

**BELIEVERS EASTERN CHURCH  
LECTIONARY**

Bible Readings for Sundays  
and Other Special Days 2017-2018

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and Other Special Days 2017-2018

Approved by the Synod Liturgical Commission  
Authorized by the Metropolitan.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Preface .....	5
2.	Bible Readings for Sundays .....	6
3.	Days of Special Offering .....	19
4.	Important Days of the Year 2017-18 .....	20



## PREFACE

Dearly beloved people of God,

We are called to worship God in spirit and in truth. The Word of God is to help us learn how to worship God in a manner worthy of His holiness.

Jesus said “Feed my lambs” (John 21:15). One of the fundamental principles of our Church is giving priority to reading, studying, meditating and teaching of God’s Word. In the Book of Acts, we see the model of the Church, that they “devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching” (Acts 2:42). Also, in Paul’s epistle to Timothy, we hear the instruction to “Devote yourselves to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching” (1Timothy 4:13). This is the reason why we place such a major emphasis on teaching God’s Word during our worship services.

A Lectionary is a listing of various Scripture readings for Sundays and other special days of the year. The readings are selected and systematically arranged according to the Church calendar and seasons, with broad themes or subjects along with sermon outlines for teaching and preaching.

The Lectionary will equip us with the whole counsel of God by providing a pattern and system for reading, studying and meditating on Biblical truths. It will also help to bring order and uniformity to our Church at large. Thus, it will help our whole Church to learn God’s Word and grow in Him.

My prayer and desire is that all of us together experience God and worship Him as He desires. As we commit ourselves to the use of the Lectionary, regardless of where we are, we will become a healthy, growing, fruitful, fellowshiping and worshipping community.

The blessings of the Triune God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you. Amen!



St. Thomas Nagar  
1-09-2017

Dr. K. P. Yohannan  
Metropolitan

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday *ADVENT SEASON*</b>	
<p><b>December 3, 2017</b>                      First Sunday of the Advent  <b>First Reading</b> : Isaiah 64:1-9  <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 80:1-7  <b>Second Reading</b> : 1 Corinthians 1:3-9  <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 13:24-37</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Be Prepared for the Coming of the Lord  <b>Outline:</b>                      1. There is no one righteous (Isa)                      2. Christ is our righteousness (1 Cor)                      3. Only God can make us righteous (Ps)                      4. Be prepared for the Lord's return (Mk)</p>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>December 10, 2017</b>                      Second Sunday of the Advent  <b>First Reading</b> : Isaiah 40:1-11  <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 85:8-13  <b>Second Reading</b> : 2 Peter 3:8-15  <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 1:1-8</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Let us Receive the King  <b>Outline:</b>                      1. Prepare the way for the Lord with repentance (Mk)                      2. Receive the Lord in Humility (Isa)                      3. Receive the King in righteousness (Ps + 2 Pet)</p>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>December 17, 2017</b>                      Third Sunday of the Advent  <b>First Reading</b> : Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11  <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 126  <b>Second Reading</b> : 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  <b>Gospel Reading</b> : John 1:6-8, 19-28</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Rejoice! The Lord is Coming  <b>Outline:</b>                      1. The Lord has done great things (Isa + Ps)                      2. We are called to witness His deeds (1 Thess)                      3. The pattern of our witness (Jn)</p>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>December 24, 2017</b>                      Fourth Sunday of the Advent  <b>First Reading</b> : 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 89:19-26  <b>Second Reading</b> : Romans 16:25-27  <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Luke 1:26-38</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Blessings of God's Visitation  <b>Outline:</b>                      1. God visits to bless us with heavenly blessings (2 Sam+ Ps)                      2. God visits to reveal the mystery of Christ (Rom)                      3. God visits to reign over all (Lk)</p>
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	
<p><b>December 24, 2017</b>                      Christmas Eve  <b>First Reading</b> : Isaiah 9:2-7  <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 96  <b>Second Reading</b> : Titus: 2:11-14  <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Luke 2:1-14</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> The Promise of the Messiah  <b>Outline:</b>                      1. Government of the coming Messiah (Isa)                      2. Redemption by the coming Messiah (Ps)                      3. Judgement by the coming Messiah (Ti +Lk)</p>

<b>Christmas Day</b>	
<p><b>December 25, 2017, Monday</b></p> <p><b>Christmas Day</b></p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Isaiah 52:7-10</p> <p><b>Psalms Reading</b> : Psalm 98</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> : Hebrew 1:1-4</p> <p><b>Gospel Reading</b> : John 1:1-14</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> The Word Became Flesh</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All shall see the salvation of God (Isa)</li> <li>2. Praise God for His salvation (Ps)</li> <li>3. The Savior came to make us heirs of eternal life. (Jn)</li> </ol>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>December 31, 2017</b></p> <p>First Sunday after Christmas</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Isaiah 61:10-62:3</p> <p><b>Psalms Reading</b> : Psalm 148</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> : Galatians 4:4-7</p> <p><b>Gospel Reading</b> : Luke 2:22-40</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> God's Saving Acts</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Know Gods saving acts (Isa)</li> <li>2. Praise God for His liberating acts (Ps)</li> <li>3. Experience God's saving acts (Lk)</li> <li>4. From slavery to sonship (Gal)</li> </ol>
<b>Watchnight/New Year Service</b>	
<p><b>December 31, 2017 &amp; January 1, 2018</b></p> <p><b>Watchnight/New Year Service</b></p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Ecclesiastes 3:1-13</p> <p><b>Psalms Reading</b> : Psalm 8</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> : Revelation 21:1-6</p> <p><b>Gospel Reading</b> : Matthew 25:31-46</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Behold! The God of Creation</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Human Predicament in creation (Ps)</li> <li>2. End of the age as consummation (Mt)</li> <li>3. Time for renewal (Ecc)</li> <li>4. New life in the new creation (Rev)</li> </ol>
<b>The Epiphany</b>	
<p><b>January 6, 2018, Saturday</b></p> <p><b>Manifestation of the Divinity of Jesus</b></p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Isaiah 60:1-6</p> <p><b>Psalms Reading</b> : Psalm 72:1-7</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> : Ephesians 3:1-12</p> <p><b>Gospel Reading</b> : Matthew 2:1-12</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Called to be a Missionary</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Messiah is the Lord of All (Ps+ Mt)</li> <li>2. The mysteries of the Messiah's coming revealed (Eph)</li> <li>3. Called to be the light (Isa)</li> </ol>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>January 7, 2018</b></p> <p>First Sunday after the Epiphany</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Genesis 1:1-5</p> <p><b>Psalms Reading</b> : Psalm 29</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> : Acts 19:1-7</p> <p><b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 1:4-11</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Role of the Holy Spirit</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Role of the Holy Spirit in creation (Gen + Ps)</li> <li>2. Role of the Holy Spirit in Jesus's life and ministry (Mk)</li> <li>3. Role of the Holy Spirit in the Believers' life (Acts)</li> </ol>

**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**January 14, 2018**

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

**First Reading** : 1 Samuel 3:1-10

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 139:1-6

**Second Reading** : 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

**Gospel Reading** : John 1:43- 51

**Theme:** Purpose of God's Call

**Outline:**

1. A call to surrender (Ps)
2. A call to be holy (1 Cor)
3. A call to follow (Jn)
4. A call to proclaim (1 Sam)

**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**January 21, 2018**

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

**First Reading** : Jonah 3:1-5, 10

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 62:5-12

**Second Reading** : 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 1:14-20

**Theme:** Being Available for the Lord

**Outline:**

1. Repent and turn to God (Jonah)
2. Wait upon the Lord expectantly (Ps)
3. Dedicate yourself for God's service (1 Cor)
4. God's call for every believer (Mk)

**9<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**January 28, 2018**

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

**First Reading** : Deuteronomy 18:15-20

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 111

**Second Reading** : 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 1:21-28

**Theme:** Divine Authority

**Outline:**

1. The authority that comes from God's Word (Deut)
2. Authority of God's work displayed in history (Ps)
3. Authority of God over the power of darkness (Mk)
4. God's authority is conditional (1 Cor)

**10<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**February 4, 2018**

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

**First Reading** : Isaiah 40:21-31

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 147:1-11

**Second Reading** : 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 1:29-39

**Theme:** The Power of the Gospel

**Outline:**

1. Power of God displayed in the Gospel (Isa)
2. Furtherence of the Gospel emphasized (1 Cor)
3. Importance of the Evangelism exemplified (Mk)

**Believers Eastern Church Episcopal Day**

**February 6, 2018**

**First Reading** : Deuteronomy 18:1-10

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 122

**Second Reading** : James 1:17-27

**Gospel Reading** : Matthew 6:25-33

**Theme:** The Priorities of the Church

**Outline:**

1. Kingdom Perspective (Mt)
2. Worship (Ps)
3. The Word of God (Deut)
4. Service (Jam)



<b>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<b>February 11, 2018</b> <b>Transfiguration Sunday</b> <i>Women Sunday – Special offering</i> <b>First Reading</b> : 2 Kings 2:1-12 <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 50:1-6 <b>Second Reading</b> : 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 9:2-9	<b>Theme:</b> Manifestation of God's Glory  <b>Outline:</b> 1. God knows His faithful ones (Ps) 2. God reveals Himself to His faithful ones (2 Ki) 3. God reflects His glory in His ministry (2 Cor + Mk)
<b>*GREATER LENT SEASON*</b>	
<b>February 14, 2018</b> <b>Ash Wednesday (Day of Repentance)</b>  <b>First Reading</b> : Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 51:1-17 <b>Second Reading</b> : 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	<b>Theme:</b> Return to God  <b>Outline:</b> 1. Repent and return to God (Joel) 2. Repentance must be followed by true conviction (Ps) 3. Devotion to God must be without hypocrisy (Mt) 4. Be reconciled to God (2 Cor)
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<b>February 18, 2018</b> First Sunday of Lent  <b>First Reading</b> : Genesis 9:8-17 <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 25:1-10 <b>Second Reading</b> : 1 Peter 3:18-22 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 1:9-15	<b>Theme:</b> Keeping Covenant with God  <b>Outline:</b> 1. God's covenant with all creation (Gen) 2. God's blessing for those who keep His Covenant (Ps) 3. God's invitation to be enter His Covenant (1 Pet) 4. Our response to God's faithfulness (Mk)
<b>13<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<b>February 25, 2018</b> Second Sunday of Lent  <b>First Reading</b> : Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 22:23-31 <b>Second Reading</b> : Romans 4:13-25 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 8:31-38	<b>Theme:</b> The Promises of God  <b>Outline:</b> 1. The present promise of God's blessing (Gen) 2. God's promise is for future generations (Ps) 3. God's promise is effective for those who believe (Rom) 4. God's promise of resurrection for those who suffer (Mk)
<b>World Day of Prayer</b>	
<b>March 2, 2018, Friday</b>  <b>First Reading</b> : Nehemiah 1:4-11 <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 20 <b>Second Reading</b> : Ephesians 1:15 -23 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Matthew 5:43-48	<b>Theme:</b> Acceptable Prayer to God  <b>Outline:</b> 1. Prayer of Confession (Neh) 2. Praying of Trust (Ps) 3. Prayer of thanksgiving (Eph) 4. Prayer without boundaries (Mt)

**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**March 4, 2018**

Third Sunday of Lent

**First Reading** : Exodus 20:1-17

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 19

**Second Reading** : 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

**Gospel Reading** : John 2:13-22

**Theme:** The Infallible Word of God

**Outline:**

1. The Law of the Lord is perfect (Ps)
2. The Word of the Lord saves people (1 Cor)
3. The Law of the Lord guides His people (Exo)
4. The Word of the Lord emboldens His people (Jn)

**Founder's Day**

**March 8, 2018, Thursday**

**First Reading** : Exodus 19:3-8

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 121

**Second Reading** : Ephesians 2:19-22

**Gospel Reading** : Matthew 5:13-16

**Theme:** Mission to the World

**Outline:**

1. God elects His people to be different from others (Exo)
2. God's special care for His people (Ps)
3. Believers are His body (Eph)
4. Believers are called to shine His light to the world (Mt)

**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**March 11, 2018**

Fourth Sunday of Lent

**First Reading** : Numbers 21:4-9

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 107:17-22

**Second Reading** : Ephesians 2:1-10

**Gospel Reading** : John 3:14-21

**Theme:** From Death to Everlasting Life

**Outline:**

1. Rebellion against God brings death (Num)
2. Only God can redeem from death (Ps)
3. God sent His Son to save (Jn)
4. Salvation is only by grace through faith (Eph)

**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**March 18, 2018**

Fifth Sunday of Lent

**First Reading** : Jeremiah 31:31-34

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 51:1-12

**Second Reading** : Hebrews 5:5-10

**Gospel Reading** : John 12:20-33

**Theme:** The New Covenant

**Outline:**

1. Renew your relationship with God (Ps)
2. God's covenant to renew His people (Jer)
3. The Blood of Jesus: Foundation of New Covenant (Jn)
4. Jesus is the mediator of the New Covenant (Heb)

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday - \*HOLY WEEK\***

**March 25, 2018**

Sixth Sunday of Lent

**Passion/Palm Sunday**

**First Reading** : Isaiah 50:4-9a

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 31:9-16

**Second Reading** : Philippians 2:5-11

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 11:1-11

**Theme:** The Humble King

**Outline:**

1. The new kingdom order (Mk)
2. The suffering servant (Isa)
3. Jesus the example of humility (Phil)
4. Following the humble King in the midst of suffering (Ps)

<b>Maundy/Holy Thursday</b>	
<p><b>March 29, 2018</b> Maundy/Holy Thursday</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Exodus 12:1-14  <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 116:12-19  <b>Second Reading</b> : 1 Corinthians 11:23-26  <b>Gospel Reading</b> : John 13:1-17, 31b-35</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> A New Commandment</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Passover: Shadow of a great sacrifice (Exo)</li> <li>2. Do this in remembrance of me (Ps + 1 Cor)</li> <li>3. A new Commandment: Love one another (Jn)</li> </ol>
<b>Good Friday</b>	
<p><b>March 30, 2018</b></p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Isaiah 52:13-53:12  <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 22  <b>Second Reading</b> : Hebrews 10:16-25  <b>Gospel Reading</b> : John 18:1-19:42</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Reflections on the Cross</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34)</li> <li>2. "This day you will be with me in Paradise." (Luke 23:43)</li> <li>3. "Woman, behold your son." (John 19:26-27)</li> <li>4. "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" (Mark 15:34; Matthew 27:46)</li> <li>5. "I thirst." (John 19:28)</li> <li>6. "It is finished." (John 19:30)</li> <li>7. "Into your hands I commit my spirit." (Luke 23:46)</li> </ol>
<b>Holy Saturday</b>	
<p><b>March 31, 2018</b> Easter Vigil/Holy Saturday</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Job 14:1-14  <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 31:1-4,15-16  <b>Second Reading</b> : 1 Peter 4:1-8  <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Matthew 27:57-66</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Reflections on the Holy Saturday</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Time for everyone is determined (Ps)</li> <li>2. There is hope beyond death (Job)</li> <li>3. Truth will always triumph (Mt)</li> <li>4. Gospel must be preached to all (1 Pet)</li> </ol>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>April 1, 2018</b> Easter</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Acts 10:34-43  <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 118:1-2,14-24  <b>Second Reading</b> : 1 Corinthians 15:1-11  <b>Gospel Reading</b> : John 20:1-18</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> "He is Risen!"</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Easter narratives (Jn)</li> <li>2. Rejoice in the Lord's doing (Ps)</li> <li>3. The proof of the resurrection (1 Cor)</li> <li>4. Resurrection is the foundation of Christian witness (Acts)</li> </ol>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>April 8, 2018</b> Second Sunday of Easter</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Acts 4:32-35  <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 133  <b>Second Reading</b> : 1 John 1:1-2:2  <b>Gospel Reading</b> : John 20:19-31</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> The Community of Christ</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The birth of a new community (Jn)</li> <li>2. The characteristic of the community (Acts)</li> <li>3. The unity of community pleases God (Ps)</li> <li>4. Community grows when we fellowship with Christ and one another (1 Jn)</li> </ol>

**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**April 15, 2018**

Third Sunday of Easter

*AY Radio/TV Sunday – Special Offering*

**First Reading** : Acts 3:12-19

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 4

**Second Reading** : 1 John 3:1-7

**Gospel Reading** : Luke 24:36b-48

**Theme:** The Witnessing Community

**Outline:**

1. Commissioned to witness (Lk)
2. The Gospel to be witnessed (Act)
3. Believers must be witnessing (1 Jn)
4. The Lord preserves His witnesses (Ps)

**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday**

**April 22, 2018**

Fourth Sunday of Easter

**First Reading** : Acts 4:5-12

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 23

**Second Reading** : 1 John 3:16-24

**Gospel Reading** : John 10:11-18

**Theme:** The Shepherd and the Sheep

**Outline:**

1. The Shepherd's love for His sheep (Jn)
2. The sheep's dependence on the Shepherd (Ps)
3. Communing with the Shepherd gives us courage (Acts)
4. The sheep must reflect the love of the Good Shepherd (1 Jn)

**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday**

**April 29, 2018**

Fifth Sunday of Easter

**First Reading** : Acts 8:26-40

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 22:25-31

**Second Reading** : 1 John 4:7-21

**Gospel Reading** : John 15:1-8

**Theme:** Know Him and make Him Known

**Outline:**

1. Know who God is (Ps)
2. Knowing Jesus makes one fruitful (Jn)
3. Jesus must be preached to all (Acts)
4. The Gospel must be preached in action (1 Jn)

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday**

**May 6, 2018**

Sixth Sunday of Easter

**First Reading** : Acts 10:44-48

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 98

**Second Reading** : 1 John 5:1-6

**Gospel Reading** : John 15:9-17

**Theme:** God's Abundant Love for the World

**Outline:**

1. God's salvation for all (Ps)
2. God's gifts for all (Acts)
3. Salvation must be received by faith (1 Jn)
4. Love one another (Jn)

**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**May 13, 2018**

Seventh Sunday of Easter

**Ascension Sunday - Mother's Day**

**First Reading** : Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 1

**Second Reading** : 1 John 5:9-13

**Gospel Reading** : John 17:6-19

**Theme:** Called to be a Witness

**Outline:**

1. Subject of witness: Eternal life (1 Jn)
2. The way of the witness - through life (Ps)
3. Truth of witness is in the resurrection (Act)
4. Disciple others to witness (Jn)

<b>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>May 20, 2018</b> Day of Pentecost</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Acts 2:1-21 <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 104:24-34 <b>Second Reading</b> : Romans 8:22-27 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> The Holy Spirit: Our Constant Helper</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The promise of the Holy Spirit (Jn)</li> <li>2. Fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit (Act)</li> <li>3. The continuous work of the Holy Spirit (Rom + Ps)</li> </ol>
<b>26<sup>th</sup> Sunday *ORDINARY SEASON*</b>	
<p><b>May 27, 2018</b> First Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p><b>Trinity Sunday</b></p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Isaiah 6:1-8 <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 29 <b>Second Reading</b> : Romans 8:12-17 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : John 3:1-17</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Understanding the Mystery of the Trinity</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. God the Father (Isa)</li> <li>2. God the Son (Jn)</li> <li>3. God the Holy Spirit (Rom)</li> <li>4. Recognizing and celebrating the sovereignty of the Triune God (Ps)</li> </ol>
<b>27<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>June 3, 2018</b> Second Sunday after Pentecost <i>Seminary Sunday – Special Offering</i></p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : 1 Samuel 3:1-10 <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 81:1-10 <b>Second Reading</b> : 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 2:23-3:6</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> God's Revelations</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Revelation of God's voice (1 Sam)</li> <li>2. Revelation of God's ways (Ps)</li> <li>3. Revelation of the Son of God (Mk)</li> <li>4. Revelation of the light of the Gospel (2 Cor)</li> </ol>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>June 10, 2018</b> Third Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : 1 Samuel 8:4-11,16-20 <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 130 <b>Second Reading</b> : 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 2:20-34</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> The Greatness of God</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Trusting the power of God (2 Cor)</li> <li>2. Allowing God's supreme authority over your life (1 Sam)</li> <li>3. Doing the will of God all of your life (Mk)</li> <li>4. Worship the Lord who redeems your life (Ps)</li> </ol>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>June 17, 2018</b> Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p><b>Father's Day</b></p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : 1 Samuel 17:1-7, 45-47 <b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 <b>Second Reading</b> : 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 4:35-41</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> God of Deliverance</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. God delivers those who stand for Him (1 Sam)</li> <li>2. God delivers those who cry unto Him (Mk)</li> <li>3. Praise God for His deliverance (Ps)</li> <li>4. Seek not God's grace in vain (2 Cor)</li> </ol>

**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**June 24, 2018**

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

**First Reading** : 2 Samuel 1:1,17-27

**Psalms Reading** : Psalm 30

**Second Reading** : 2 Corinthians 8:7-15

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 5:21-43

**Theme:** The Believers' Response to God's Faithfulness

**Outline:**

1. Faith works wonders (Mk)
2. God turns our mourning into dancing (Ps)
3. Fulfill your vows unto the Lord (2 Sam)
4. Show your devotion through generosity (2 Cor)

**31<sup>st</sup> Sunday**

**July 1, 2018**

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

**First Reading** : Jeremiah 31:7-14

**Psalms Reading** : Psalm 147:12-20

**Second Reading** : 1 John 1:1-5

**Gospel Reading** : John 1:1-18

**Theme:** The Word of God

**Outline:**

1. Believe in the Word of God (Jer)
2. Receive Jesus, the Word of God (Jn)
3. Praise God for His Word (Ps)
4. Proclaim the Word of God (1 Jn)

**St. Thomas Day**

**July 3, 2018**

**First Reading** : Genesis 12:1-7

**Psalms Reading** : Psalm 42:1-14

**Second Reading** : Acts 1:9, 12-14

**Gospel Reading** : John 20:24-29

**Theme:** Be a Diligent Follower of God

**Outline:**

1. Believe in God (Jn)
2. Long for God (Ps)
3. Wait upon God (Acts)
4. Obey the call of God (Gen)

**32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday**

**July 8, 2018**

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

**First Reading** : 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

**Psalms Reading** : Psalm 123

**Second Reading** : 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 6:1-13

**Theme:** God's Grace is Sufficient

**Outline:**

1. To make the weak mighty (2 Sam)
2. To meet our needs (Ps)
3. To sustain in our afflictions (2 Cor)
4. To perform mighty deeds (Mk)

**33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday**

**July 15, 2018**

Eight Sunday after Pentecost

**First Reading** : 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

**Psalms Reading** : Psalm 85:8-13

**Second Reading** : Ephesians 1:3-14

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 6:14-29

**Theme:** Blessedness of Being Righteous

**Outline:**

1. The righteous will be remembered (Mk)
2. The righteous will be restored (Ps)
3. The righteous will be blessed (Eph)
4. The righteous will experience the return of God (2 Sam)

<b>34<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>July 22, 2018</b> Ninth Sunday after Pentecost <b>Bible Sunday/Literature Sunday</b> <b>First Reading</b> : 2 Samuel 7:1-14a <b>Psalms Reading</b> : Psalm 23 <b>Second Reading</b> : Ephesians 2:11-22 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 6:30-34, 53-56</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Covenantal Relationship <b>Outline:</b> 1. God will dwell with us (Eph) 2. God will shepherd us (Mk) 3. God will establish us (2 Sam) 4. God's Covenant requires absolute adherence (Ps)</p>
<b>35<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>July 29, 2018</b> Tenth Sunday after Pentecost <b>First Reading</b> : 2 Samuel 11:1-15 <b>Psalms Reading</b> : Psalm 145:10-18 <b>Second Reading</b> : Ephesians 3:14-21 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : John 6:1-21</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> God Knows Every Heart <b>Outline:</b> 1. When you fall, do not hide your failures (2 Sam) 2. God's love surpasses all knowledge (Eph) 3. God is able to raise us again (Ps) 4. Obey and follow Him (Jn)</p>
<b>36<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>August 5, 2018</b> Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost <b>First Reading</b> : Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 <b>Psalms Reading</b> : Psalm 78:23-29 <b>Second Reading</b> : Ephesians 4:1-16 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : John 6:24-35</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> God who Meets our all Needs <b>Outline:</b> 1. God meets our temporal needs (Exo+Ps) 2. God meets all our needs for eternity (Jn) 3. The Lord meets our need for relationship (Eph)</p>
<b>37<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>August 12, 2018</b> Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost <b>First Reading</b> : 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15 31-33 <b>Psalms Reading</b> : Psalm 34:1-8 <b>Second Reading</b> : Ephesians 4:25-5:2 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : John 6:35, 41-51</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Resolving Conflicts God's Way <b>Outline:</b> 1. Personal conflict: With trust in God (Ps) 2. Family conflicts: With Love and forgiveness (2 Sam) 3. Relational conflict: With spirit-controlled temperament (Eph) 4. Religious conflict: With the Word of God (Jn)</p>
<b>38<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>August 19, 2018</b> Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost <b>Youth Sunday</b> <b>First Reading</b> : 1 King 2:10-12; 3:3-14 <b>Psalms Reading</b> : Psalm 34:9-14 <b>Second Reading</b> : Ephesians 5:15-20 <b>Gospel Reading</b> : John 6:51-58</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Being Wise <b>Outline:</b> 1. To be wise is to fear God (Ps) 2. To be wise is to seek discernment (1 King) 3. To be wise is to live wisely (Eph) 4. To be wise is to find the source of life (Jn)</p>

**39<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**August 26, 2018**

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**First Reading** : Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 34:15-22

**Second Reading** : Ephesians 6:10-20

**Gospel Reading** : John 6:56-69

**Theme:** Spiritual Warfare

**Outline:**

1. People of God are in the Battlefield (Eph)
2. The battle is about who God is (Joshua)
3. The battle is about the way to God (Jn)
4. God's promise to be with His people in the battle (Ps)

**40<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**September 2, 2018**

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**First Reading** : Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 15

**Second Reading** : James 1:17-27

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 7:1-8, 14-15,  
21-23

**Theme:** Keeping the Word of God

**Outline:**

1. Keeping the Word of God should be our priority (Mk)
2. Keeping the Word of God makes us firm (Ps)
3. Keeping the Word of God brings wisdom (Deut)
4. Keeping the Word of God brings blessings (Jam)

**41<sup>st</sup> Sunday**

**September 9, 2018**

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Mission Sunday - Special Offering*

**First Reading** : Proverbs 22:1-2,8-9,  
22-23

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 146

**Second Reading** : James 2:1-10

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 7:24-37

**Theme:** The Community that God Desires

**Outline:**

1. The community that serves the poor and hungry (Pro)
2. The community that is grateful to God (Ps)
3. The community that shows no favoritism (Jam)
4. The community that obeys Jesus the Master (Mk)

**42<sup>nd</sup> Sunday**

**September 16, 2018**

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

**First Reading** : Proverbs 1:20-33

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 116:1-9

**Second Reading** : James 3:1-12

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 8:27-38

**Theme:** Conversation Seasoned with Wisdom

**Outline:**

1. Heed the call of wisdom (Pro)
2. When we call to the Lord, He will answer (Ps)
3. Wisdom involves taming the tongue (Jam)
4. True wisdom is to set your mind on the things of God (Mk)

**43<sup>rd</sup> Sunday**

**September 23, 2018**

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**First Reading** : Proverbs 31:10-31

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 54

**Second Reading** : James 3:13-4:3,7-8a

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 9:30-37

**Theme:** Humility before God is of Great Value

**Outline:**

1. The one who fears God is blessed (Prov)
2. The Lord upholds the life of those who humbly call out to Him (Ps)
3. The one who humbles himself in repentance will be saved (Jam)
4. The one who serves is the greatest (Mk)



<b>44<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>September 30, 2018</b> Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Esther 7:1-6,9-10, 9:20-22</p> <p><b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 19:7-14</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> : James 5:13-20</p> <p><b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 9:38-50</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Sin and it's Consequences</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Wickedness will be punished (Est)</li> <li>2. No one can discern his own errors without God's Word (Ps)</li> <li>3. Whoever causes others to sin will be judged (Mk)</li> <li>4. Whoever helps a sinner to turn from his sin, will receive great reward (Jam)</li> </ol>
<b>45<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>October 7, 2018</b> Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Job 1:1; 2:1-10</p> <p><b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 8</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> : Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12</p> <p><b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 10:2-16</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> God's Chosen Race</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mankind is God's special creation (Ps)</li> <li>2. Heaven is mindful of mankind (Job)</li> <li>3. Men, Women &amp; Children are all included in God's plan (Mk)</li> <li>4. Christ is the supreme One among God's selected people (Heb)</li> </ol>
<b>46<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>October 14, 2018</b> Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Job 23:1-9, 16-17</p> <p><b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 90:12-17</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> : Hebrews 4:12-16</p> <p><b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 10:17-31</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> The Divine Courtroom</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. God allows us to present our case before Him (Job)</li> <li>2. We should seek for favor in God's eyes (Ps)</li> <li>3. Eternal life is impossible without God's help (Mk)</li> <li>4. We have a high priest as our advocate (Heb)</li> </ol>
<b>47<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>October 21, 2018</b> Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Isaiah 53:4-12</p> <p><b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 91:9-16</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> : Hebrews 5:1-10</p> <p><b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 10:35-45</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> Jesus: The Suffering Servant</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. He suffered in yielding to the will of God (Is)</li> <li>2. He suffered by trusting on God to protect Him (Heb + Ps)</li> <li>3. He suffered in serving others and giving life as a ransom (Mk)</li> </ol>
<b>48<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	
<p><b>October 28, 2018</b> Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p><b>First Reading</b> : Job 42:1-6,10-17</p> <p><b>Psalm Reading</b> : Psalm 126</p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> : Hebrews 7:23-28</p> <p><b>Gospel Reading</b> : Mark 10:46-52</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> God's Work of Restoration</p> <p><b>Outline:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Word of God assures restoration (Ps)</li> <li>2. The sacrifice of Jesus achieves restoration (Heb)</li> <li>3. God's miracles confirms His restoration (Job + Mk)</li> </ol>

**49<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**November 4, 2018**

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

**First Reading** : Ruth 1:1-18

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 119:1-8

**Second Reading** : Hebrews 9:11-14

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 12:28-34

**Theme:** Sacrifice in Christian Commitment

**Outline:**

1. Sacrifice in loyalty (Ruth)
2. Sacrifice in love (Mk)
3. Sacrifice in holy living (Ps)

**50<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**November 11, 2018**

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

*Children Sunday - Special Offering*

**First Reading** : Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 146

**Second Reading** : Hebrews 9:24-28

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 12:38-44

**Theme:** Blessings of Sacrificial Living

**Outline:**

1. Blessing – that You will have people on your side (Ruth)
2. Blessing – that You will experience God’s favor (Ps)
3. Blessing – that you may see Him (Heb)
4. Blessing – that God will acknowledge your work (Mk)

**51<sup>st</sup> Sunday**

**November 18, 2018**

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

**First Reading** : 1 Samuel 1:4-20

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 16

**Second Reading** : Hebrews 10:11-14,  
19-25

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 13:1-8

**Theme:** Come to Jesus

**Outline:**

1. Come – for He is yours (Ps)
2. Come with your request (1 Sam)
3. Come to be cleansed (Heb)
4. Come – for the end is near (Mk)

**52<sup>nd</sup> Sunday**

**November 25, 2018**

Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

*First Fruit Festival (Harvest Sunday)  
Special Offering*

**First Reading** : 2 Samuel 23:1-7

**Psalm Reading** : Psalm 93

**Second Reading** : Revelation 1:4b-8

**Gospel Reading** : John 18:33-37

**Theme:** Christ the Glorious King

**Outline:**

1. Acknowledge the Supremacy of God (Ps)
2. The revelation of the Trinity (Rev)
3. To Him belongs the Kingdom, Power and Glory (Jn)
4. Our Hope and strength is in Jesus (2 Sam)

**DAYS OF SPECIAL OFFERING**

Women Sunday	February 11, 2018
A. Y. Radio/TV Sunday	April 15, 2018
Seminary Sunday	June 3, 2018
Bible Sunday/Literature Sunday	July 22, 2018
Youth Sunday	August 19, 2018
Missions Sunday	September 9, 2018
Children Sunday	November 11, 2018
First Fruit Sunday (Harvest Festival)	November 25, 2018

## **IMPORTANT DAYS OF THE CHRISTIAN CALENDAR YEAR 2017-18**

1. Lent of Advent Season (Nativity Feast)	December 1-25, 2017 (25 Day Lent)
2. Christmas	December 25, 2017
3. Watch Night Service/New Year	December 31 & January 1, 2018
4. Unity Week	January 18 – 25, 2018
5. 3 Day Lent (Fast of Nineveh)	February 6-8, 2018
6. Believers Eastern Church Episcopal Day	February 6, 2018
7. Transfiguration Sunday	February 11, 2018 (Greater Lent Season Starts)
8. Ash Wednesday	February 14, 2018
9. World Day of Prayer	March 2, 2018
10. Founder's Day/International Women's Day	March 8, 2018
11. Palm Sunday	March 25, 2018
12. Maundy Thursday	March 29, 2018
13. Good Friday	March 30, 2018
14. Easter Sunday	April 1, 2018
15. Ascension Sunday	May 13, 2018
16. Day of Pentecost	May 20, 2018
17. Trinity Sunday	May 27, 2018
18. Apostles Lent/Fast of the Holy Apostles	June 16-29, 2018
19. St. Peter and Paul Memorial Day	June 29, 2018
20. Feast of the 12 Apostles	June 30, 2018
21. St. Thomas Day	July 3, 2018
22. 72 Evangelists Day of Feast	July 5, 2018