

*Kemsing
Woodlands*

**Bible Tour
2014**

Itinerary

(daily reading plan)

How to use this book

This book gives you the reading plan for the 2014 Bible Tour.

Each week is on a separate page, headed by the Sunday that begins the week.

Each day, from **Sunday to Friday** is laid out like the box on the right.

First, there is a checkbox (to tick when you've read the readings for that day), then the date.

Beneath that are 3 Bible readings for the day (or 4 on Sundays).

	Sunday 12th
	Gen 24:1-61
	Gen 24:1-4, 10-21, 59-61
	Matt 5:13-20
	Acts 5:7-16

- **In red, is the full reading from the Old Testament.** These guide you through reading the whole Old Testament, averaging about 1700 words per day. (The average British reader reads at 250 words per minute, so this would take about 7 minutes straight reading. It takes as long as you want to read thoughtfully!)
- **In green, is the abridged reading from the Old Testament.** These guide you through reading a quarter of the Old Testament (about 2 minutes per day straight reading time). The abridged readings are always taken from the full reading for the day. This allows you to switch between the full and abridged readings, because the two schemes keep pace with each other.
- **In blue, is a reading from one of the 4 gospels.** Each day, there is a New Testament reading as well as an Old Testament one. This is either from one of the 4 gospels, or from the rest of the New Testament. On average, these NT readings are 300 words in length.
- **In purple, is a reading from Acts or one of the epistles.** There are 4 readings given on Sundays rather than 3. Instead of a reading from either a gospel or an epistle, there is a shorter reading from both.
- The Old Testament readings do not include the Psalms. **The Psalms are divided across the 52 weeks, and printed on each week's page in brown.** Work out for yourself when you would like to read the week's Psalms—possibly on Sundays, a little each day, or on Saturdays.

No readings are given for **Saturdays**. This is deliberate. This Bible Tour aims to be realistic; most people manage to read 6 days out of 7. There is usually at least one day with a different routine. If you're still on top of things by Saturday, you could spend the time on Saturday prayerfully looking back over what you've read in the week. If you've got behind, Saturday gives you the chance to catch up.

At the top of each page is a sentence from the Bible that reminds us why reading, marking, learning and inwardly digesting the Bible is such a good thing to do.

At the bottom of each page is the Church of England's "Collect" (set prayer) for the week. You may find these short, carefully crafted prayers helpful.

How to read the Bible

Anyone can read the Bible. We are fortunate to have it in our own language.

However our aim is to read profitably, not simply reading the words on the page

1. Plan where and when to read. A regular timeslot each day helps the discipline of daily reading. If possible, choose a time and place where you won't be disturbed. If your chosen time is your morning commute, or if you are always surrounded by young children, this may well not be possible!
2. Pray. Ask God to help you understand what you read.
3. Read the Bible passages.
4. Ask a few simple questions as you read: What does this tell me about God? What does this tell me about humanity? Are there any promises here to trust? Are there any commands here to obey? What is the main message of this passage? What questions would I like answers to?
5. Keep a notebook (or use Evernote). Jot down the main things that have struck you, and the questions you have not been able to answer.
6. Pray again. Ask God to help you put what you've understood into practice. Ask God to help you understand the things that were not clear. Pray for friends, family, and situations in the news in the light of what you've read—what would God's priorities be for those situations.
7. Share Tell someone else what struck, encouraged or challenged you.

If you get behind, don't feel guilty and give up. Skip a few days and carry on!

Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it. (Luke 11:28)

29th December 2013

First Sunday of Christmas

As you prepare to read right through God's Word, the Bible, spend some time in prayer. Amongst your other prayers, you may like to ask God for some of these:

- ◇ Pray that you would understand what you read
- ◇ Pray that you would get to know God more and more through his word.
- ◇ Pray that you would notice things in the Bible you've never seen before.
 - ◇ Pray that you would be able to live out what you discover.
 - ◇ Pray for opportunities to share what you find with others.

(The OT readings are a little shorter for the first two days; the first 3 chapters of the Bible are so important to set the scene that it's worth not rushing them.)

	Wednesday 1st
	<p>Gen 1 Gen 1:1-10, 26-31 Acts 1</p>

	Thursday 2nd
	<p>Gen 2 Gen 2:1-9, 16-25 Matt 1</p>

	Friday 3rd
	<p>Gen 3:1-6:8 Gen 3:1-19 Acts 2:1-28</p>

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity.

Reading Guides

Lots of long names!

As you read the Old Testament, you frequently find lots of names that are practically unpronounceable.

These names have put many people off reading the Bible, but they do not need to.

Those names have to be there. The Bible is not a set of abstract ideas, but God making himself known through his dealings with people in a particular time and place. We'll think more about this in our "crossing cultures" reading guide. The events recorded in the Bible took place in real places, and involved people with real names. So the Bible uses their names. This would be no different if you were reading a novel set in 18th century China.

Furthermore, it's inevitable that you sometimes find long lists of names. The Bible contains many types of literature. Alongside the obvious ones like narrative and prophecy, there are architectural blueprints, census data, and geographic boundaries recorded for civic purposes.

But there's no need to be put off. These writings were preserved into the ancient Hebrew Scriptures because they conveyed important messages that needed to be passed down, and that we need to hear today. The names themselves are not the point—the message of the passage containing the names is.

And don't be worried about how to pronounce them. Just guess, and move on. The chances are that even the experts do not know (for most of the names).

Having said that, do notice what's there. Sometimes, the same people and places pop up again later, and noticing that may reveal connections you'd otherwise miss.



The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands for ever. (Isaiah 40:8)

5th January 2014

Second Sunday of Christmas

Psalms for the Week	
Ps 1-5	

Sunday 5th	
Gen 6:9-9:17 Gen 9:1-17 Matt 2:1-16 Acts 2:29-41	

Monday 6th	
Gen 9:18-12:20 Gen 11:1-9; 12:1-9 Acts 2:42-3:26	

Tuesday 7th	
Gen 13-16 Gen 15 Matt 2:17-3:17	

Wednesday 8th	
Gen 17-18 Gen 17:1-17 Acts 4:1-22	

Thursday 9th	
Gen 19:1-21:7 Gen 18:22-33; 21:1-7 Matt 4:1-5:12	

Friday 10th	
Gen 21:8-23:20 Gen 22:1-2, 6-19 Acts 4:23-5:6	

Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love: help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy.

O Sovereign LORD, you are God! Your words are trustworthy (2 Samuel 7:28)

12nd January 2014

First Sunday of Epiphany

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 6-8

	Sunday 12th
	Gen 24:1-61 Gen 24:1-4, 10-21, 59-61 Matt 5:13-20 Acts 5:7-16

	Monday 13th
	Gen 24:62-26:35 Gen 25:19-26:5 Acts 5:17-42

	Tuesday 14th
	Gen 27-28 Gen 27:5-13, 26-35 Matt 5:21-48

	Wednesday 15th
	Gen 29:1-31:3 Gen 29:21-30:1 Acts 6:1-7:8

	Thursday 16th
	Gen 31:4-32:21 Gen 31:6-16; 32:1-6 Matt 6:1-24

	Friday 17th
	Gen 32:22-34:31 Gen 32:22-33:9 Acts 7:9-29

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children.



Reading Guides

The Old Testament



Reading the Old Testament can seem strange. Somehow, it feels less directly relevant to us today.

Partly, this is cultural. The Old Testament tells the story of the people of Israel for 1500 years before Christ; they were a Middle Eastern people, and the Old Testament was written in the Semitic languages of Hebrew and Aramaic. By comparison, the New Testament is written in a European language, ancient colloquial Greek, and is in our world.



But there's more to it than this. It is less *directly* relevant, which is not the same as saying it is less *relevant*.

The Old Testament tells of God's dealings with his people before Jesus came. When Jesus came, he taught that he did not come to abolish the Old Testament, but to fulfil it (Matthew 5:17). He said it was all about him (John 5:39).



So as New Testament Christians, Jesus tells us to read and obey the Old Testament. But we don't read it as pre-Christian Israelites, but as Christian people. Jesus has brought it to fulfilment, so it now has a fuller meaning that it would have had before. So as we read we ask:



- What was this passage saying to the people it was originally written for?
- How has the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and the sending of the Spirit, brought that original message to fulfilment?
- So what is it saying to us today?



What God said, he still says. But we read the Old Testament through the lens of the coming of Jesus.

You have the words of eternal life. (John 6:68)

19th January 2014

Second Sunday of Epiphany

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 9-11

	Sunday 19th
	Gen 35:1-37:11 Gen 35:9-15; 37:1-11 Matt 6:25-7:11 Acts 7:30-41

	Monday 20th
	Gen 37:12-39:23 Gen 37:18-28; 39:11-21 Acts 7:42-60

	Tuesday 21st
	Gen 40-41 Gen 41:1-8, 25-34 Matt 7:12-8:4

	Wednesday 22nd
	Gen 42-43 Gen 42:1-20 Acts 8:1-24

	Thursday 23rd
	Gen 44-45 Gen 45:1-15 Matt 8:5-34

	Friday 24th
	Gen 46-47 Gen 46:28-47:6 Acts 8:25-9:9

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory.



Reading Guides

The book of Acts



The book of Acts is the second volume of Luke’s gospel. Its full title is “The Acts of the Apostles”, although this was a title added to the book rather than chosen by its author. Some people have remarked that “The Acts of the Holy Spirit” would be a better title—now that Jesus has left the earth, the era of the Spirit began.



However, a better title would be “The Acts of Jesus, volume 2”. In Acts 1:1, Luke says that his first volume concerned all Jesus *began* to do and teach until he returned to heaven. The implication is that Acts concerns all he *continued* to do after his ascension. Some of the sermons in the early chapters make clear that, because Jesus is alive, he is as active as he was during his earthly ministry.



In Acts 1:8, Jesus tells his apostles that they will bear witness to him in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth. As the book unfolds, we see “the word of God spread” (a refrain of Luke’s), breaking these successive geographical boundaries that are so significant.



The book ends with Paul in Rome, preaching under house-arrest. Has the gospel reached the ends of the earth? The question is open. On the one hand, to have reached Rome is to have reached anywhere. On the other hand, so many destinations remain unreached; the readers take over.



As with all biblical narrative, we mustn’t forget that not everything which happens is recorded because it should have happened. Instead, Luke is a careful narrator and historian (see Luke 1:1-3), who tells how Jesus ensured the spread of the gospel and the establishment of his church. The account is told so that we might learn valuable lessons about how these things should happen in our own day.

I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. (Jeremiah 31:33)

26th January 2014

Third Sunday of Epiphany

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 12-16

	Sunday 26th
	Gen 48-50 Gen 49:1-7; 50:15-26 Matt 9:1-13 Acts 9:10-19a

	Monday 27th
	Exod 1-3 Exod 1:8-14; 2:23-3:6 Acts 9:19b-43

	Tuesday 28th
	Exod 4:1-6:13 Exod 6:1-13 Matt 9:14-10:4

	Wednesday 29th
	Exod 6:14-8:32 Exod 8:14-25 Acts 10:1-23a

	Thursday 30th
	Exod 9:1-10:20 Exod 9:1-7; 10:21-29 Matt 10:5-39

	Friday 31st
	Exod 10:21-12:42 Exod 12:1-13, 29-32 Acts 10:23b-48

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power.

*When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's
delight. (Jeremiah 15:16)*

2nd February 2014

Presentation of Christ

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 17:1-18:30

	Sunday 2nd
	Exod 12:43-14:31 Exod 14:1-4, 19-31 Matt 10:40-11:10 Acts 11:1-18

	Monday 3rd
	Exod 15-16 Exod 16:1-8, 31-36 Acts 11:19-12:5

	Tuesday 4th
	Exod 17-19 Exod 19:1-15 Matt 11:11-12:8

	Wednesday 5th
	Exod 20:1-22:15 Exod 20:1-21 Acts 12:6-24

	Thursday 6th
	Exod 22:16-24:18 Exod 24 Matt 12:9-37

	Friday 7th
	Exod 25-26 Exod 25:1-22 Acts 12:25-13:20

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts.

Reading Guides

The Laws

A sizeable proportion of the Pentateuch (the first 5 books of the Bible) contains laws for the people to follow. The second half of Exodus, almost all of Leviticus, the middle of Numbers and most of Deuteronomy are laws.

There are two summaries of the law within these portions of the Old Testament. One is the ten commandments. The laws begin at Exodus 20 as God gives these “ten words”, inscribed with the finger of God; what follows next is intended to elaborate. When Jesus was asked to summarise the law, he answered by quoting from Deuteronomy 6 and Leviticus 19 (the commands to love God and neighbour), which function as summaries within their own contexts.

The laws can feel antiquated and strange to our ears, because they were not written for our society. Down the centuries, Christian thinkers have wrestled with how to work out the relevance of these laws for our time. One popular approach is to say that some laws are ceremonial (relating to sacrifices and other rituals), others are civil (relating to Israel’s life as a nation) and others are ethical. It is then said that Jesus’ death has fulfilled the ceremonial laws, and the civil laws no longer apply because the church is no longer one nation. We are left with the ethical laws.

The problem is that few of the laws are wholly in one category. It’s better to say that the whole law has all 3 aspects; Jesus’ coming has filled all the laws with their fullest meaning (“fulfilled” them), and that all of them teach us something about how we should live today. We don’t discard any laws, neither do we obey them as though they were written first to us. Instead, we work what truths the laws taught about God and his ways, and how we should correspondingly live in the light of the same truths today.



He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. (Luke 24:27)

9th February 2014

Fourth Sunday before Lent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 18:31-20:9

	Sunday 9th
	Exod 27-28 Exod 27:20-28:14 Matt 12:38-50 Acts 13:21-31

	Monday 10th
	Exod 29:1-30:21 Exod 30:1-16 Acts 13:32-52

	Tuesday 11th
	Exod 30:22-32:35 Exod 32:1-14 Matt 13:1-30

	Wednesday 12th
	Exod 33-34 Exod 33:7-23 Acts 14

	Thursday 13th
	Exod 35-36 Exod 35:30-36:9 Matt 13:31-58

	Friday 14th
	Exod 37-38 Exod 37:1-9; 38:21-31 Acts 15:1-21

O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations

I rejoice in your promise like one who finds great spoil. (Psalm 119:162)

16th February 2014

Third Sunday before Lent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 21-22

	Sunday 16th
	Exod 39-40 Exod 40:16-38 Matt 14:1-12 Acts 15:22-35

	Monday 17th
	Lev 1:1-4:12 Lev 1 Acts 15:36-16:15

	Tuesday 18th
	Lev 4:13-6:7 Lev 5:14-6:7 Matt 14:13-15:9

	Wednesday 19th
	Lev 6:8-7:38 Lev 7:22-38 Acts 16:16-40

	Thursday 20th
	Lev 8-9 Lev 8:1-9; 9:15-24 Matt 15:10-16:4

	Friday 21st
	Lev 10-11 Lev 10:1-15 Acts 17:1-21

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found.

Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. (Proverbs 30:5)

23th February 2014

Second Sunday before Lent

	Psalms for the Week
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	Ps 23-26
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	Sunday 23rd
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	Sunday 23rd
	Lev 12:1-13:44 Lev 13:1-8, 40-46 Matt 16:5-20 Acts 17:22-31

	Monday 24th
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	Monday 24th
	Lev 13:45-14:32 Lev 14:1-9 Acts 17:32-18:17

	Tuesday 25th
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	Tuesday 25th
	Lev 14:33-15:33 Lev 15:1-15 Matt 16:21-17:13

	Wednesday 26th
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	Wednesday 26th
	Lev 16-17 Lev 16:1-14 Acts 18:18-19:10

	Thursday 27th
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	Thursday 27th
	Lev 18:1-20:9 Lev 19:1-18 Matt 17:14-18:9

	Friday 28th
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	Friday 28th
	Lev 20:10-22:33 Lev 20:10-27 Acts 19:11-34

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children.

Reading Guides

Cross-cultural reading

Every one of the Bible's 66 books was written for people in a different culture than our own. This can make it seem somehow less relevant. We need to realise that this is how God speaks; what he said is of course relevant today, but its relevance comes from what he said to the first readers.

To understand this, we have to look at the person of Jesus. Jesus is called "the word" (John 1:1-3), because he is the one through whom God made himself known once and for all time (Hebrews 1:1-2). God spoke at many times and in various ways before Jesus came, but this all led up to God the Son becoming a real human being; God spoke to us by becoming one of us.

But, by necessity, God had to do this in one time and place, and in one culture. For Jesus to be a real human being, he had to belong to one particular nation, speak one specific language, and live in one generation. Yet this does not prevent him being the Word of God incarnate for all people around the world in every period of history. By making himself known to one culture, God has revealed himself for every culture.

Once we've seen that this is how God's incarnate word works, we can then see that God's written word is just the same. God said something to a particular group of people at a specific moment of history. And yet by speaking to them, he has spoken to all people since. Indeed, Jesus was not from the same culture as the first author of Exodus, and yet he subjected himself to Exodus 3 as the word of God (in Matthew 22:31).

So the Bible is God's speech to a particular people. But by hearing what God said to them we hear what he says to us.



Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of
God. (Ephesians 6:17)

2nd March 2014

Sunday before Lent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 27-29

	Sunday 2nd
	Lev 23-24 Lev 23:1-14 Matt 18:10-22 Acts 19:35-41

	Monday 3rd
	Lev 25:1-26:13 Lev 25:1-17 Acts 20:1-16

	Tuesday 4th
	Lev 26:14-27:34 Lev 26:14-33 Matt 18:23-19:15

	Wednesday 5th
	Num 1-2 Num 1:1-3, 40-54 Acts 20:17-38

	Thursday 6th
	Num 3:1-4:16 Num 3:5-26 Matt 19:16-20:16

	Friday 7th
	Num 4:17-5:31 Num 4:42-5:10 Acts 21:1-26

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory.

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. (Psalm 119:11)

9th March 2014

First Sunday in Lent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 30-31

	Sunday 9th
	Num 6:1-7:53 Num 6:1-15 Matt 20:17-28 Acts 21:27-40

	Monday 10th
	Num 7:54-9:14 Num 8:23-9:14 Acts 22:1-21

	Tuesday 11th
	Num 9:15-11:15 Num 10:11-16; 10:33-11:9 Matt 20:29-21:17

	Wednesday 12th
	Num 11:16-13:33 Num 13:1-3, 21-33 Acts 22:22-23:5

	Thursday 13th
	Num 14:1-15:21 Num 14:1-19 Matt 21:18-41

	Friday 14th
	Num 15:22-16:40 Num 16:1-3, 20-35 Acts 23:6-22

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save.

Is not my word like fire and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces? (Jeremiah 23:29)

16th March 2014

Second Sunday in Lent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 32-34

	Sunday 16th
	Num 16:41-18:32 Num 17 Matt 21:42-22:10 Acts 23:23-35

	Monday 17th
	Num 19:1-21:9 Num 20:1-13 Acts 24:1-21

	Tuesday 18th
	Num 21:10-22:41 Num 21:21-35; 22:1-6 Matt 22:11-46

	Wednesday 19th
	Num 23-25 Num 24:1-19 Acts 24:22-25:12

	Thursday 20th
	Num 26-27 Num 26:1-4; 27:1-11 Matt 23:1-28

	Friday 21st
	Num 28-29 Num 27:12-28:8 Acts 25:13-26:8

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same.

Reading Guides

The Psalms

The book of Psalms contains 150 songs and prayers. Many of them (74) are explicitly ascribed “of David”, probably indicating that he wrote them. A number of others are attributed to key leaders in the temple-worship that David set up—either the priests (Korah) or the musicians (Asaph).

Our single book of Psalms has long been divided into 5 books (1-41, 42-72, 73-89, 90-106, 107-150). Each of these “books” has a distinctive flavour and theme, and within them we often find groupings of similar psalms. It seems that the final collection was compiled about the time of the Babylonian exile (587 BC) or the return (about 535 BC).

Psalms contains many different types of prayers—there are songs of praise to God, cries of despair, lament following great suffering, prayers confessing sin, and many others besides. At one level the psalms give us instruction in how to pray to God; we find prayers for every season – prayers that are explicitly tied into the grand story and themes of God’s rescue of his people.

At another level, the psalms are in the Bible because they are part of God’s word to us. They instruct us about prayer, but also tell us how God’s purposes impact our daily and corporate life.

A key theme of the Psalms is God’s anointed king (in those days, kings were anointed rather than crowned). King David was promised that another anointed one (a “Messiah”) would descend from his line. There are psalms, about the anointed king, that are too big for David alone to fill. There are psalms prayed by the anointed king that Jesus would have prayed. And there are psalms for the people to sing, because they have an anointed king.



I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my daily bread. (Job 23:12)

23th March 2014

Third Sunday in Lent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 35-36

	Sunday 23rd
	Num 30-31 Num 30:3-15 Matt 23:29-24:2 Acts 26:9-18

	Monday 24th
	Num 32-33 Num 32:1-19 Acts 26:19-32

	Tuesday 25th
	Num 34-36 Num 35:1-15 Matt 24:3-35

	Wednesday 26th
	Deut 1:1-2:25 Deut 1:1-8, 34-40 Acts 27:1-20

	Thursday 27th
	Deut 2:26-4:14 Deut 4:1-14 Matt 24:36-13

	Friday 28th
	Deut 4:15-5:33 Deut 4:15-31 Acts 27:21-44

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace.

This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well-pleased. Listen to him! (Matthew 17:5)

30th March 2014

Fourth Sunday in Lent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 37-38

	Sunday 30th
	Deut 6-7 Deut 6:1-15 Matt 25:14-30 Acts 28:1-10

	Monday 31st
	Deut 8-9 Deut 9:1-12 Acts 28:11-31

	Tuesday 1st
	Deut 10-11 Deut 11:8-21 Matt 25:31-26:13

	Wednesday 2nd
	Deut 12-13 Deut 12:1-14 Rom 1:1-25

	Thursday 3rd
	Deut 14:1-16:8 Deut 14:1-23 Matt 26:14-38

	Friday 4th
	Deut 16:9-18:22 Deut 17:14-18:8 Rom 1:26-2:16

Merciful Lord, absolve your people from their offences, that through your bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the chains of those sins which by our frailty we have committed; grant this, heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake.

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! (Psalm 119:103)

6th April 2014

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Psalms for the Week	
Ps 39-41	

Sunday 6th
Deut 19:1-21:21 Deut 19:15-20:9 Matt 26:39-56 Rom 2:17-29

Monday 7th
Deut 21:22-24:4 Deut 22:13-21; 24:1-4 Rom 3

Tuesday 8th
Deut 24:5-26:19 Deut 25:5-19 Matt 26:57-27:10

Wednesday 9th
Deut 27:1-28:44 Deut 28:1-6, 15-24 Rom 4:1-19

Thursday 10th
Deut 28:45-29:29 Deut 29:10-22 Matt 27:11-44

Friday 11th
Deut 30:1-31:29 Deut 30:11-31:6 Rom 4:20-5:17

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory.

Reading Guides

Old Testament Narratives

A sizeable proportion of the Old Testament is narrative.

The important thing to remember about narratives is that they describe what happened, not what should have happened or what will always happen.

No story (including biblical narrative) is ever told in a purely unbiased way. The narrator is wanting to teach something by recording the events they record. Just as a write-up of a football match in a local paper or on the web will be selective, the biblical narrators have to choose which details to include and what to exclude. What they wish to communicate will determine how they do this.

Seen in this way, biblical narratives are not events that need interpreting; they record the divine interpretation of the historical events they record.

It is important to realise that any narrative acts on a number of levels, which can be thought of concentrically. At its most basic, each account describes a scene involving God and a number of people. But that scene has significance within the biblical book it occurs in, which in turn gives it significance within the whole Old Testament story of God and Israel. That then places the individual scene in the grand drama of God's purposes for his creation, which centres on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus..

As you look for what the narrator is seeking to communicate, remember that the Bible is first and foremost a book about God. He is always the hero of the story, and the Old Testament narratives record God working his purposes out. Before looking for characters in the story that resemble you, ask what we are being taught about God. That is where the relevance for us will then be found.



Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. (Psalm 119:97)

13th April 2014

Palm Sunday

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 42-44

	Sunday 13th
	Deut 31:30-34:12 Deut 32:48-52; 34:1-12 Matt 27:45-56 Rom 5:18-6:11

	Monday 14th
	Jos 1-3 Josh 1:1-9; 3:14-17 Rom 6:12-7:6

	Tuesday 15th
	Jos 4-6 Josh 6:8-21 Matt 27:57-28:20

	Wednesday 16th
	Jos 7:1-8:29 Josh 7:10-12, 16-26 Rom 7:7-8:8

	Thursday 17th
	Jos 8:30-10:28 Josh 9:3-6, 12-21 Mk 1:1-34

	Friday 18th
	Jos 10:29-13:7 Josh 10:29-37; 13:1-7 Rom 8:9-30

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection.

The words of the LORD are flawless, like silver refined in a furnace of clay, purified seven times. (Psalm 12:6)

20th April 2014

Easter Day

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 45-48

	Sunday 20th
	Jos 13:8-15:63 Josh 14 Mk 1:35-45 Rom 8:31-9:5

	Monday 21st
	Jos 16:1-19:16 Josh 18:11-28 Rom 9:6-29

	Tuesday 22nd
	Jos 19:17-21:45 Josh 20:1-21:3 Mk 2

	Wednesday 23rd
	Jos 22 Josh 22:10-12, 21-29 Rom 9:30-10:21

	Thursday 24th
	Jos 23-24 Josh 24:1, 14-28 Mk 3:1-30

	Friday 25th
	Jdg 1:1-3:6 Judg 2:10-23 Rom 11:1-24

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory.



Reading Guides

Finding Jesus in the OT



As Christians, we read the Old Testament because Jesus taught us to do so, and because he modelled an attitude of humble submission to it as the Word of God. He also taught that it testifies about him. So where is he in it?

Those looking for Jesus often turn to two blind allies. The first is *just* to look at the *explicit* prophecies about him.

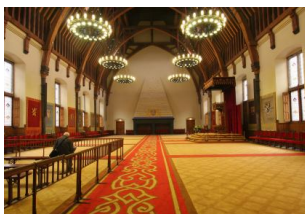


Yes, there are an impressive number of direct prophecies: The Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, be anointed by the Spirit to bring good news to the poor, die under God's judgement, be buried in a rich-man's tomb, and rise on the third day. But this is a tiny portion of the OT.



The other mistake is to look in obscure and fanciful details, treating the OT as if it needs to be decoded like a cryptic crossword. The problem here is that it looks for Jesus in strange places, not in the plain meaning of what God originally said.

It's better to see the OT as Jesus did: The whole book leads to him, as all roads led to Rome. We then find him in a number of ways. Here are some examples:



- There are some longstanding themes in the OT. As those themes run through, they climax in Jesus.
- There are types and shadows—structures and institutions (like temple, monarchy and the sacrificial system), anticipating the reality—which is Jesus.
- There are promises that Jesus fulfilled.
- Sometimes we are in an equivalent position in our relationship to Christ, as they were to God.
- The grand storyline of the OT is heading to Jesus.



When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight. (Jeremiah 15:16)

27th April 2014

Second Sunday of Easter

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 49-50

	Sunday 27th
	Jdg 3:7-4:24 Judg 3:12-30 Mk 3:31-4:12 Rom 11:25-36

	Monday 28th
	Jdg 5:1-6:35 Judg 6:11-24 Rom 12:1-13:7

	Tuesday 29th
	Jdg 6:36-8:28 Judg 7:4-8, 19-24 Mk 4:13-41

	Wednesday 30th
	Jdg 8:29-9:57 Judg 8:29-9:6, 50-57 Rom 13:8-14:23

	Thursday 1st
	Jdg 10-11 Judg 10:6-16 Mk 5:1-34

	Friday 2nd
	Jdg 12-14 Judg 13:1-14 Rom 15:1-21

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth.

The law of his God is in his heart; his feet do not slip. (Psalm 37:31)

4th May 2014

Third Sunday of Easter

Psalms for the Week	
Ps 51-53	

Sunday 4th
Jdg 15:1-16:22 Judg 16:4-9, 15-22 Mk 5:35-6:6 Rom 15:22-29

Monday 5th
Jdg 16:23-18:31 Judg 16:23-17:6 Rom 15:30-16:27

Tuesday 6th
Jdg 19:1-20:28 Judg 19:12-15, 22-30 Mk 6:7-29

Wednesday 7th
Jdg 20:29-21:25; Ruth 1 Ruth 1:1-7, 12-18 1 Cor 1:1-25

Thursday 8th
Ruth 2-4 Ruth 4:7-22 Mk 6:30-56

Friday 9th
1 Sam 1-2 1 Sam 1:1-17 1 Cor 1:26-3:4

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth.

You have been born again through the living and enduring word of
God. (1 Peter 1:23)

IIst May 2014

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Psalms for the Week	
Ps 54-56	

Sunday 11th
1 Sam 3:5 1 Sam 3 Mk 7:1-23 1 Cor 3:5-15

Monday 12th
1 Sam 6:1-8:18 1 Sam 8:1-18 1 Cor 3:16-4:20

Tuesday 13th
1 Sam 8:19-10:16 1 Sam 9:24b-10:8 Mk 7:24-8:13

Wednesday 14th
1 Sam 10:17-13:7 1 Sam 11:1-11 1 Cor 5

Thursday 15th
1 Sam 13:8-14:46 1 Sam 13:1-15 Mk 8:14-9:1

Friday 16th
1 Sam 14:47-16:13 1 Sam 15:1-3, 10-23 1 Cor 6:1-7:5

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above.

Send forth your light and your truth, let them guide me. (Psalm 43:3)

18th May 2014

Fifth Sunday of Easter

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 57-59

	Sunday 18th
	1 Sam 16:14-17:49 1 Sam 16:1, 11-13; 17:41-49 Mk 9:2-19 1 Cor 7:6-16

	Monday 19th
	1 Sam 17:50-19:24 1 Sam 18:1-16 1 Cor 7:17-38

	Tuesday 20th
	1 Sam 20:1-21:9 1 Sam 20:1-2, 24-34 Mk 9:20-50

	Wednesday 21st
	1 Sam 21:10-23:29 1 Sam 23:15-29 1 Cor 7:39-9:7

	Thursday 22nd
	1 Sam 24-25 1 Sam 24:1-15 Mk 10:1-31

	Friday 23rd
	1 Sam 26-28 1 Sam 27 1 Cor 9:8-10:5

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect.

Devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture. (1 Timothy 4:13)

25th May 2014

Sixth Sunday of Easter

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 60-63

	Sunday 25th
	1 Sam 29-31 1 Sam 31 Mk 10:32-45 1 Cor 10:6-22

	Monday 26th
	2 Sam 1-2 2 Sam 1:17-22; 2:1-11 1 Cor 10:23-11:16

	Tuesday 27th
	2 Sam 3:1-5:16 2 Sam 3:26-30; 5:1-12 Mk 10:46-11:19

	Wednesday 28th
	2 Sam 5:17-8:14 2 Sam 7:1-17 1 Cor 11:17-12:3

	Thursday 29th
	2 Sam 8:15-11:27 2 Sam 11:1-5, 14-25 Mk 11:20-12:17

	Friday 30th
	2 Sam 12-13 2 Sam 13:1-14, 28-29 1 Cor 12:4-31

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy.

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. (Psalm 19:7)

1st June 2014

Seventh Sunday of Easter

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 64-66

	Sunday 1st
	2 Sam 14-15 2 Sam 14:21-28; 15:7-14 Mk 12:18-34 1 Cor 13:1-12

	Monday 2nd
	2 Sam 16-17 2 Sam 16:15-17:7, 14 1 Cor 14:1-25

	Tuesday 3rd
	2 Sam 18:1-19:15 2 Sam 18:24-19:4 Mk 12:35-13:13

	Wednesday 4th
	2 Sam 19:16-20:26 2 Sam 19:16-30 1 Cor 14:26-15:11

	Thursday 5th
	2 Sam 21-22 2 Sam 21:1-10 Mk 13:14-14:9

	Friday 6th
	2 Sam 23-24 2 Sam 24:1-3, 10-17 1 Cor 15:12-41

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before.

They received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day. (Acts 17:11)

8th June 2014

Pentecost Sunday

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 67-68

	Sunday 8th
	1 Kg 1:1-2:12 1 Kg 2:1-12 Mk 14:10-21 1 Cor 15:42-15:58

	Monday 9th
	1 Kg 2:13-3:28 1 Kg 3:1-15 1 Cor 16

	Tuesday 10th
	1 Kg 4-6 1 Kg 6:1-13, 37-38 Mk 14:22-50

	Wednesday 11th
	1 Kg 7:1-8:11 1 Kg 7:1-12, 45-51 2 Cor 1:1-14

	Thursday 12th
	1 Kg 8:12-66 1 Kg 8:54-66 Mk 14:51-15:7

	Friday 13th
	1 Kg 9:1-11:8 1 Kg 10:1-9; 11:1-8 2 Cor 1:15-2:13

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort.



Reading Guides

The Divided Monarchy

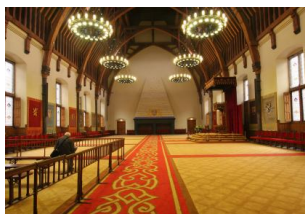
At the end of King Solomon's reign (about 930BC) there was civil war in Israel. The events were foretold to Solomon in 1 Kings 11:9-13, and a man called Jeroboam was told in 1 Kings 11:29-37 that he would be king of 10 tribes.

The events then unfolded in 1 Kings 12:1-24. Solomon's son, Rehoboam, was appointed king after Solomon. However 10 of the 12 tribes (all except Benjamin and Judah) decided to have Jeroboam as their king instead. Benjamin was a small tribe, and quickly faded from view.

From this point on, there were two kingdoms. The southern kingdom became known as Judah; it was ruled over by Rehoboam and his dynasty until the Babylonian exile in 587. The northern kingdom became known as Israel; it was ruled over initially by Jeroboam. The monarchy was not stable, and several dynasties succeeded each other until the Assyrians destroyed the kingdom in 722.

This key division gets its own "Reading Guide", because it is key to understanding many of the biblical books set after 930 BC. The books of 1 and 2 Kings follow the story of both kingdoms in parallel; the reigns of the kings of Israel and Judah are narrated, with whichever king ascended next taking the next portion of the narrative. Similarly, most of the prophets ministered either to the northern or the southern kingdom. Understanding some of this history helps to make sense of their message.

In John chapter 4, Jesus picks up on a promise made to Ezekiel in Ezekiel 37. One day, a king would come who would unify the people of God and rule over all of them. The 10 tribes were never reformed, but the inclusion of the Gentiles fulfilled this promise on a larger canvas.



Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation. (1 Peter 2:2)

15th June 2014

Trinity Sunday

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 69-70

	Sunday 15th
	1 Kg 11:9-12:24 1 Kg 11:9-10, 41-43; 12:16 -24 Mk 15:8-32 2 Cor 2:14-3:6

	Monday 16th
	1 Kg 12:25-14:18 1 Kg 12:25-30; 13:1-5 2 Cor 3:7-4:15

	Tuesday 17th
	1 Kg 14:19-16:14 1 Kg 15:9-24 Mk 15:33-16:8

	Wednesday 18th
	1 Kg 16:15-18:19 1 Kg 16:29-17:7 2 Cor 4:16-5:21

	Thursday 19th
	1 Kg 18:20-19:21 1 Kg 18:20-40 Lk 1:1-25

	Friday 20th
	1 Kg 20:1-21:16 1 Kg 21:1-16 2 Cor 6:1-7:4

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities.

Great peace have they who love your law (Psalm 119:165)

22nd June 2014

First Sunday after Trinity

Psalms for the Week	
Ps 71-72	

Sunday 22nd	
1 Kg 21:17-22:53 1 Kg 22:29-44 Lk 1:26-45 2 Cor 7:5-13a	

Monday 23rd	
2 Kg 1-2 2 Kg 2:1-14 2 Cor 7:13b-8:19	

Tuesday 24th	
2 Kg 3:1-4:37 2 Kg 4:18-37 Lk 1:46-80	

Wednesday 25th	
2 Kg 4:38-6:23 2 Kg 5:1-14 2 Cor 8:20-9:15	

Thursday 26th	
2 Kg 6:24-8:15 2 Kg 8:1-15 Lk 2:1-32	

Friday 27th	
2 Kg 8:16-9:37 2 Kg 9:1-13 2 Cor 10:1-11:6	

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed.

All Scripture is God-breathed. (2 Timothy 3:16)

29th June 2014

Second Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 73-75

	Sunday 29th
	2 Kg 10:1-11:20 2 Kg 10:18-31 Lk 2:33-45 2 Cor 11:7-21a

	Monday 30th
	2 Kg 11:21-13:25 2 Kg 12:1-12, 19-21 2 Cor 11:21b-12:13

	Tuesday 1st
	2 Kg 14-15 2 Kg 14:1-4, 17-29 Lk 2:46-3:22

	Wednesday 2nd
	2 Kg 16-17 2 Kg 17:7-20 2 Cor 12:14-13:14

	Thursday 3rd
	2 Kg 18:1-19:19 2 Kg 18:1-12 Lk 3:23-4:15

	Friday 4th
	2 Kg 19:20-21:26 2 Kg 21:1-15 Gal 1

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth; send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.

Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. (Luke 2:19)

6th July 2014

Third Sunday after Trinity

Psalms for the Week	
Ps 76:1-78:16	

Sunday 6th	
2 Kg 22:1-23:27 2 Kg 22:1-13 Lk 4:16-30 Gal 2:1-10	

Monday 7th	
2 Kg 23:28-25:30 2 Kg 25:1-13, 27-30 Gal 2:11-3:9	

Tuesday 8th	
1 Chr 1-3 1 Chr 3 Lk 4:31-5:11	

Wednesday 9th	
1 Chr 4-5 1 Chr 4:1-23 Gal 3:10-4:7	

Thursday 10th	
1 Chr 6:1-7:29 1 Chr 6:1-32 Lk 5:12-39	

Friday 11th	
1 Chr 7:30-10:14 1 Chr 9:35-10:14 Gal 4:8-31	

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby we call you Father: give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God.

The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. (John 6:63)

13th July 2014

Fourth Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 78:17-72

	Sunday 13th
	1 Chr 11-12 1 Chr 11:1-14 Lk 6:1-16 Gal 5:1-15

	Monday 14th
	1 Chr 13:1-16:7 1 Chr 13; 15:1-3 Gal 5:16-6:18

	Tuesday 15th
	1 Chr 16:8-18:17 1 Chr 17:13-27 Lk 6:17-42

	Wednesday 16th
	1 Chr 19:1-22:1 1 Chr 19:1-15 Eph 1

	Thursday 17th
	1 Chr 22:2-24:31 1 Chr 22:6-19 Lk 6:43-7:17

	Friday 18th
	1 Chr 25-27 1 Chr 25 Eph 2

○ God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal.

No prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. Men spoke from God (2 Peter 1:20-21)

20th July 2014

Fifth Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 79-81

	Sunday 20th
	1 Chr 28-29 1 Chr 28:1-12 Lk 7:18-30 Eph 3:1-13

	Monday 21st
	2 Chr 1:1-5:1 2 Chr 4:7-5:1 Eph 3:14-4:16

	Tuesday 22nd
	2 Chr 5:2-6:42 2 Chr 5:2-14 Lk 7:31-8:8

	Wednesday 23rd
	2 Chr 7:1-9:12 2 Chr 8 Eph 4:17-5:14

	Thursday 24th
	2 Chr 9:13-12:16 2 Chr 10 Lk 8:9-33

	Friday 25th
	2 Chr 13-15 2 Chr 14:1; 15:1-15 Eph 5:15-6:9

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name.

You are good, and what you do is good; teach me your decrees. (Psalm 119:68)

27th July 2014

Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Psalms for the Week	
Ps 82-85	

Sunday 27th
2 Chr 16:1-18:27 2 Chr 17 Lk 8:34-48 Eph 6:10-24

Monday 28th
2 Chr 18:28-20:37 2 Chr 19 Phil 1:1-26

Tuesday 29th
2 Chr 21-23 2 Chr 22 Lk 8:49-9:17

Wednesday 30th
2 Chr 24-25 2 Chr 25:14-28 Phil 1:27-2:24

Thursday 31st
2 Chr 26:1-29:2 2 Chr 26:1-5, 16-23 Lk 9:18-43

Friday 1st
2 Chr 29:3-30:27 2 Chr 29:20-36 Phil 2:25-3:16

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire.



Reading Guides

Post-exilic Narratives



The books of Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther record Israel's life after the exile finished. (Daniel records Israel's life during her exile period).

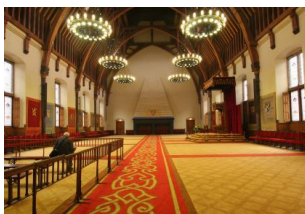
The books of Ezra and Nehemiah tell the story of how Cyrus of Persia issued a decree that the people should return to their homeland. The Persians, in contrast to the Babylonians, had a policy of repatriating their conquered peoples, leaving them as subjects in their own land. During Ezra the temple is rebuilt, and during Nehemiah the city walls.



These two books are at once books of hope and frustration. They show that God's purposes are not at an end. Yet the rebuilt temple is a shadow of the original one, the people are still subject to foreign powers, and they have no king (their hopes were wrapped in an anointed king). The people also quickly lapse back into their rebellious ways. If God's purposes go on, this is not the climax of it.



The book of Esther tells of some of the Jewish people who did not return during Cyrus' decree, but remained in exile. God is not mentioned by name in the book, but he's clearly at work. If Ezra and Nehemiah show that the exile had not really ended, the book of Esther is necessary. God is capable of looking after his people in a foreign land.



And so the narratives of the Old Testament end; whilst some of the people are back in their own land, the exile is not over and there is no king. We are at the same place as the last writing prophets leave us—looking for God to raise up the anointed king he's promised, and looking for an end to the exile that touches the people's hearts.



This is where Matthew's gospel will begin.

They received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day. (Acts 17:11)

3th August 2014

Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Psalms for the Week	
Ps 86-88	

Sunday 3rd
2 Chr 31-32 2 Chr 32:9-12, 20-31 Lk 9:44-10:3 Phil 3:17-4:9

Monday 4th
2 Chr 33-34 2 Chr 33:10-20 Phil 4:10-23; Col 1:1-14

Tuesday 5th
2 Chr 35-36 2 Chr 36:11-23 Lk 10:4-24

Wednesday 6th
Ezr 1-3 Ezra 1; 3:10-13 Col 1:15-2:5

Thursday 7th
Ezr 4:1-6:12 Ezra 4:1-5; 6:1, 6-12 Lk 10:25-11:13

Friday 8th
Ezr 6:13-8:23 Ezra 7:1-10, 25-28 Col 2:6-3:11

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same.

Blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it. (Revelation 1:3)

10th August 2014

Eighth Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 89:1-45

	Sunday 10th
	Ezr 8:24-10:44 Ezra 9:1-5, 10-15 Lk 11:14-26 Col 3:12-4:1

	Monday 11th
	Neh 1-3 Neh 1 Col 4:2-18

	Tuesday 12th
	Neh 4:1-6:14 Neh 6:1-14 Lk 11:27-54

	Wednesday 13th
	Neh 6:15-8:12 Neh 8:1-12 1 Thess 1:1-2:16

	Thursday 14th
	Neh 8:13-9:38 Neh 9:1-2, 26-38 Lk 12:1-31

	Friday 15th
	Neh 10:1-12:26 Neh 10:28-39 1 Thess 2:17-4:8

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul.

Reading Guides

The book of Job

First time readers of the book of Job read the first two chapters, and expect the book to be a gripping story.

It turns out that the narrative portion of Job is only chapters 1, 2 and 42. The remainder of the book is poetry, and it is because of the central 39 chapters that Job is classified as wisdom literature.

In the middle of the book, 3 of Job's "friends" come to comfort him in his suffering. They each have about 3 attempts to say the right thing, but each time Job has a reply. Then a fourth "friend", Elihu, steps in. Job does not get to reply to Elihu, because God then speaks—not to give Job answers, but to show him who God is and who Job is.

So the bookend chapters provide the narrative framework for the extended conversations in the book. We are being invited to listen to Job and his "friends" talking. It's a hard book to read because of its length, but also because the drama is not neat. It's not clear that what Job says is right whilst his "friends" are wrong. Neither is the reverse clear. The boundaries are not tidy.

The usefulness of listening to all this is the similarity it bears to conversations we have. We talk like this to ourselves as we suffer, and people today say very similar things to one another. We are very much in the account of Job—it could be about our stories and the things we say to each other.

However, Job climaxes with God's perspective. God does not speak to give neat answers to our suffering. But he does give us the perspective in which to live with our trials, even while we don't have all the answers.



For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword. (Hebrews 4:12)

17th August 2014

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 89:46-91:16

	Sunday 17th
	Neh 12:27-13:31 Neh 13:10-22 Lk 12:32-48 1 Thess 4:9-18

	Monday 18th
	Est 1-3 Est 2:15-3:6 1 Thess 5

	Tuesday 19th
	Est 4-7 Est 6:1-11; 7:7-10 Lk 12:49-13:9

	Wednesday 20th
	Est 8-10 Est 9:20-10:3 2 Thess 1-2:12

	Thursday 21st
	Job 1-3 Job 1:1-12; 2:11-13 Lk 13:10-30

	Friday 22nd
	Job 4-8 Job 4 2 Thess 2:13-3:18

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace.

Through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. (Romans 15:4)

24th August 2014

Tenth Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 92-95

	Sunday 24th
	Job 9-13 Job 9 Lk 13:31-14:11 1 Tim 1:1-11

	Monday 25th
	Job 14-18 Job 18 1 Tim 1:12-3:13

	Tuesday 26th
	Job 19-22 Job 19 Lk 14:12-35

	Wednesday 27th
	Job 23-28 Job 28 1 Tim 3:14-5:8

	Thursday 28th
	Job 29-31 Job 31:1-23, 38-40 Lk 15:1-24

	Friday 29th
	Job 32-35 Job 32 1 Tim 5:9-6:10

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you.



Reading Guides

Wisdom Literature



The books of Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Songs are often together referred to as wisdom literature.

At one level, these books are very different from one another. At another level, it is correct to say that they all deal with the category of “wisdom”, and so they do have things in common.



A quick glance through these four books shows them to be very practical books. Job deals with the issue of suffering; Proverbs asks how to live for God in day-to-day life; Ecclesiastes records one man’s attempt to make sense of life; Song of Songs is a love poem.



In modern English, wisdom brings together what we would call knowledge and common sense. It’s about making sense of the world so that we can live in it well. The Bible means something similar by wisdom; 1 Kings 4 describes Solomon’s wisdom as including attempts to classify the animal and plant kingdoms, whilst his proverbs show a concern with right living.



However first and foremost the book of Proverbs defines wisdom as living in the fear of the Lord (1:7). Fear is not a negative term (“being afraid of God”) but a positive one (“living in reverent respect for him”). How can we live, day by day, in a way that respects God? That requires great knowledge of God’s world and his ways, and awareness of how to apply that knowledge. Job warns against being over-optimistic; we mustn’t think we have life all worked out.



Ultimately, Jesus called himself “one wiser than Solomon.” The quest for wisdom should drive us to the one in whom is hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. The wisdom writings then help us to live for, and like, him.

The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. (Psalm 19:8)

31st August 2014

Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 96-99

	Sunday 31st
	Job 36:1-40:2 Job 38:1-27 Lk 15:25-16:9 1 Tim 6:11-21

	Monday 1st
	Job 40:3-42:17 Job 42 2 Tim 1

	Tuesday 2nd
	Prov 1-4 Prov 1:1-28 Lk 16:10-17:4

	Wednesday 3rd
	Prov 5:1-9:12 Prov 5:1-12; 8:12-31 2 Tim 2-3

	Thursday 4th
	Prov 9:13-13:23 Prov 9:13-10:21 Lk 17:5-37

	Friday 5th
	Prov 13:24-17:11 Prov 16:1-27 2 Tim 4

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure.

This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word. (Isaiah 66:2)

7th September 2014

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 100-102

	Sunday 7th
	Prov 17:12-21:14 Prov 20 Lk 18:1-14 Titus 1:1-9

	Monday 8th
	Prov 21:15-24:22 Prov 22:17-23:18 Titus 1:10-2:15

	Tuesday 9th
	Prov 24:23-27:22 Prov 25 Lk 18:15-43

	Wednesday 10th
	Prov 27:23-31:31 Prov 31 Titus 3

	Thursday 11th
	Eccl 1-4 Eccl 1 Lk 19:1-27

	Friday 12th
	Eccl 5:1-8:13 Eccl 5:8-6:6 Philemon

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

Reading Guides

The Prophets

The first Old Testament prophet is Samuel. God spoke to him so that he could relay God's words to the people. Throughout the history of the kingdom, there were a number of prophets. Some of them had collections of their sayings written down, which give us the 15 books of the Bible we refer to today as the prophetic writings.

The first 3 prophetic books are called the "major prophets", not because they are more important but because their books are the longest. They are in date order: Isaiah ministered in the 8th Century, Jeremiah in the 7th, and Ezekiel in the 6th. Then we have the 12 so-called minor (shorter) prophets (Hosea to Malachi), which also occur in date order. Hosea was a rough contemporary of Isaiah; Malachi was one generation after Ezekiel.

People think of the prophets as *fore*telling the future. That is part of their work, but it is better to think of them as *forth*-telling. God had entered into an agreement (called a covenant) with his people. He sent his prophets to warn the people that they were not keeping their side of the covenant, and to warn of the judgement that would follow if this continued. They also spoke of God's continued loving purposes beyond any future judgement.

Many of the promises the prophets make about the future have more than one fulfilment. They often promised events for their own day, but that were not exhausted by those contemporary fulfilments. The coming of Jesus brings those promises to a richer fulfilment, and yet we still wait the final fulfilment when Jesus returns.

We are not the ones addressed by the prophets; yet their writings contain a timeless message for all of God's people.



Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. (Proverbs 30:5)

14th September 2014

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 103-104

	Sunday 14th
	Eccl 8:14-12:14 Eccl 12 Lk 19:28-44 Heb 1

	Monday 15th
	Song of Songs Song 1:1-7; 8:6-14 Heb 2:1-3:11

	Tuesday 16th
	Isa 1:1-4:1 Isa 1:1-9; 2:1-5 Lk 19:45-20:26

	Wednesday 17th
	Isa 4:2-7:9 Isa 6:1-7:5 Heb 3:12-4:16

	Thursday 18th
	Isa 7:10-10:4 Isa 9:1-17 Lk 20:27-21:19

	Friday 19th
	Isa 10:5-13:22 Isa 11:10-12:6 Heb 5:1-6:8

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of
God. (Matthew 4:4)

21st September 2014

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Psalms for the Week	
Ps 105	

Sunday 21st	
Isa 14-17 Isa 17 Lk 21:20-28 Heb 6:9-20	

Monday 22nd	
Isa 18-21 Isa 21 Heb 7	

Tuesday 23rd	
Isa 22-24 Isa 24:1-13, 21-23 Lk 21:29-22:23	

Wednesday 24th	
Isa 25:1-28:13 Isa 25; 28:1-6 Heb 8:1-9:5	

Thursday 25th	
Isa 28:14-30:17 Isa 28:14-29 Lk 22:24-22:51	

Friday 26th	
Isa 30:18-33:24 Isa 31:1-32:8 Heb 9:6-28	

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth.

Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening. (1 Samuel 3:9)

28th September 2014

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 106

	Sunday 28th
	Isa 34:1-37:13 Isa 35:1-36:7 Lk 22:52-65 Heb 10:1-10

	Monday 29th
	Isa 37:14-40:5 Isa 38:1-15 Heb 10:11-39

	Tuesday 30th
	Isa 40:6-42:9 Isa 41:21-42:9 Lk 22:66-23:25

	Wednesday 1st
	Isa 42:10-44:20 Isa 44:9-20 Heb 11:1-16

	Thursday 2nd
	Isa 44:21-47:15 Isa 46:1-47:7 Lk 23:26-56

	Friday 3rd
	Isa 48-50 Isa 49:1-13 Heb 11:17-40

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. (Psalm 119:105)

5th October 2014

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Psalms for the Week	
Ps 107-108	

Sunday 5th	
Isa 51-53 Isa 52:13-53:12 Lk 24:1-17 Heb 12:1-11	

Monday 6th	
Isa 54-57 Isa 55:1-56:2 Heb 12:12-29	

Tuesday 7th	
Isa 58-60 Isa 59:16-60:9 Lk 24:18-53	

Wednesday 8th	
Isa 61-64 Isa 61:1-62:5 Heb 13	

Thursday 9th	
Isa 65-66 Isa 65:17-66:6 Jn 1:1-34	

Friday 10th	
Jer 1:1-3:5 Jer 1 Js 1	

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them.

I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. (Jeremiah 31:33)

12nd October 2014

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 109-111

	Sunday 12th
	Jer 3:6-5:13 Jer 3:6-18 Jn 1:35-51 Js 2:1-13

	Monday 13th
	Jer 5:14-7:29 Jer 6:1-15 Js 2:14-3:18

	Tuesday 14th
	Jer 7:30-9:26 Jer 9:1-9, 20-26 Jn 2

	Wednesday 15th
	Jer 10:1-12:4 Jer 11:1-17 Js 4

	Thursday 16th
	Jer 12:5-14:22 Jer 13:1-14 Jn 3:1-30

	Friday 17th
	Jer 15:1-17:13 Jer 16:1-13 Js 5

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. (Colossians 3:16)

19th October 2014

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 112-116

	Sunday 19th
	Jer 17:14-19:15 Jer 18:1-17 Jn 3:31-4:15 1 Pet 1:1-12

	Monday 20th
	Jer 20-22 Jer 20:1-14 1 Pet 1:13-2:17

	Tuesday 21st
	Jer 23-24 Jer 23:1-15 Jn 4:16-45

	Wednesday 22nd
	Jer 25-26 Jer 25:1-16 1 Pet 2:18-3:17

	Thursday 23rd
	Jer 27:1-29:23 Jer 29:1-14 Jn 4:46-5:24

	Friday 24th
	Jer 29:24-31:30 Jer 31:1-14 1 Pet 3:18-4:19

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy.

For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. (Psalm 33:4)

26th October 2014

Last Sunday after Trinity

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 117:1-119:32

	Sunday 26th
	Jer 31:31-32:44 Jer 31:31-40 Jn 5:25-36 1 Pet 5

	Monday 27th
	Jer 33-34 Jer 33:12-26 2 Pet 1

	Tuesday 28th
	Jer 35:1-37:10 Jer 36:1-8, 20-26 Jn 5:37-6:21

	Wednesday 29th
	Jer 37:11-39:18 Jer 38:1-13 2 Pet 2

	Thursday 30th
	Jer 40-42 Jer 40:1-6; 42:7-17 Jn 6:22-51

	Friday 31st
	Jer 43-45 Jer 43 2 Pet 3

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

From infancy you have known the holy Scriptures. (2 Timothy 3:15)

2nd November 2014

Fourth Sunday before Advent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 119:33-96

	Sunday 2nd
	Jer 46-48 Jer 46:1-12; Jer 47 Jn 6:52-65 1 Jn 1

	Monday 3rd
	Jer 49:1-50:20 Jer 50:1-13 1 Jn 2:1-25

	Tuesday 4th
	Jer 50:21-51:37 Jer 51:1-14 Jn 6:66-7:24

	Wednesday 5th
	Jer 51:38-52:34 Jer 52:17-30 1 Jn 2:26-3:10

	Thursday 6th
	Lam 1-2 Lam 1:1-13 Jn 7:25-52

	Friday 7th
	Lam 3-5 Lam 5 1 Jn 3:11-4:12

Almighty and eternal God, you have kindled the flame of love in the hearts of your holy people: grant to us the same faith and power of love, that, as we rejoice in their triumphs, we may be sustained by their example and fellowship.

These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. (Deuteronomy 6:6)

9th November 2014

Third Sunday before Advent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 119:97-160

	Sunday 9th
	Ezek 1:1-3:15 Ezek 1:1-3; 2:1-3:3 Jn 7:53-8:20 1 Jn 4:13-21

	Monday 10th
	Ezek 3:16-5:17 Ezek 3:16-27 1 Jn 5

	Tuesday 11th
	Ezek 6-8 Ezek 7:1-13 Jn 8:21-47

	Wednesday 12th
	Ezek 9-11 Ezek 10:1-5, 9-19 2 Jn; 3 Jn

	Thursday 13th
	Ezek 12:1-14:11 Ezek 14:1-11 Jn 8:48-9:17

	Friday 14th
	Ezek 14:12-16:52 Ezek 16:1-8, 14-22 Jude 1-16

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule.

Reading Guides

The book of Revelation

The last book of the Bible baffles many modern readers. It seems full of bizarre visions of frightening beasts. Many people have also encountered misuses of the book, as extreme wings of the church have twisted it to suit their own agendas. So, sadly, many ignore Revelation altogether.

This is ironic; the title “Revelation” means that it is meant to be understood. 1:3 says that great blessing comes from hearing it read out, and putting it into practice.

The book is a letter written to seven churches in the Roman province of Asia Minor. It was written by John, the son of Zebedee, from his exile-prison on the island of Patmos. Seven is a number that represents completion. Each church doesn’t get its own version of Revelation; it is an open letter, where each church hears what Jesus says to all the other churches. It is therefore a letter to every church.

The bulk of the letter is a vision John was given to pass on to them. The vision is noisy, colourful, vibrant and engaging. It is meant to grip the imagination. It is also highly symbolic, although there is no magic key to the details within it—most of them become clear to those who know their Old Testaments, as this is where the imagery is from.

As with any part of the Bible, there will be bits that are clear and bits we do not understand. It is rich literature; successive readings shed more and more light. The main thing is to put into practice what we do understand. By starting there, more will be clear the next time we read it.

So read it, let its vivid imagery grip you, and then live out what you clearly understand. Take the rest of the book away to chew and reflect on; Jesus wants you to understand this book, to live by it, and to be blessed by doing so.



I am a stranger on earth; do not hide your commands from me. (Psalm 119:19)

16th November 2014

Second Sunday before Advent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 119:161-125:5

	Sunday 16th
	Ezek 16:53-18:32 Ezek 18:1-4, 19-29 Jn 9:18-9:34 Jude 17-25

	Monday 17th
	Ezek 19-20 Ezek 19 Rev 1

	Tuesday 18th
	Ezek 21-22 Ezek 21:1-17 Jn 9:35-10:21

	Wednesday 19th
	Ezek 23:1-24:14 Ezek 24:1-14 Rev 2:1-17

	Thursday 20th
	Ezek 24:15-26:21 Ezek 24:15-27 Jn 10:22-11:16

	Friday 21st
	Ezek 27:1-28:24 Ezek 28:1-19 Rev 2:18-3:13

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom.

I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my daily bread. (Job 23:12)

23th November 2014

Christ the King

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 126-132

	Sunday 23rd
	Ezek 28:25-30:26 Ezek 30:1-19 Jn 11:17-37 Rev 3:14-22

	Monday 24th
	Ezek 31-32 Ezek 31:1-14 Rev 4:1-5:5

	Tuesday 25th
	Ezek 33:1-34:24 Ezek 33:1-9, 30-33 Jn 11:38-12:8

	Wednesday 26th
	Ezek 34:25-36:38 Ezek 36:22-36 Rev 5:6-6:8

	Thursday 27th
	Ezek 37:1-39:6 Ezek 37:1-14 Jn 12:9-36a

	Friday 28th
	Ezek 39:7-40:27 Ezek 40:1-16 Rev 6:9-7:12

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet.

They are not just idle words for you — they are your life. (Deuteronomy 32:47)

30th November 2014

Advent Sunday

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 133-136

	Sunday 30th
	Ezek 40:28-42:20 Ezek 40:28-43 Jn 12:36b-50 Rev 7:13-8:5

	Monday 1st
	Ezek 43-44 Ezek 43:1-12 Rev 8:6-9:11

	Tuesday 2nd
	Ezek 45-46 Ezek 46:1-12 Jn 13:1-30

	Wednesday 3rd
	Ezek 47-48 Ezek 47:1-10; 48:30-35 Rev 9:12-10:7

	Thursday 4th
	Dan 1-2 Dan 1:1-15 Jn 13:31-14:21

	Friday 5th
	Dan 3:1-4:33 Dan 3:1-7, 16-25 Rev 10:8-11:14

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal.

These are the Scriptures that testify about me. (John 5:39)

7th December 2014

Second Sunday of Advent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 137-139

	Sunday 7th
	Dan 4:34-6:28 Dan 5:1-6, 21-31 Jn 14:22-31 Rev 11:15-12:6

	Monday 8th
	Dan 7-8 Dan 7:1-14 Rev 12:7-13:4

	Tuesday 9th
	Dan 9:1-11:4 Dan 9:1-13 Jn 15:1-16:4

	Wednesday 10th
	Dan 11:5-12:13 Dan 12 Rev 13:5-14:5

	Thursday 11th
	Hos 1-5 Hos 1, 3 Jn 16:5-28

	Friday 12th
	Hos 6-10 Hos 6:1-7:7 Rev 14:6-20

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us.

I love your commands more than gold, more than pure gold. (Psalm 119:127)

14th December 2014

Third Sunday of Advent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 140-143

	Sunday 14th
	Hos 11-14 Hos 11:1-9; 14:1-9 Jn 16:29-17:8 Rev 15

	Monday 15th
	Joel 1-2 Joel 2:18-32 Rev 16

	Tuesday 16th
	Joel 3; Amos 1-2 Amos 1:11-2:11 Jn 17:9-18:11

	Wednesday 17th
	Amos 3-5 Amos 3:1-8; 5:18-27 Rev 17

	Thursday 18th
	Amos 6-9 Amos 9 Jn 18:12-38a

	Friday 19th
	Obad; Jon 1-3 Obad 1:1-4, 10-21 Rev 18:1-20

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight.

You are strong and the word of God lives in you. (1 John 2:14)

21st December 2014

Fourth Sunday of Advent

	Psalms for the Week
	Ps 144-146

	Sunday 21st
	Jon 4; Mic 1:1-4:5 Mic 1 Jn 18:38b-19:11 Rev 18:21-19:5

	Monday 22nd
	Mic 4:6-7:20 Mic 7:5-20 Rev 19:6-21

	Tuesday 23rd
	Nah; Hab 1:1-2:5 Hab 1:1-2:4 Jn 19:12-37

	Wednesday 24th
	Hab 2:6-3:19; Zeph 1-2 Hab 3 Rev 20

	Thursday 25th
	Zeph 3; Hag Hag 1:1-11; 2:20-23 Jn 19:38-20:23

	Friday 26th
	Zech 1:1-6:8 Zech 1:1-6; 4:1-14 Rev 21:1-21

God our redeemer, who prepared Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge.

Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight. (Psalm 119:35)

28th December 2014

First Sunday of Christmas

Psalms for the Week	
Ps 147-150	

Sunday 28th	
Zech 6:9-10:12 Zech 9:1-15 Jn 20:24-21:3 Rev 21:22-22:7	

Monday 29th	
Zech 11-14 Zech 14:1-5, 16-21 Rev 22:8-21	

Tuesday 30th	
Mal Mal 1:1-5; 3:16-4:6 Jn 21:4-25	

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. (Psalm 119:105)

and into 2015

... and beyond!

Well done! You've done it!

Although, if Jesus hasn't returned by the time you reach this page, *what* you've done is read through the Bible. That was a means to the greater end of getting to know the Living God more and more. On that journey, you haven't arrived, yet.

“We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.” (2 Peter 1:19)

Towards the end of 2014, we will make available a number of resources to help you keep reading the Bible as a lifelong discipline and habit. Choose one, and keep going. If the resource you've chosen doesn't work for you, or if it grows stale, try something different.

The main thing is to keep going, and to keep alive the idea that Bible reading is something we do as a church. We are fellow pilgrims on our way to heaven, and God has given us each other to encourage and spur one another on towards love and good deeds. So as well as keeping reading, keep learning and sharing together.

“... whatever you do,
do it all for the glory
of God.”
(1 Cor 10:31)



“I am coming soon.”
... ‘Amen.
Come, Lord Jesus’”
(Rev 22:20)



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