

THE JOURNEY FROM

ORDINARY TIME

TO ADVENT



LECTIONARY YEAR A

4 October - 22 November 2020

Revised Common Lectionary:

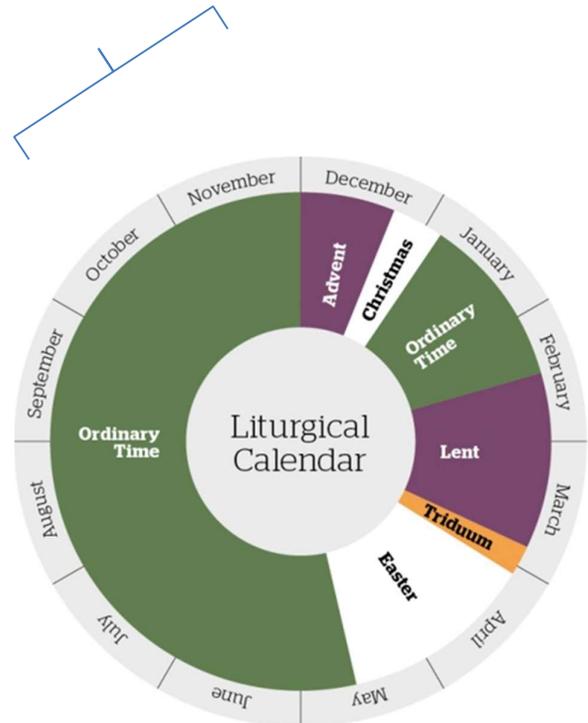
Ordinary Time to Advent

4 October to 22 November

This booklet contains the Lectionary Readings for the week, with emphasis on the Gospels.

The daily readings expand the range of biblical readings in worship and personal devotion; they complement the Sunday readings and can help prepare the reader for the Sunday ahead or help reflect and digest what was heard in worship.

All congregants are encouraged to make sermon notes on a Sunday and to join a small group for deeper discussion in the week.



Week 1: 4 October

The Parable of the Tenants

Week 2: 11 October

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

Week 3: 18 October

Paying the poll-tax to Caesar

Week 4: 25 October

The Greatest Commandment & Whose son is the Messiah?

Week 5: 1 November

A warning against Hypocrisy

Week 6: 8 November

The Parable of the ten virgins

Week 7: 15 November

The Parable of the bags of gold

Week 8: 22 November

The sheep and the goats



DAILY READINGS

Monday, September 28: Psalm 42; Exodus 18:1-12; Philippians 1:3-14
Tuesday, September 29: Psalm 42; Exodus 18:13-27; Philippians 1:15-21
Wednesday, September 30: Psalm 42; Exodus 19:9b-25; Matthew 9:2-8
Thursday, October 1: Psalm 19; Exodus 23:1-9; Colossians 2:16-23
Friday, October 2: Psalm 19; Exodus 23:14-19; Philippians 2:14-18; 3:1-4a
Saturday, October 3: Psalm 19; Exodus 23:10-13; John 7:40-52

Week 1: 4 October

The Parable of the tenants

WORSHIP SONG	Umbhedesho – Joyous Celebration
PRAYER:	Dear God, we thank you that you care about each one of us. We love that you know everything that is happening in our lives and that you work it all out for our own good. May we discern your voice in this study and your presence in our lives always. AMEN

First Reading:	Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm:	Psalm 19
Second Reading:	Philippians 3:4b-14
Gospel:	Matthew 21:33-46

Matthew 21:33-46 New International Version - UK (NIVUK)

The parable of the tenants

³³ Listen to another parable: there was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall round it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. ³⁴ When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. ³⁵ The tenants



seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. ³⁶ Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Last of all, he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance." ³⁹ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰ Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,' they replied, 'and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.' ⁴² Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The stone the

builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes”?⁴³ ‘Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.’⁴⁴ Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.’⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. ⁴⁶ They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

KEY VERSES

⁴³ ‘Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.’

Call on God’s presence by lighting a candle, having a moment of silence, and praying.



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Who do all the characters and the vineyard in the story represent?
2. What should our response be to Jesus’ message? Do you live up to that response or will you obey someday?
3. What will God harvest from you when he comes back? Are there opportunities staring you in the face right now? Will you take the risk?
4. Give an example of your trust in God’s authority in your life, how your obedience has made a difference.

CLOSING PRAYER

Dear God, we are so blessed to have learned about You and Your Word. Help us to live as Jesus did this week as we honor what we have heard and learned. Give us the courage to make the changes we need to in order to obey You. Amen

MEMORY VERSES

Psalm 119:50 (NIVUK)

⁵⁰ My comfort in my suffering is this: your promise preserves my life.

Psalm 106: 1 (NIVUK)

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

DAILY READINGS

Monday, October 5: Psalm 119:49-56; Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 1 Peter 2:4-10
Tuesday, October 6: Psalm 119:49-56; Deuteronomy 5:22-6:3; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Wednesday, October 7: Psalm 119:49-56; Deuteronomy 6:10-25; John 11:45-57
Thursday, October 8: Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Exodus 24:1-8; 1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14
Friday, October 9: Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Exodus 24:9-11; James 4:4-10
Saturday, October 10: Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Exodus 24:12-18; Mark 2:18-22

Week 2: 11 October

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

WORSHIP SONG	What can I bring – Jeremy Riddle
PRAYER:	Dear God, we thank you that you care about each one of us. We love that you know everything that is happening in our lives and that you work it all out for our own good. May we discern your voice in this study and your presence in our lives always. AMEN

First Reading:	Exodus 32:1-14
Psalms:	Psalms 106:1-6, 19-23
Second Reading:	Philippians 4:1-9
Gospel:	Matthew 22:1-14

Matthew 22:1-14 New International Version - UK (NIVUK)

The parable of the wedding banquet

22 Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ² 'The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come. ⁴ Then he sent some more servants and said, "Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet." ⁵ But they paid no attention and went off – one to his field, another to his business. ⁶ The rest seized his servants, ill-treated them and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his servants, "The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹ So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find." ¹⁰ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹ But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹² He asked, "How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?" The man was speechless. ¹³ Then the king told the attendants, "Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." ¹⁴ For many are invited, but few are chosen.'



KEY VERSE

¹⁴ 'For many are invited, but few are chosen.'

call on God's presence by lighting a candle, having a moment of silence, and praying.



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Share with the group how you received your invitation to love Jesus?
2. God gives each one of us the garment of righteousness to totally immerse ourselves into His life for us. Name the blessings and talents that God has given you to enable you to live your best life.
3. Do you live a passionate surrendered life to Jesus? What can you change to fully immerse yourself in this life?

CLOSING PRAYER

Dear God, we are so blessed to have learned about You and Your Word. Help us to accept the invitation and to take the risk to love abundantly this week as we honor what we have heard and learned.

MEMORY VERSES

Psalm 97:10

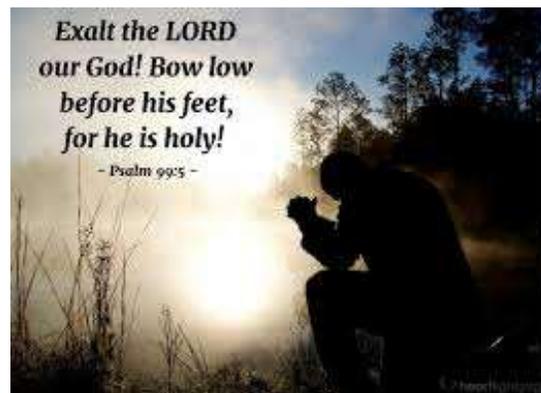
¹⁰ Let those who love the LORD hate evil, for he guards the lives of his faithful ones and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Psalm 99:5

⁵ Exalt the LORD our God and worship at his footstool; he is holy.

DAILY READINGS

Monday, October 12: Psalm 97; Exodus 32:15-35; Jude 17-25
Tuesday, October 13: Psalm 97; Exodus 33:1-6; Philippians 3:13-4:1
Wednesday, October 14: Psalm 97; 2 Kings 17:7-20; John 6:25-35
Thursday, October 15: Psalm 99; Exodus 33:7-11; 3 John 9-12
Friday, October 16: Psalm 99; Exodus 31:1-11; 1 Peter 5:1-5
Saturday, October 17: Psalm 99; Exodus 39:32-43; Matthew 14:1-12



Week 3: 18 October

Paying the poll-tax to Caesar

<i>WORSHIP SONG</i>	Here in the Presence – Elevation Worship
<i>PRAYER:</i>	Dear God, we thank you that you care about each one of us. We love that you know everything that is happening in our lives and that you work it all out for our own good. May we discern your voice in this study and your presence in our lives always. AMEN

First Reading:	Exodus 33:12-23
Psalms:	Psalms 99
Second Reading:	I Thessalonians 1:1-10
Gospel:	Matthew 22:15-22

Matthew 22:15-22 New International Version - UK (NIVUK)

Paying the poll-tax to Caesar

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. ¹⁶ They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. ‘Teacher,’ they said, ‘we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance



with the truth. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. ¹⁷ Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the poll-tax to Caesar or not?’ ¹⁸ But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, ‘You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me?’ ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for paying the tax.’ They brought him a denarius, ²⁰ and he asked them, ‘Whose image is this? And whose inscription?’ ²¹ ‘Caesar’s,’ they replied. Then he said to them, ‘So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.’ ²² When they heard this, they were amazed. So, they left him and went away.

KEY VERSE

²⁰ **‘So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.’**

Call on God’s presence by lighting a candle, having a moment of silence, and praying.



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. We are citizens of the world and of God's kingdom. With that comes privileges and responsibilities. Remind each other of the privileges you have being a citizen of each.
2. Discuss the responsibilities we have being citizens of both. Are you a good steward with what God has given you? Do you give our country, the church, your family and God what they are due?
3. Commit to one thing you will take complete ownership of, something that you might have neglected in the past.



CLOSING PRAYER

Dear God, we are so blessed to have learned about You and Your Word. Help us carry our specific responsibilities with joy this week as we honor what you have given us and become better stewards. We adore you. Amen.

MEMORY VERSES

Psalm 63:7-8

⁷ Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings.

⁸ I cling to you; your right hand upholds me.

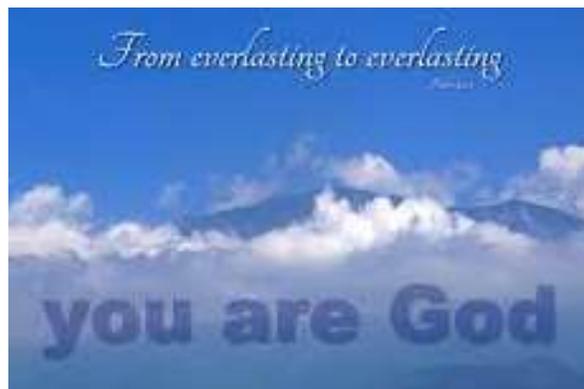
Psalm 90:1-2

¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling-place throughout all generations.

² Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

DAILY READINGS

Monday, October 19: Psalm 63:1-8; Exodus 40:34-38; Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20
Tuesday, October 20: Psalm 63:1-8; Numbers 12:1-9; Revelation 18:21-24
Wednesday, October 21: Psalm 63:1-8; Numbers 13:1-2, 17-14:9; Matthew 17:22-27
Thursday, October 22: Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; Deuteronomy 31:14-22; Titus 1:5-16
Friday, October 23: Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; Deuteronomy 32:1-14, 18; Titus 2:7-8, 11-15
Saturday, October 24: Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; Deuteronomy 32:44-47; John 5:39-47



Week 4: 25 October

The greatest commandment & Whose son is the Messiah?

WORSHIP SONG	No Other God – Dr Tumi
PRAYER:	Dear God, we thank you that you care about each one of us. We love that you know everything that is happening in our lives and that you work it all out for our own good. May we discern your voice in this study and your presence in our lives always. AMEN
First Reading:	Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalms:	Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17
Second Reading:	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Gospel:	Matthew 22:34-46

Matthew 22:34-46 New International Version - UK (NIVUK)

The greatest commandment

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ ‘Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?’

³⁷ Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.’

Whose son is the Messiah?

⁴¹ While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, ⁴² ‘What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son, is he?’ ‘The son of David,’ they replied. ⁴³ He said to them, ‘How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him “Lord”? For he says, ⁴⁴ “The Lord said to my Lord: ‘Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet.’” ⁴⁵ If then David calls him “Lord”, how can he be his son?’ ⁴⁶ No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

KEY VERSE

³⁷ **Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”**



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SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Who do you love most in this World?
2. Why do you love God?
3. In what way do you need to grow in love? In heart, soul or mind?
4. Which relationship do you need to focus on in the coming week?
 - a. Yourself
 - b. God
 - c. Your family
 - d. A friend
 - e. Someone in need?

What are you going to do about it?

CLOSING PRAYER

Dear God, we are so blessed to know that you love us with an everlasting love. Help us to focus on our relationships this week as we honor what we have heard and learned. We love you Jesus! AMEN.

MEMORY VERSES

Psalm 119:41-42

⁴¹ May your unfailing love come to me, LORD, your salvation, according to your promise;

⁴² then I can answer anyone who taunts me, for I trust in your word.

Psalm 107:1

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.



DAILY READINGS

Monday, October 26: Psalm 119:41-48 ; Numbers 33:38-39; James 2:8-13
Tuesday, October 27: Psalm 119:41-48; Exodus 34:29-35; James 2:14-26
Wednesday, October 28: Psalm 119:41-48; Due 26:16-27:7 ; Matthew 19:16-22
Thursday, October 29: Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Joshua 1:1-11; Romans 2:17-29
Friday, October 30: Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Joshua 2:1-14; 2 Peter 2:1-3
Saturday, October 31: Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Joshua 2:15-24; Matthew 23:13-28

Week 5: 1 November

A warning against hypocrisy

WORSHIP SONG	You Say – Lauren Daigle
PRAYER:	Dear God, we thank you that you care about each one of us. We love that you know everything that is happening in our lives and that you work it all out for our own good. May we discern your voice in this study and your presence in our lives always. AMEN

First Reading:	Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm:	Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
Second Reading:	1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Gospel:	Matthew 23:1-12

Matthew 23:1-12 New International Version - UK (NIVUK)

A warning against hypocrisy

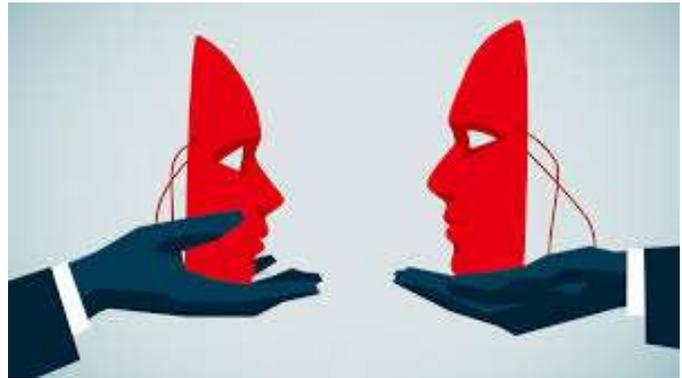
23 Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples: ² 'The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. ³ So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. ⁴ They tie up heavy,

cumbersome loads and put them on other people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them. ⁵ 'Everything they do is done for people to see: they make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; ⁶ they love the place of honour at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; ⁷ they love to be greeted with respect in the market-places and to be called "Rabbi" by others. ⁸ 'But you are not to be called "Rabbi", for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers. ⁹ And do not call anyone on earth "father", for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. ¹⁰ Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one Instructor, the Messiah. ¹¹ The greatest among you will be your servant. ¹² For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

KEY VERSE

¹² For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

Call on God's presence by lighting a candle, having a moment of silence, and praying.



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the most dominant values that your society deems most important?
2. What is your public image? Does it correlate with who you really think you are? Explain.
3. What are the rewards you get from not being the real you or by being true to yourself?
4. Who do you think God wants you to be? What do you need to do to get closer to that image?



CLOSING PRAYER

Dear God, we are so blessed to know that you love us just as we are. Help us carry your image of us in our hearts so that we do not get swayed by false rewards or hopeless thoughts. We lay ourselves at your feet. AMEN

MEMORY VERSES

Psalm 128:5

⁵ May the LORD bless you; may you see prosperity all the days of your life.

Psalm 78:1

My people hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth.

DAILY READINGS

Monday, November 2: Psalm 128; Joshua 4:1-24; 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20
Tuesday, November 3: Psalm 128; Joshua 6:1-16, 20; Acts 13:1-12
Wednesday, November 4: Psalm 128; Joshua 10:12-14; Matthew 15:1-9
Thursday, November 5: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 5:10-12; Revelation 8:6-9:12
Friday, November 6: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 8:30-35; Revelation 9:13-21
Saturday, November 7: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 20:1-9; Matthew 24:1-14



Week 6: 8 November

The parable of the ten virgins

WORSHIP SONG	He knows my name – Tommy Walker
PRAYER:	Dear God, we thank you that you care about each one of us. We love that you know everything that is happening in our lives and that you work it all out for our own good. May we discern your voice in this study and your presence in our lives always. AMEN
First Reading:	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalms:	Psalms 78:1-7
Second Reading:	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel:	Matthew 25:1-13

Matthew 25:1-13 New International Version - UK (NIVUK)

The parable of the ten virgins

25 'At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them.

⁴The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. ⁶'At midnight the cry rang out: "Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!" ⁷'Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish ones said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out." ⁹"No," they replied, "there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves." ¹⁰'But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. ¹¹'Later the others also came. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us!" ¹²'But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I don't know you." ¹³'Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.



KEY VERSE

¹³ 'Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.'

Call on God's presence by lighting a candle, having a moment of silence, and praying.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Are you usually late, early or right on time?
2. How do you react to people saying that there are “signs of the times” and that the end of the world is coming?
3. How do you feel about Jesus saying that there will be a cut off time, where you might be too late?
4. What can you do to ensure you are ready?
5. How can this group pray for you?



CLOSING PRAYER

Dear God, we are so blessed that we can talk to you directly, that we can make time to spend with you weekly and daily. Help us to honour this special time so that we can discern your voice in our lives. AMEN

MEMORY VERSES

Matthew 25:13

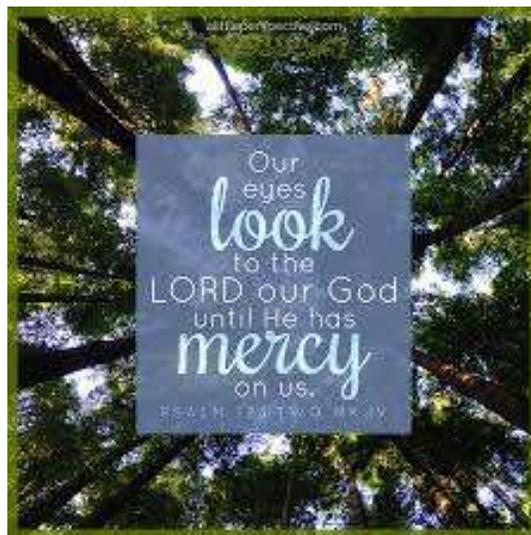
¹³ Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

Psalm 123

I lift my eyes to you, to you who sit enthroned in heaven.

DAILY READINGS

Monday, November 9: Psalm 78; Joshua 24:25-33; I Corinthians 14:20-25
Tuesday, November 10: Psalm 78; Nehemiah 8:1-12; I Thessalonians 3:6-13
Wednesday, November 11: Psalm 78; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Matthew 24:29-35
Thursday, November 12: Psalm 123; Judges 2:6-15; Revelation 16:1-7
Friday, November 13: Psalm 123; Judges 2:16-23; Revelation 16:8-21
Saturday, November 14: Psalm 123; Judges 5:1-12; Matthew 12:43-45



Week 7: 15 November

The parable of the bags of gold

WORSHIP SONG	Fill me up – Tasha Cobbs
PRAYER:	Dear God, we thank you that you care about each one of us. We love that you know everything that is happening in our lives and that you work it all out for our own good. May we discern your voice in this study and your presence in our lives always. AMEN

First Reading:	Judges 4:1-7
Psalms:	Psalms 123
Second Reading:	I Thessalonians 5:1-11
Gospel:	Matthew 25:14-30

Matthew 25:14-30 New International Version - UK (NIVUK)

The parable of the bags of gold

¹⁴ 'Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ 'After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. "Master," he said, "you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more." ²¹ 'His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!" ²² 'The man with two bags of gold also came. "Master," he said, "you entrusted me with two bags of gold: see, I have gained two more." ²³ 'His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!" ²⁴ 'Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. "Master," he said, "I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is



what belongs to you.”²⁶ ‘His master replied, “You wicked, lazy servant! So, you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed?”²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned, I would have received it back with interest.”²⁸ “So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags.”²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.”³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

KEY VERSE

²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.

Call on God's presence by lighting a candle, having a moment of silence, and praying.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Who would you trust with your worldly possessions? Why?
2. Do you cherish or curse what you have? Think of your talents, possessions, job, family, home, partner, financial situation, looks? Which one jumps out for you? Why?
3. What has God given you to make a difference in this world? What have you done with it?
4. How will you feel if you get more responsibilities added to what you already have?



CLOSING PRAYER

Dear God, we are so blessed to know that we are one of a kind and that we each have something to bring to this world. Help us make peace with who we are and what we have so that we can use it to the glory of your kingdom. We praise you Lord! AMEN

MEMORY VERSES

Psalm 100:3

Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Psalm 100:5

For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.



DAILY READINGS

Monday, November 16: Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Judges 4:8-24; Romans 2:1-11
Tuesday, November 17: Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Exodus 2:1-10; 1 The 5:12-18
Wednesday, November 18: Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Esther 7:1-10; Matthew 24:45-51
Thursday, November 19: Psalm 100; Genesis 48:15-22; Revelation 14:1-11
Friday, November 20: Psalm 100; Isaiah 40:1-11; Revelation 22:1-9
Saturday, November 21: Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34:25-31; Matthew 12:46-50

Week 8: 22 November

The sheep and the goats

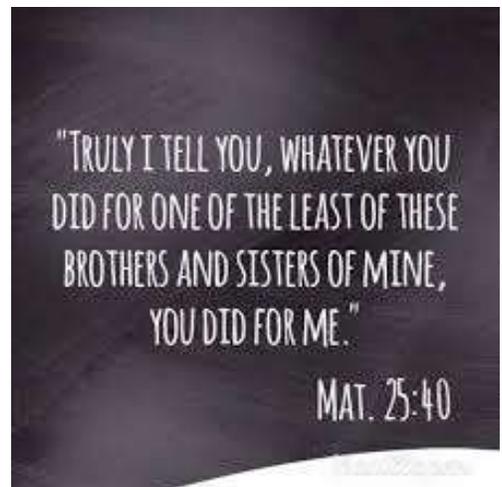
WORSHIP SONG	The Lord's Prayer – Hillsong Worship
PRAYER:	Dear God, we thank you that you care about each one of us. We love that you know everything that is happening in our lives and that you work it all out for our own good. May we discern your voice in this study and your presence in our lives always. AMEN

First Reading:	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm:	Psalm 100
Second Reading:	Ephesians 1:15-23
Gospel:	Matthew 25:31-46

Matthew 25:31-46 New International Version - UK (NIVUK)

The sheep and the goats

³¹ 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. ³⁴ 'Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was ill and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."



³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was ill and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

³⁷ 'Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you ill or in prison and go to visit you?" ⁴⁰ 'The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." ⁴¹ 'Then he will say to those on his left, "Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was ill and in prison and you did not look after me." ⁴⁴ 'They also will answer, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or ill or in prison, and did not help you?" ⁴⁵ 'He will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me." ⁴⁶ 'Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.'

KEY VERSE

⁴⁰ "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Call on God's presence by lighting a candle, having a moment of silence, and praying.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Who has always been there for you when you needed them most?
2. On what basis will people be separated:
 - a. Their beliefs
 - b. Their actions
 - c. Their character
 - d. Their treatment of others
3. How do you react when people ask you for help? Can you respond without guilt or remorse?
4. Have you ever been in a position where you had to ask for help? What happened?
5. What can this group do for those in need this week?



CLOSING PRAYER

Dear God, most of us are so blessed to have life, food, clothes and good health. Help us to hear the plea those in need around us and to respond in your way and name all the time. Make us aware of opportunities to help and assist where we can. Help us be you in this world. AMEN

MEMORY VERSES

Psalm 117:2

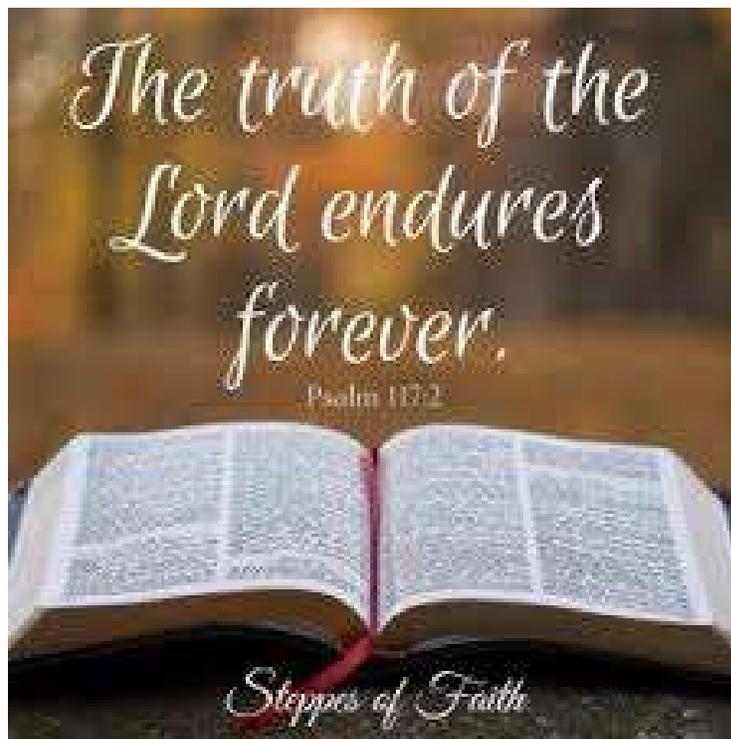
For great is his love towards us, ^{and} the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Psalm 80:3

Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

DAILY READINGS

Monday, November 23: Psalm 117; Jeremiah 30:1-17; Revelation 21:5-27
Tuesday, November 24: Psalm 117; Jeremiah 30:18-24; Revelation 22:8-21
Wednesday, November 25: Psalm 117; Jeremiah 31:1-6; Luke 1:1-4
Thursday, November 26: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Zechariah 13:1-9; Revelation 14:6-13
Friday, November 27: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Zechariah 14:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-18
Saturday, November 28: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Micah 2:1-13; Matthew 24:15-31



SOURCES CONSULTED

www.lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/daily

IMAGES: Google Images

BIBLES: Life Application Bible, Serendipity Bible, Max Lucado Life Lessons Study Bible Gateway (NIVUK) version used

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Bryanston Methodist Church October to November 2020



SMALL GROUPS:

Intentionally transforming people in loving community!

Small groups are the ideal place for you to:

Connect with others in life-giving fellowship, learn more about yourself and God, grow in your relationship with God, hold each other accountable for your walk with Jesus, live out your spiritual gifts supported by friends, make an impact whilst living out your God-given purpose.

We believe that life happens in community!

Contact NADJA to join a small group near you! nadjaa@bmc.org.za / 011463 2333

