

# Narrative Lectionary 2022-23

## Readings for Year 1 (Matthew)

The **preaching texts** are always listed first. During the fall, Old Testament texts are the primary vehicle for proclaiming the biblical story. The gospel readings become primary texts on the Fourth Sunday of Advent. A brief accompanying reading (selected from one of the gospels before Christmas and after Easter; selected from Psalms from Christmas through Easter) is noted in parentheses. *These accompanying readings are optional.*

September 11	<b>NL101</b> <b>Flood and Promise</b>  Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Genesis 6:5-22; 8:6-12; 9:8-17</b> Noah, the flood, and the promise of the rainbow  <i>(Matt 8:24-27, Jesus calms the storm)</i>
September 18	<b>NL102</b> <b>Call of Abraham</b>  Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Genesis 12:1-9</b> Call of Abraham, promise of land, descendants, blessing to the nations  <i>(Matt 28:19-20, Go therefore and make disciples of all nations)</i>
September 25	<b>NL103</b> <b>Joseph in Prison</b>  Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Genesis 39:1-23</b> Joseph is unjustly put in prison; yet God is present with him there  <i>(Matt 5:11-12, Blessed are you when people revile you)</i>
October 2	<b>NL104</b> <b>Rescue at the Sea</b>  Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Exodus 14:5-7, 10-14, 21-29</b> The sea parts at the exodus; God's deliverance  <i>(Matt 2:13-15, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus in Egypt, out of Egypt have I called my son)</i>
October 9	<b>NL105</b> <b>Covenant and Commandments</b>  Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17</b> God brings Israel as on eagle's wings; Decalogue  <i>(Matt 5:17, Jesus came not to abolish the law and prophets but to fulfill them)</i>
October 16	<b>NL106</b> <b>Joshua Renews the Covenant</b>  Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost	<b>Joshua 24:1-15 [16-26]</b> Story of God's deliverance. Joshua says, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord"  <i>(Matt 4:8-10, Satan offers Jesus all kingdoms, but Jesus says "Worship God and serve only him")</i>

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October 23	<p><b>NL107</b>  <b>David and Bathsheba</b></p> <p>Twentieth Sunday  after Pentecost</p>	<p><b>2 Samuel 11:1-5, 26-27; 12:1-9; Psalm 51:1-9</b>  Nathan’s parable indicts David after his sin with Bathsheba. David is moved to repent.</p> <p><i>(Matt 21:33-41, Parable about the wicked tenants)</i></p>
October 30	<p><b>NL108</b>  <b>Solomon's Wisdom</b></p> <p>Twenty-first Sunday  after Pentecost</p>	<p><b>1 Kings 3:4-9, (10-15), 16-28</b>  Solomon prays for wisdom; two women and a child</p> <p><i>(Matt 6:9-10, Pray in this way, “Our Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come...”)</i></p>
November 6	<p><b>NL109</b>  <b>Elisha Heals Naaman</b></p> <p>Twenty-second  Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<p><b>2 Kings 5:1-15a</b>  Elisha heals Naaman, a foreigner and leper</p> <p><i>(Matt 8:2-3, Jesus heals a leper, “I will, be clean”)</i></p>
November 13	<p><b>NL110</b>  <b>Micah</b></p> <p>Twenty-third Sunday  after Pentecost</p>	<p><b>Micah [1:3-5]; 5:2-5a; 6:6-8</b>  God promises a ruler from Bethlehem; desires justice, kindness, walking humbly with God</p> <p><i>(Matt 9:13, God wants mercy, not sacrifice)</i></p>
November 20	<p><b>NL111</b>  <b>Swords into Plowshares</b></p> <p>Christ the King / Reign  of Christ Sunday</p>	<p><b>Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7; then 2:1-4</b>  Assyria threatens Jerusalem and King Hezekiah despairs. Isaiah says the city will be saved and nations will beat swords into plowshares.</p> <p><i>(Matt 5:14, light of the world, city on a hill)</i></p>
November 27	<p><b>NL113</b>  <b>Faith as a Way of Life</b></p> <p>First Sunday of  Advent</p>	<p><b>Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:[3b-6], 17-19</b>  The prophet, grieved by injustice/suffering, watches for God’s reply. Faith is a way of life, not an answer.</p> <p><i>(Matt 26:36-38; In Gethsemane Jesus is grieved and asks disciples to watch with him)</i></p>
December 4	<p><b>NL114</b>  <b>Esther</b></p> <p>Second Sunday of  Advent</p>	<p><b>Esther 4:1-17</b>  For such a time as this, Esther was made queen.</p> <p><i>(Matt 5:13-16, Salt and light)</i></p>

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December	11	<b>NL115</b> <b>Light to the Nations</b>  Third Sunday of Advent	<b>Isaiah 42:1-9</b> Through the Spirit, God's servant will be a light to the nations, bringing release to prisoners.  <i>(Matt 12:15-21, The ministry of Jesus)</i>
December	18	<b>NL116</b> <b>Jesus as Immanuel</b>  Fourth Sunday of Advent	<b>Matthew 1:18-25</b> Announcement of Jesus' birth to Joseph; Jesus will be Immanuel  <i>(Psalm 23:1-4, or 23:4 )</i>
December	24	<b>NL117</b> <b>Birth of Jesus</b>  Christmas Eve	<b>Luke 2:1-14, [15-20]</b> Birth of Jesus  <i>(Psalm 96:10-13)</i>
December	25	<b>NL118</b> <b>Shepherds Visit</b>  Christmas Day	<b>Luke 2:8-20</b> Shepherds visit the infant Jesus.  <i>(Psalm 95:6-7)</i>
January	1	<b>NL119</b> <b>Genealogy of Jesus</b>  First Sunday of Christmas	<b>Matthew 1:1-17</b> The genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham  <i>(Psalm 132:11-12)</i>
January	8	<b>NL121</b> <b>Jesus' Baptism: Matthew</b>  First Sunday after Epiphany	<b>Matthew 3:1-17</b> John the Baptist, Jesus is baptized to fulfill all righteousness  <i>(Psalm 2:7-8)</i>
January	15	<b>NL122</b> <b>Tempted in the Wilderness</b>  Second Sunday after Epiphany	<b>Matthew 4:1-17</b> Jesus tempted in the wilderness  <i>(Psalm 91:9-12)</i>
January	22	<b>NL123</b> <b>Beatitudes</b>  Third Sunday after Epiphany	<b>Matthew 5:1-20</b> Beatitudes, salt of the earth, let your light shine  <i>(Psalm 1:1-3)</i>

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January	29	<b>NL124</b> <b>Treasure in Heaven</b>  Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	<b>Matthew 6:7-21 [25-34]</b> Lord's prayer, treasure in heaven <i>and/or Matt 6:25-34, Lilies of the field</i>  <i>(Psalm 20:7)</i>
February	5	<b>NL125</b> <b>The Golden Rule</b>  Fifth Sunday after Epiphany	<b>Matthew 7:1-14, 24-29</b> Speck in the eye, narrow gate, wise man builds house on rock  <i>(Psalm 37:16-18)</i>
February	12	<b>NL126</b> <b>Parables of the Kingdom</b>  Sixth Sunday after Epiphany	<b>Matthew 13:24-43</b>  Parable of wheat and weeds  <i>(Psalm 84:1-7)</i>
February	19	<b>NL129</b> <b>Transfiguration</b>  Transfiguration	<b>Matthew 16:24--17:8</b> Passion prediction, bearing the cross, Transfiguration  <i>(Psalm 41:7-10)</i>
February	22	<b>NL130</b> <b>Who Is the Greatest?</b>  Ash Wednesday	<b>Matthew 18:1-9</b> Debate about who is the greatest, become like a child; if your right hand causes sin cut it off  <i>(Psalm 146:7c-10 or 51:1-3)</i>
February	26	<b>NL131</b> <b>Forgiveness</b>  First Sunday in Lent	<b>Matthew 18:15-35</b> Church discipline, forgiving 70 times 7, parable of unforgiving servant  <i>(Psalm 32:1-2)</i>
March	5	<b>NL132</b> <b>Laborers in the Vineyard</b>  Second Sunday in Lent	<b>Matthew 20:1-16</b> Parable of laborers in vineyard  <i>(Psalm 16:5-8)</i>
March	12	<b>NL133</b> <b>Wedding Banquet</b>  Third Sunday in Lent	<b>Matthew 22:1-14</b> Parable of wedding banquet  <i>(Psalm 45:6-7)</i>

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March	19	<b>NL134 Bridesmaids (or Talents)</b>  Fourth Sunday in Lent	<b>Matthew 25:1-13</b> Parable of the bridesmaids  <i>and/or Matt 25:14-30, Parable of the talents</i>  <i>(Psalm 43:3-4)</i>
March	26	<b>NL135 Last Judgment</b>  Fifth Sunday in Lent	<b>Matthew 25:31-46</b> Parable of the last judgment  <i>(Psalm 98:7-9)</i>
April	2	<b>NL136 Triumphal Entry</b>  Palm Sunday	<b>Matthew 21:1-17</b> Triumphal entry, cleansing the temple  <i>(Psalm 118:25-29)</i>
April	6	<b>NL137 Words of Institution</b>  Maundy Thursday	<b>Matthew 26:17-30</b> Preparing for the Last Supper, mention of betrayal, Words of Institution  <i>(Psalm 116:12-15)</i>
April	7	<b>NL138 Crucifixion: Matthew</b>  Good Friday	<b>Matthew 27:27-61</b> Crucifixion; "My God, my God why have you forsaken me?"  <i>(Psalm 22:1-2, [14-18])</i>
April	9	<b>NL139 Easter: Matthew</b>  Easter	<b>Matthew 28:1-10</b> Resurrection, empty tomb, women encounter the risen Jesus  <i>(Psalm 118:19-24)</i>
April	16	<b>NL140 Great Commission</b>  Second Sunday of Easter	<b>Matthew 28:16-20</b> Great commission, Go therefore and make disciples of all nations  <i>(Psalm 40:9-10)</i>
April	23	<b>NL141 Peter's Vision</b>  Third Sunday of Easter	<b>Acts 10:1-17, 34-48</b> Peter's vision show how God cleanses people of every nation  <i>(Matt 9:36-37)</i>

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April	30	<b>NL142 Paul's Mission</b>  Fourth Sunday of Easter	<b>Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-18</b> Beginning of Paul's mission. Healing at Lystra, gospel to the Gentile world  <i>(Matt 10:40-42)</i>
May	7	<b>NL143 Gospel as Salvation</b>  Fifth Sunday of Easter	<b>Romans 1:1-17</b> Gospel as power of God for salvation to all, both Jews and Greeks  <i>(Matt 9:10-13)</i>
May	14	<b>NL144 God's Love Poured Out</b>  Sixth Sunday of Easter	<b>Romans [3:28-30] 5:1-11</b> God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit; Christ died for the ungodly  <i>(Matt 11:28-30)</i>
May	21	<b>NL145 Hope of Resurrection</b>  Seventh Sunday of Easter	<b>Romans 6:1-14</b> We were buried with him by baptism into death, so that we might walk in newness of life. Hope of resurrection.  <i>(Matt 6:24)</i>
May	28	<b>NL146 Nothing Can Separate Us</b>  Pentecost	<b>Acts 2:1-4</b> Pentecost  <b>Romans 8:14-39</b> The groaning of creation, Spirit helps us in our weakness, nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus  <i>(Matt 28:16-20)</i>