3:1-4, 10-13	Returning from Exile	
	12/24/2023	Advent 4/ Christmas Eve		#2-16	Luke 1:5-13 [14-25] 57-80	The Birth of John the Baptist	
God's Kingdom Announced	12/25/2023	Christmas		#2-C1	Luke 2:1-20	The Promised Messiah	
	12/31/2023	Christmas 1	New Year's Eve	#2-C2	Mark 1:1-20	Jesus' Ministry Begins	
	1/7/2024	Epiphany 1	Epiphany of the Lord (1/6)	#2-17	Mark 2:1-22	Jesus Forgives Sins	
	1/14/2024	Epiphany 2		#2-18	Mark 4:1-34	Jesus Teaches in Parables	
	1/21/2024	Epiphany 3		#2-19	Mark 5:1-20	Jesus Heals an Outcast	
The Power of the Kingdom	1/28/2024	Epiphany 4		#2-20	Mark 5:21-43	A Woman Healed, a Girl Raised	
	2/4/2024	Epiphany 5		#2-21	Mark 6:1-29	Jesus Sends the Twelve	
	2/11/2024	Transfiguration		#2-22	Mark 8:27 --9:8	Transfiguration	



Narrative Lectionary Readings

Spring

Theme	Date	Season/Festival	Other Festival/Observance	LtW Lesson #	Lectionary Text	Story Title	Notes
The Call to Serve	2/14/2024	Ash Wednesday		#2-L1	Mark 9:30-37	Who Is the Greatest?	
	2/18/2024	Lent 1		#2-23	Mark 10:17-31	Jesus and the Rich Man	
	2/25/2024	Lent 2		#2-24	Mark 10:32-52	Jesus Came to Serve	
	3/3/2024	Lent 3		#2-25	Mark 12:1-12 [13-17]	The Wicked Tenants	
	3/10/2024	Lent 4		#2-26	Mark 12:28-44	The Widow's Gift	
God's Triumph	3/17/2024	Lent 5		#2-27	Mark 13:1-8, 24-37	The End of the Age	
	3/24/2024	Palm Sunday	Passion Sunday	#2-28	Mark 11:1-11; 14:3-9	Triumphal Entry	
	3/28/2024	Maundy Thursday		#2-L2	Mark 14:22-42	Prayer in Gethsemane	
	3/29/2024	Good Friday		#2-L3	Mark 15:16-39	The Death of Jesus	
	3/31/2024	Easter		#2-R1	Mark 16:1-8	The Empty Tomb	
God Works through Us	4/7/2024	Easter 2		#2-29	Acts 1:1-14	Jesus Commissions the	
	4/14/2024	Easter 3		#2-30	Acts 3:1-10	Peter Heals	
	4/21/2024	Easter 4		#2-31	Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	The Church at Thessalonica	
	4/28/2024	Easter 5		#2-32	Acts 18:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18	The Church at Corinth	
	5/5/2024	Easter 6		#2-33	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	The Greatest Is Love	
The Power of God's Love	5/12/2024	Easter 7	Mother's Day	#2-34	1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57	Death, the Last Enemy	
	5/19/2024	Pentecost		#2-35	Acts 2:1-4; 1 Corinthians 12:1-13	Many Gifts, One Spirit	



Living out God's Kingdom (Year 2, 2023-2024)

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. However, humanity rejected that ideal and turned to selfishness. 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, Jesus, embodied the kingdom of God in his life and ministry. 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. 10 to Sept. 24, 2023)

God created the first family to do God's work together (Genesis 2). God promised a baby to an elderly couple, which God kept with the birth of Isaac (Genesis 18 & 21). Isaac's son Jacob cheated his brother and feared revenge when he returned years later. After wrestling with a stranger, Jacob prevailed. He was blessed and given the name Israel (Genesis 32).

Responding to God's Love

(Pentecost: Oct. 1 to Oct. 15, 2023)

A clear theme throughout Scripture is that God loves us. When the people of Israel were in slavery, God showed love by rescuing them (Exodus 3). When we experience God's love, we are called to respond with love. We are to love God and to love others (Deuteronomy 5 & 6). The story of Ruth's love and loyalty toward Naomi provides a beautiful example for us to follow (Ruth 1).

God's Way of Leading

(Pentecost: Oct. 22 to Nov. 5, 2023)

The history of God's people is filled with examples of both good and bad leaders. God chose David to shepherd all of Israel. David became an example of a flawed, but faithful servant leader (2 Samuel 5 & 6). However, Rehoboam did not follow his grandfather's example. He rejected advice to become a servant leader, and his actions split the kingdom (1 Kings 12). After the kingdom was divided, Queen Jezebel and King Ahab led the people to serve the Canaanite god, Baal. In contrast, Elijah serves the LORD. The LORD is proven the one true God by sending fire from heaven, vindicating Elijah's leadership (1 Kings 18).

Our Sin, God's Faithfulness

(Pentecost: Nov. 12 to Nov. 26, 2023)

Both the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah disobeyed God's Torah. Instead of loving God with all they had, they worshipped other gods. Instead of loving their neighbors, the powerful oppressed the powerless. 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 was horrified by the people's sin and repented on behalf of the people (2 Kings 22 & 23).

Promises Made, Promises Kept

(Advent & Christmas: Dec. 3 to Dec. 25, 2023)

Our God is a God of promises. The people committed idolatry and injustice, so God gave them a consequence for their sin: destruction and exile. But, 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 the people could return to their land and rebuild the temple (Ezra 1 & 3). The miraculous birth of John the 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. 31, 2023 to Jan. 14, 2024)

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 actions of Jesus as he healed many (Mark 1), loved and forgave sinners (Mark 2), and taught using parables (Mark 4).

The Power of the Kingdom

(Epiphany: Jan. 21 to Transfiguration: Feb. 11, 2024)

The people saw 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 multiply his ministry (Mark 6). 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. 14 to Mar. 10, 2024)

We are called to love God and each other. We follow these 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 wealth or power (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. 17 to Mar. 31, 2024)

We do not yet live fully in God's kingdom, but in a world of selfishness. We see the kingdom breaking through in small ways as people live out God's vision. But God is in charge and will triumph over evil. Both our suffering and success are 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). A 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. 7 to Apr. 28, 2024)

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: May 5 to Pentecost Sunday: May 19, 2024)

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

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 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

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 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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

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

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

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Ruth 1:1-17 [4:13-17]

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

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

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 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

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

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

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 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 Huldah, a female prophet, 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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

Jeremiah 33:[10-11] 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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

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

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

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 is 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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

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

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 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

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

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

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

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

Mark 6:1-29

After being rejected at Nazareth, Jesus sends out the twelve disciples 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 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

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

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

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

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

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

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

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

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

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.)

God Works through Us

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

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 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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

Other Notes (Media ideas, etc.)

Preaching Text

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

Paul arrives in Corinth and partners with Priscilla and Aquila 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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

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 Faith Formation

Themes for Worship and Music

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

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 2:1-4; 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 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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Classroom (Key Bible Stories)

- *Living the Word: Classroom (Year Blue, PK-2nd)* – An engaging curriculum for lower elementary students to teach them key Bible stories. Available for the full year or by quarter.
- *Living the Word: Classroom (Year Blue, 3rd-6th)* – An engaging curriculum for upper elementary students to teach them key Bible stories. Available for the full year or by quarter.

Narrative Lectionary

- *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.
- *Living the Word: Kids (NL, 3rd-6th)* – An engaging curriculum for upper elementary students to explore God’s story through the Narrative Lectionary. Available for the full year or by quarter.
- *Living the Word: Singing God’s Story (NL, PK-6th)* – Original children’s music that follows the Narrative Lectionary, tied to the unit themes. Available for the full year or by quarter.
- *Living the Word: Youth (NL)* – A fun, varied curriculum for confirmation or youth groups that follows the Narrative Lectionary, learning God’s story in Scripture. Available for the full year or by quarter.
- *Living the Word: Small Groups (NL)* – Discussion guides for young adult or adult small groups matching the weekly readings of the Narrative Lectionary. Available for the full year or by quarter.
- *Living the Word: Cross+Gen Education (NL)* – A curriculum designed to build relationships through intergenerational learning experiences in a classroom setting, following the Narrative Lectionary. Available for the full year, by quarter, and as individual lessons.
- *Living the Word: Cross+Gen Worship (NL)* – A set of relationship-building, interactive, intergenerational worship guides following the Narrative Lectionary. Available for the full year, by quarter, Advent & Christmas, Lent, Festivals, and as individual lessons.
- *Living the Word: Sharing God’s Story @ Home (NL)* – Weekly devotional resources bringing faith formation home with prayers, conversation starters, a daily Bible reading plan, and more, following the Narrative Lectionary. Available for the full year or by quarter.
- *Living the Word: Contexts & Connections (NL)* – A set of Bible background notes on each Narrative Lectionary reading for faith formation leaders to help them understand and prepare each week. Available for the full year or by quarter.



Flexible, Topic-based Units

- *Learning Together* – A set of independent, five-lesson units on a variety of topics or themes. These lessons are designed to be flexible: they can be used with children’s or intergenerational classrooms, traditional or rotation models, weekly or even daily as Vacation Bible School.

Revised Common Lectionary

- *Living the Word: Cross+Gen Education (RCL)* – A curriculum designed to build relationships through intergenerational learning experiences in a classroom setting, following the Revised Common Lectionary. Available for the full year, by quarter, and as individual lessons.

Confirmation

- *Chosen Together: Cross+Gen Confirmation* – A unique, intergenerational curriculum for confirmation students, mentors, families, and the whole congregation covering Martin Luther’s *Small Catechism*. Includes a consultation with the curriculum writer. Available for the full year.

Worship Education

- *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.

Product Pricing & Delivery

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