



Lectionary & Calendar

2023 – 2024

Year B – Mark

Lectionary & Calendar

Introduction

Calendar

This Calendar shows the dates of the church's festivals in the current year. It also shows dates of other important national, international and ecumenical celebrations and days of remembrance.

Lectionary

The Lectionary is a method by which, over a period of three years, much of the Bible is read aloud in Church.

Full coverage requires Bible readings every day of the year. This Lectionary, being oriented towards worship, includes readings for every Sunday and major festivals when they fall during the week. The one exception to this is Holy Week, which is given in full.

This Lectionary and Calendar follows the *Common Lectionary Revised (1992)* produced by the ecumenical liturgical body known as the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), and is produced by permission of the CCT as a service to parishes and preachers. Neither the MCNZ nor the PCANZ is responsible for the inclusion or exclusion of any particular reading. No reading is mandatory and inclusion of any particular passage does not necessarily imply its suitability as a theme for worship. Some readings need to be used with particular sensitivity especially in light of, for example, new understandings of gender roles and the church's relationship with other faiths.

Broadly speaking, each year is ordered according to the liturgical year, observing the church seasons such as Christmas, Easter and Pentecost.

Advent

The season of preparation which begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas and in which the church recalls its hope and expectancy in the comings of Christ, past, present and future.

Christmas

The Christmas-Epiphany season includes Christmas Day and the twelve following days of Christmas. Recalling the stories of the birth and infancy of Christ, the church celebrates the mystery of the incarnation.

Epiphany

The period of several weeks in which the church reflects on the manifestation of Christ to all peoples.

Lent

The season of preparation and discipline, which begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes at sun-down on Holy Saturday. During the forty weekdays and six Sundays in Lent, the church remembers the sacrificial life and ministry of Jesus leading to the cross and renews its commitment to Christian discipleship.

Easter

The Great Fifty Days of the Easter-Pentecost season include eight Sundays. Beginning on Easter Day and concluding on the Day of Pentecost, this season celebrates the resurrection and ascension of Christ and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Pentecost

The period during which the church recalls its faith in God the Holy Trinity and seeks to relate its faith as the people of God to Christ's mission to the world.

Ordinary Readings

Year A in the three-year cycle of readings is referred to as "The Year of Matthew", Year B "Mark", and Year C "Luke". Readings from John's Gospel are included mainly in Lent and Easter. Note that during Ordinary Time, apart from the Psalm which is chosen as a response to the First Testament (or first) reading, the readings from First Testament, Epistle, and Gospel are not chosen to relate to one another at all. Instead, these readings follow three different "streams" of texts semi-continuously over a period of weeks. (The only exceptions are Trinity Sunday, All Saints Day and Reign of Christ when a single theme is followed.) Those planning worship through this season should pick just

one of these passages to set the service theme. The others can be included as readings.

Additional Readings

Dates shown with an asterisk (*) alongside denote special occasions, which are listed at the back of the Lectionary. Preachers are encouraged to read and make use of parallel passages alongside the given Gospel reading, where they occur.

Terminology

In keeping with modern understandings of Scripture and sensitivity to other traditions, readers of the Bible in worship are encouraged to indicate that they are about to give “a reading...” (from, eg, Ps 119, the book of Genesis, John’s Gospel) rather than unnecessarily referring to the Old Testament or New Testament.

Liturgical Colours

These apply to church decorations and the vestments of worship leaders during the church year.

The Lectionary shows the basic pattern, although practices vary slightly from place to place.

Abbreviations are:

V = violet or purple (preparation; Advent and Lent)

W = white (light, joy; Christmas, Easter, infant baptism, weddings)

R = red (fire, Spirit; Pentecost, ordination, induction, sometimes adult baptism, and for the funeral of a ‘saint’ of the Church)

G = green (growth; ‘ordinary’ days from Pentecost to Advent)

Index Numbers

Next to each date there is a number (eg 42C). This is the COCU (Consultation on Church Union) indexing system. Due to the moveable feasts in the calendar, the cycle of readings does not exactly repeat every three years. For example, Pentecost 2 in Year B may have different readings from one cycle to the next. The COCU number allows cross referencing to the same readings in a previous cycle. This means that you will be able to access archived copies of previous years’ lectionary resources for a given week.

Lectionary & Calendar 2023-2024

Abbreviations and versification are according to the NRSV.

Verse references in brackets indicate optional, extended readings.

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
2023					
ADVENT					
December 3 Advent 1 01B	V	Is 64: 1-9	Ps 80: 1-7, 17-19	1 Cor 1: 3-9	Mk 13: 24-37
December 10 Advent 2 02B	V	Is 40: 1-11	Ps 85: 1-2, 8-13	2 Peter 3: 8-15a	Mk 1: 1-8
December 17 Advent 3 03B	V	Is 61: 1-4, 8-11	Ps 126	1 Thess 5: 16-24	Jn 1: 6-8, 19-28
December 24 Advent 4 04B	V	2 Sam 7: 1-11, 16	Ps 89: 1-4, 19-26	Rom 16: 25-27	Lk 1: 26-38
CHRISTMAS Christmas Eve and Christmas Day 05B					
December 24 Christmas Eve	W	Is 9: 2-7	Ps 96	Titus 2: 11-14	Lk 2: 1-14, (15-20)
December 25 Christmas Dawn	W	Is 62: 6-12	Ps 97	Titus 3: 4-7	Lk 2: (1-7), 8-20
December 25 Christmas Day	W	Is 52: 7-10	Ps 98	Heb 1: 1-4, (5-12)	Jn 1: 1-14
December 31 Christmas 1 06B	W	Is 61: 10 - 62: 3	Ps 148	Gal 4: 4-7	Lk 2: 22-40
2024					
EPIPHANY					
January 6 Epiphany 08B <small>¹ [see footnote]</small>	W	Is 60: 1-6	Ps 72: 1-7, 10-14	Eph 3: 1-12	Mt 2: 1-12
January 7 Epiphany 1 09B (Baptism of Jesus)	W	Gen 1: 1-5	Ps 29	Acts 19: 1-7	Mk 1: 4-11

¹ According to the *Common Revised Lectionary* Epiphany may be celebrated on the date shown or on the first Sunday in January

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
January 14 Epiphany 2 10B	G	1 Sam 3: 1-10, (11-20)	Ps 139: 1-6, 13-18	1 Cor 6: 12-20	Jn 1: 43-51
January 21 * Epiphany 3 11B	G	Jonah 3: 1-5, 10	Ps 62: 5-12	1 Cor 7: 29-31	Mk 1: 14-20
January 28 Epiphany 4 12B	G	Deut 18: 15-20	Ps 111	1 Cor 8: 1-13	Mk 1: 21-28
February 4 * Epiphany 5 13B	G	Is 40: 21-31	Ps 147: 1-11, 20c	1 Cor 9: 16-23	Mk 1: 29-39
February 11 17B Transfiguration	W	2 Kings 2: 1-12	Ps 50: 1-6	2 Cor 4: 3-6	Mk 9: 2-9
LENT					
February 14 Ash Wednesday 18B	V	Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17 <i>or</i> Is 58: 1-12	Ps 51: 1-17	2 Cor 5: 20b - 6: 10	Mt 6: 1-6, 16-21
February 18 Lent 1 19B	V	Gen 9: 8-17	Ps 25: 1-10	1 Peter 3: 18-22	Mk 1: 9-15
February 25 Lent 2 20B	V	Gen 17: 1-7, 15-16	Ps 22: 23-31	Rom 4: 13-25	Mk 8: 31-38 <i>or</i> Mk 9: 2-9
March 3 Lent 3 21B	V	Ex 20: 1-17	Ps 19	1 Cor 1: 18-25	Jn 2: 13-22
March 10 Lent 4 22B	V	Num 21: 4-9	Ps 107: 1-3, 17-22	Eph 2: 1-10	Jn 3: 14-21
March 17 Lent 5 23B	V	Jer 31: 31-34	Ps 51: 1-12 <i>or</i> Ps 119: 9-16	Heb 5: 5-10	Jn 12: 20-33
March 24 Lent 6 24B Palm Sunday <i>or</i> Passion Sunday	V	None <i>or</i> Is 50: 4-9a	Ps 118: 1-2, 19-29 <i>or</i> Ps 31: 9-16	None <i>or</i> Phil 2: 5-11	Palm Mk 11: 1-11 <i>or</i> Jn 12: 12-16 Passion Mk 14: 1- 15: 47 <i>or</i> Mk 15: 1-39 (40-47)

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
HOLY WEEK					
March 25 Monday 25B	V	Is 42: 1-9	Ps 36: 5-11	Heb 9: 11-15	Jn 12: 1-11
March 26 Tuesday 26B	V	Is 49: 1-7	Ps 71: 1-14	1 Cor 1: 18-31	Jn 12: 20-36
March 27 Wednesday 27B	V	Is 50: 4-9a	Ps 70	Heb 12: 1-3	Jn 13: 21-32
March 28 28B Maundy Thursday	V	Ex 12: 1-4, (5-10), 11- 14	Ps 116: 1-2, 12-19	1 Cor 11: 23-26	Jn 13: 1-17, 31b-35
March 29 Good Friday 29B	V	Is 52: 13 - 53: 12	Ps 22	Heb 10: 16-25 <i>or</i> Heb 4: 14- 16, 5: 7-9	Jn 18: 1- 19: 42
March 30 Holy Saturday 30B	V	Job 14: 1-14 <i>or</i> Lam 3: 1-9, 19-24	Ps 31: 1-4, 15-16	1 Peter 4: 1-8	Mt 27: 57-66 <i>or</i> Jn 19: 38-42
EASTER					
March 31 Easter Dawn 31B	W	Ex 14: 10-31, 15: 20-21	Ps 114	Rom 6: 3-11	Mk 16: 1-8
March 31 Easter Day 31B	W	Acts 10: 34-43 <i>or</i> Is 25: 6-9	Ps 118: 1-2, 14-24	1 Cor 15: 1-11 <i>or</i> Acts 10: 34-43	Jn 20: 1-18 <i>or</i> Mk 16: 1-8
April 7 Easter 2 32B	W	Acts 4: 32-35	Ps 133	1 Jn 1: 1- 2: 2	Jn 20: 19-31
April 14 Easter 3 33B	W	Acts 3: 12-19	Ps 4	1 Jn 3: 1-7	Lk 24: 36b-48
April 21 Easter 4 34B	W	Acts 4: 5-12	Ps 23	1 Jn 3: 16-24	Jn 10: 11-18
April 28 * Easter 5 35B	W	Acts 8: 26-40	Ps 22: 25-31	1 Jn 4: 7-21	Jn 15: 1-8
May 5 * Easter 6 36B	W	Acts 10: 44-48	Ps 98	1 Jn 5: 1-6	Jn 15: 9-17

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
May 9 Ascension 37B 2 [see footnote]	W	Acts 1: 1-11	Ps 47 <i>or</i> Ps 93	Eph 1: 15-23	Lk 24: 44-53
May 12 * Easter 7 38B	W	Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26	Ps 1	1 Jn 5: 9-13	Jn 17: 6-19
PENTECOST					
May 19 * Pentecost 39B	R	Acts 2: 1-21 <i>or</i> Ezek 37: 1-14	Ps 104: 24-34, 35b	Rom 8: 22-27 <i>or</i> Acts 2: 1-21	Jn 15: 26-27, 16: 4b-15
May 26 Trinity 40B	W	Is 6: 1-8	Ps 29	Rom 8: 12-17	Jn 3: 1-17
June 2 Pentecost 2 41B	G	1 Sam 3: 1-10 (11-20)	Ps 139: 1-6 13-18	2 Cor 4: 5-12	Mk 2: 23- 3: 6
June 9 Pentecost 3 42B	G	1 Sam 8: 4-11 (12- 15), 16-20 (11: 14-15)	Ps 138	2 Cor 4: 13 - 5: 1	Mk 3: 20-35
June 16 * Pentecost 4 43B	G	1 Sam 15: 34 - 16: 13	Ps 20	2 Cor 5: 6-10,(11-13) 14-17	Mk 4: 26-34
June 23 * Pentecost 5 44B	G	1 Sam 17: (1a, 4-11, 19-23) 32-49	Ps 9: 9-20	2 Cor 6: 1-13	Mk 4: 35-41
June 30 * Pentecost 6 45B	G	2 Sam 1: 1, 17-27	Ps 130	2 Cor 8: 7-15	Mk 5: 21-43
July 7 Pentecost 7 46B	G	2 Sam 5: 1-5, 9-10	Ps 48	2 Cor 12: 2-10	Mk 6: 1-13
July 14 Pentecost 8 47B	G	2 Sam 6: 1-5, 12b-19	Ps 24	Eph 1: 3-14	Mk 6: 14-29
July 21 Pentecost 9 48B	G	2 Sam 7: 1-14a	Ps 89: 20-37	Eph 2: 11-22	Mk 6: 30- 34, 53-56
July 28 Pentecost 10 49B	G	2 Sam 11: 1-15	Ps 14	Eph 3: 14-21	Jn 6: 1-21

² According to the *Common Lectionary Revised* Ascension may be celebrated on the date shown or on Easter 7.

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
August 4 * Pentecost 11 50B	G	2 Sam 11: 26-12: 13a	Ps 51: 1-12	Eph 4: 1-16	Jn 6: 24-35
August 11 * Pentecost 12 51B	G	2 Sam 18: 5-9, 15, 31-33	Ps 130	Eph 4: 25 - 5: 2	Jn 6: 35, 41-51
August 18 * Pentecost 13 52B	G	1 Kings 2: 10-12, 3: 3-14	Ps 111	Eph 5: 15-20	Jn 6: 51-58
August 25 * Pentecost 14 53B	G	1 Kings 8: (1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43	Ps 84	Eph 6: 10-20	Jn 6: 56-69
CREATION * September 1 – 29					
September 1 * Pentecost 15 54B	G	Song Sol 2: 8-13	Ps 45: 1-2, 6-9	James 1: 17-27	Mk 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23
September 8 Pentecost 16 55B	G	Prov 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23	Ps 125	James 2: 1-10, (11-13) 14-17	Mk 7: 24-37
September 15 Pentecost 17 56B	G	Prov 1: 20-33	Ps 19	James 3: 1-12	Mk 8: 27-38
September 22 * Pentecost 18 57B	G	Prov 31: 10-31	Ps 1	James 3: 13-4: 3, 7-8a	Mk 9: 30-37
September 29 Pentecost 19 58B	G	Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10, 9: 20-22	Ps 124	James 5: 13-20	Mk 9: 38-50
October 6 * Pentecost 20 59B	G	Job 1: 1, 2: 1-10	Ps 26	Heb 1: 1-4, 2: 5-12	Mk 10: 2-16
October 13 * Pentecost 21 60B	G	Job 23: 1-9, 16-17	Ps 22: 1-15	Heb 4: 12-16	Mk 10: 17-31
October 20 * Pentecost 22 61B	G	Job 38: 1-7, (34-41)	Ps 104: 1-9, 24, 35c	Heb 5: 1-10	Mk 10: 35-45
October 27 * Pentecost 23 62B	G	Job 42: 1-6, 10-17	Ps 34: 1-8, (19-22)	Heb 7: 23-28	Mk 10: 46-52
November 1 All Saints 63B <small>3 [see footnote]</small>	W	Wis Sol 3: 1-9 <i>or</i> Is 25: 6-9	Ps 24	Rev 21: 1-6a	Jn 11: 32-44

³ According to the *Common Lectionary Revised* All Saints may be celebrated on the date shown or on the first Sunday in November

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
November 3 * Pentecost 24 64B <i>(If All Saints not observed on this day)</i>	G	Ruth 1: 1-18	Ps 146	Heb 9: 11-14	Mk 12: 28-34
November 10 Pentecost 25 65B	G	Ruth 3: 1-5, 4: 13-17	Ps 127	Heb 9: 24-28	Mk 12: 38-44
November 17 Pentecost 26 66B	G	1 Sam 1: 4-20	1 Sam 2: 1-10 <i>or</i> Ps 16	Heb 10: 11-14, (15-18), 19-25	Mk 13: 1-8
November 24 67B Reign of Christ	W	2 Sam 23: 1-7	Ps 132: 1-12, (13-18) <i>or</i> Ps 93	Rev 1: 4b-8	Jn 18: 33-37

Suggested readings for occasional services are over the page.

Additional Readings

Date	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
Watchnight or End of Year Service	Eccl 3: 1-15	Ps 90	1 Thes 5: 1-11	Mt 24: 32-51
New Year's Service	Eccl 3: 1-13	Ps 8	Rev 21: 1-6a	Mt 25: 31-46
First full week of the year (Monday to Saturday) – Tongan and Samoan Methodists hold meetings for prayer, morning and evening in preparation for the coming year				
Covenant Sunday	Jer 31: 31-33 <i>or</i> Deut 7: 7-11	Ps 25: 4-15	Rom 12: 1-2	Jn 15: 1-8
Methodist Martyrs – Jan 22 or Sunday nearest	Gen 45: 4-8; 50: 19-21	Ps 7: 1-11	Rev 2: 8-11	Jn 15: 7-17
Waitangi Day – or Sunday nearest Feb 6	Deut 10: 12-21	Ps 144: 9-15	1 Cor 1: 26-31	Mt 6: 19-24
World Day of Prayer – 1st Friday in March				
Anzac Day – or Sunday nearest April 25	Is 52: 7-12	Ps 76	Eph 6: 10-20	Lk 6: 27-36
Faka-Me – 1st Sunday in May: Special Sunday for Tongan children and youth.				
Home and Family Sunday – 2nd Sunday in May (Mother's Day)	Is 66: 10-13	Ps 84: 1-4	1 Jn 4: 7-12, 20-21	Lk 2: 40-52
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – Ascension Day to Pentecost Sunday				
Wesley Day – Sunday preceding/on May 24	Is 12: 1-6	Ps 130	2 Peter 1: 1-11	Mt 9: 35 - 10: 16
Asia Sunday – Sunday before Pentecost				
World Refugee Day – June 20 (or the Sunday immediately after)				
Disability Sunday – 3rd Sunday in June				

Date	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
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Matariki – Public holiday June 28, 2024

Bible Month – July. Use a Sunday in this month to promote the Scriptures (Worship and Christian Education resources available annually from the Bible Society)

Hiroshima Day

(August 6)

or **Peace Sunday**

(Sunday nearest August 6)

Micah 4: 1-4

Ps 85

2 Cor 5:
16-20

Jn 20: 19-21
or
Mt 5: 1-12

Lay Preachers' Sunday – 2nd Sunday in August

Youth Sunday – 3rd or 4th Sunday in August

Season of Creation

2024 theme: *The Word in Creation*

September 1	1st Sunday in Creation Genesis 1: 1-25	Ps 33: 1-9	Planet Earth Sunday Rom 1: 18-23	Jn 1: 1-14
September 8	2nd Sunday in Creation Genesis 1: 26-28	Ps 8	Humanity Sunday Phil 2: 1-8	Mk 10: 41-45
September 15	3rd Sunday in Creation Jer 4: 23-28	Ps 19: 1-6	Sky Sunday Phil 2: 14-18	Mk 15: 33-39
September 22	4th Sunday in Creation Is 65: 17-25	Ps 48: 1-11	Mountain Sunday Rom 8: 28-39	Mk 16: 14-18
September 29	5th Sunday in Creation St Francis of Assisi Day		Blessing of the Animals	

Online resources from www.seasonofcreation.com

Father's Day – 1st

Sunday in
September

Gen 37:
19-24, 29-35

Ps 103:
6-13

Eph 6: 1-4

Mt 1: 18-25

Maori Language Week – September 16-23 2024 (3rd week in September)

Citizenship Sunday – 4th Sunday in September

World Communion

Sunday – 1st

Sunday in October

Jer 1: 4-10

Ps 96

1 Peter 2:
4-10

Mt 28: 16-20

White Sunday – 2nd Sunday in October: Special Sunday for Samoan children and youth

Date	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
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Week of Prayer for World Peace – 2nd to 3rd Sunday in October

Industrial Sunday – Sunday preceding Labour Day (4th Monday in October).
In Methodist Churches the “Social Principles” may be read

Reformers of the Church – October 31 (or Sunday nearest)	Amos 5: 14-24	Ps 106: 1-12	1 Peter 2: 1-10	Lk 6: 46-49
Spring or Flower Services	Gen 1: 1-5, 11-13	Ps 104	1 Cor 3: 1-9	Mt 13: 24-30
Harvest Thanksgiving	Deut 26: 1-11	Ps 126	Gal 6: 6-10	Mt 13: 1-13, 18-23
Dedication of Buildings	Is 56: 1-7	Ps 150	Heb 10: 19-25	Mt 21: 12-16
Church Anniversary	Ex 13: 3-10	Ps 84	1 Peter 2: 1-5	Mt 21: 12-16
Members' Sunday	Joshua 24: 1-24	Ps 105: 1-11	1 Cor 12: 12-27	Mt 22: 1-14
Induction Service	Is 40: 1-9	Ps 96	2 Tim 1: 8-14	Mt 9: 35-38
Vocations Sunday	Jer 1: 1-10	Ps 139: 1-18, 23-24	1 Cor 12: 4-13	Mk 10: 35-45

Suggested readings for other occasional services of the church, such as Infant and Adult Baptism, Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child and Confirmation, are included in the published liturgies of the MCNZ, available from the Connexional Office and on the website.

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