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LECTIONARY & CALENDAR

2016-2017

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YEAR A – MATTHEW

Calendar and Lectionary

Introduction

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

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

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

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

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

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

Christmas	The Christmas-Epiphany season includes Christmas Day and the twelve following days of Christmas. Recalling the stories of the birth and infancy of Christ, the church celebrates the mystery of the incarnation.
Epiphany	The period of several weeks in which the church reflects on the manifestation of Christ to all peoples.
Lent	The season of preparation and discipline, which begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes at sun-down on Holy Saturday. During the forty weekdays and six Sundays in Lent, the church remembers the sacrificial life and ministry of Jesus leading to the cross and renews its commitment to Christian discipleship.
Easter	The Great Fifty Days of the Easter-Pentecost season include eight Sundays. Beginning on Easter Day and concluding on the Day of Pentecost, this season celebrates the resurrection and ascension of Christ and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
Pentecost	The period during which the church recalls its faith in God the Holy Trinity and seeks to relate its faith as the people of God to Christ's mission to the world.
Ordinary Readings	Year A in the three year cycle of readings is referred to as "The Year of Matthew", Year B "Mark", and Year C "Luke". Readings from John's Gospel are included mainly in Lent and Easter. Note that during Ordinary Time, apart from the Psalm which is chosen as a response to the First Testament (or first) reading, the readings from First Testament, Epistle, and Gospel are <i>not</i> chosen to relate to one another at all. Instead, these readings follow three different "streams" of texts semi-continuously over a period of weeks. (The only exceptions are Trinity Sunday, All Saints Day and Reign of Christ when a single theme is followed.) Those planning worship through this season should pick just one of these passages to set the service theme. The others can be included as readings.

Additional Readings	Dates shown with an asterisk (*) alongside denote special occasions, which are listed at the back of the Lectionary. Preachers are encouraged to read and make use of parallel passages alongside the given Gospel reading, where they occur.
Terminology	In keeping with modern understandings of Scripture and sensitivity to other traditions, readers of the Bible in worship are encouraged to indicate that they are about to give "a reading..." (from, eg, Ps 119, the book of Genesis, John's Gospel) rather than unnecessarily referring to the Old Testament or New Testament.
Liturgical Colours	These apply to church decorations and the vestments of worship leaders during the church year. The Lectionary shows the basic pattern, although practices vary slightly from place to place.
Index Numbers	Next to each date there is a number (eg 42C). This is the COCU (Consultation on Church Union) indexing system. Due to the moveable feasts in the calendar, the cycle of readings does not exactly repeat every three years. For example, Pentecost 2 in Year B may have different readings from one cycle to the next. The COCU number allows cross referencing to the same readings in a previous cycle. This means that you will be able to access archived copies of previous years' lectionary resources for a given week.
	Abbreviations are: V = violet or purple (preparation; Advent and Lent) W = white (light, joy; Christmas, Easter, infant baptism, weddings) R = red (fire, Spirit; Pentecost, ordination, induction, sometimes adult baptism, and for the funeral of a 'saint' of the Church) G = green (growth; 'ordinary' days from Pentecost to Advent)

Lectionary and Calendar 2016-2017

Abbreviations and versification are according to the NRSV.

Verse references in brackets indicate optional, extended readings.

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
2016					
ADVENT					
November 27 Advent 1 01A	V	Is 2: 1-5	Ps 122	Rom 13: 11-14	Mt 24: 36-44
December 4 Advent 2 02A	V	Is 11: 1-10	Ps 72: 1-7, 18-19	Rom 15: 4-13	Mt 3: 1-12
December 11 Advent 3 03A	V	Is 35: 1-10	Ps 146: 5-10 <i>or</i> Lk 1:46b- 55	James 5: 7-10	Mt 11: 2-11
December 18 Advent 4 04A	V	Is 7: 10-16	Ps 80: 1-7, 17-19	Rom 1: 1-7	Mt 1: 18-25
CHRISTMAS Christmas Eve and Christmas Day 05A					
December 24 Christmas Eve	W	Is 9: 2-7	Ps 96	Titus 2: 11-14	Lk 2: 1-14, (15-20)
December 25 Christmas Dawn	W	Is 62: 6-12	Ps 97	Titus 3: 4-7	Lk 2: (1-7), 8-20
December 25 Christmas Day	W	Is 52: 7-10	Ps 98	Heb 1: 1-4 (5-12)	Jn 1: 1-14
2017					
January 1 Christmas 1 06A	W	Is 63: 7-9	Ps 148	Heb 2: 10-18	Mt 2: 13-23
EPIPHANY					
January 6 Epiphany 08A ¹ [see footnote]	W	Is 60: 1-6	Ps 72: 1-7, 10-14	Eph 3: 1-12	Mt 2: 1-12
January 8 Epiphany 1 09A (Baptism of Jesus)	W	Is 42: 1-9	Ps 29	Acts 10: 34-43	Mt 3: 13-17
January 15 Epiphany 2 10A	G	Is 49: 1-7	Ps 40: 1-11	1 Cor 1: 1-9	Jn 1: 29-42

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

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
January 22 * Epiphany 3 11A	G	Is 9: 1-4	Ps 27: 1, 4-9	1 Cor 1: 10-18	Mt 4: 12-23
January 29 Epiphany 4 12A	G	Micah 6: 1-8	Ps 15	1 Cor 1: 18-31	Mt 5: 1-12
February 5 * Epiphany 5 13A	G	Is 58: 1-9a (9b-12)	Ps 112: 1-9 (10)	1 Cor 2: 1-12 (13-16)	Mt 5: 13-20
February 12 Epiphany 6 14A	G	Deut 30: 15-20 <i>or</i> Sirach 15: 15-20	Ps 119: 1-8	1 Cor 3: 1-9	Mt 5: 21-37
February 19 Epiphany 7 15A	G	Lev 19: 1-2, 9-18	Ps 119: 33-40	1 Cor 3: 10-11, 16-23	Mt 5: 38-48
February 26 17A Transfiguration	W	Ex 24: 12-18	Ps 2 <i>or</i> Ps 99	2 Peter 1: 16-21	Mt 17: 1-9
LENT					
March 1 Ash Wednesday 18A	V	Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17 <i>or</i> Is 58: 1-12	Ps 51: 1-17	2 Cor 5: 20b – 6: 10	Mt 6: 1-6, 16-21
March 5 Lent 1 19A	V	Gen 2: 15-17 3: 1-7	Ps 32	Rom 5: 12-19	Mt 4: 1-11
March 12 Lent 2 20A	V	Gen 12: 1-4a	Ps 121	Rom 4: 1-5, 13-17	Jn 3: 1-17 <i>or</i> Mt 17: 1-9
March 19 Lent 3 21A	V	Ex 17: 1-7	Ps 95	Rom 5: 1-11	Jn 4: 5-42
March 26 Lent 4 22A	V	1 Sam 16: 1-13	Ps 23	Eph 5: 8-14	Jn 9: 1-41
April 2 Lent 5 23A	V	Ezek 37: 1-14	Ps 130	Rom 8: 6-11	Jn 11: 1-45
April 9 Lent 6 24A Palm Sunday <i>or</i> Passion Sunday	V	None <i>or</i> Is 50: 4-9a	Ps 118: 1-2, 19-29 <i>or</i> Ps 31: 9-16	None <i>or</i> Phil 2: 5-11	<i>Palm</i> Mt 21: 1-11 <i>Passion</i> Mt 26: 14- 27: 66 <i>or</i> Mt 27: 11-54

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalms	Second Reading	Gospel
HOLY WEEK					
April 10 Monday 25A	V	Is 42: 1-9	Ps 36: 5-11	Heb 9: 11-15	Jn 12: 1-11
April 11 Tuesday 26A	V	Is 49: 1-7	Ps 71: 1-14	1 Cor 1: 18-31	Jn 12: 20-36
April 12 Wednesday 27A	V	Is 50: 4-9a	Ps 70	Heb 12: 1-3	Jn 13: 21-32
April 13 Maundy Thursday 28A	V	Ex 12: 1-4, (5-10), 11-14	Ps 116: 1-2, 12-19	1 Cor 11: 23-26	Jn 13: 1-17, 31b-35
April 14 Good Friday 29A	V	Is 52: 13-53: 12	Ps 22	Heb 10: 16-25 <i>or</i> Heb 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9	Jn 18: 1-19: 42
April 15 Holy Saturday 30A	V	Job 14:1-14 <i>or</i> Lam 3: 1-9, 19-24	Ps 31: 1-4, 15-16	1 Peter 4: 1-8	Mt 27: 57-66 <i>or</i> Jn 19: 38-42
EASTER					
April 16 Easter Dawn 31A	W	Ex 14: 10-31; 15: 20-21	Ps 114	Rom 6: 3-11	Mt 28: 1-10
April 16 Easter Day 31A	W	Acts 10: 34-43 <i>or</i> Jer 31: 1-6	Ps 118: 1-2, 14-24	Col 3: 1-4 <i>or</i> Acts 10: 34-43	Jn 20: 1-18 <i>or</i> Mt 28: 1-10
April 23 * Easter 2 32A	W	Acts 2: 14a, 22-32	Ps 16	1 Peter 1: 3-9	Jn 20: 19-31
April 30 Easter 3 33A	W	Acts 2: 14a, 36-41	Ps 116: 1-4, 12-19	1 Peter 1: 17-23	Lk 24: 13-35
May 7 * Easter 4 34A	W	Acts 2: 42-47	Ps 23	1 Peter 2: 19-25	Jn 10: 1-10
May 14 * Easter 5 35A	W	Acts 7: 55-60	Ps 31: 1-5, 15-16	1 Peter 2: 2-10	Jn 14: 1-14
May 21 * Easter 6 36A	W	Acts 17: 22-31	Ps 66: 8-20	1 Peter 3: 13-22	Jn 14: 15-21

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalms	Second Reading	Gospel
May 25 Ascension 37A ² [see footnote]	W	Acts 1: 1-11	Ps 47 <i>or</i> Ps 93	Eph 1: 15-23	Lk 24: 44-53
May 28 * Easter 7 38A	W	Acts 1: 6-14	Ps 68: 1-10, 32-35	1 Peter 4: 12-14; 5: 6-11	Jn 17: 1-11
PENTECOST					
June 4 Pentecost 39A	R	Acts 2: 1-21 <i>or</i> Num 11: 24-30	Ps 104: 24-34, 35b	1 Cor 12: 3b-13 <i>or</i> Acts 2: 1-21	Jn 20: 19-23 <i>or</i> Jn 7: 37-39
June 11 Trinity 40A	W	Gen 1: 1-2: 4a	Ps 8	2 Cor 13: 11-13	Mt 28: 16-20
June 18 * Pentecost 2 43A	G	Gen 18: 1-15 (21: 1-7)	Ps 116: 1-2, 12-19	Rom 5: 1-8	Mt 9: 35-10: 8 (9-23)
June 25 * Pentecost 3 44A	G	Gen 21: 8-21	Ps 86: 1-10, 16-17	Rom 6: 1b-11	Mt 10: 24-39
July 2 Pentecost 4 45A	G	Gen 22: 1-14	Ps 13	Rom 6: 12-23	Mt 10: 40-42
July 9 Pentecost 5 46A	G	Gen 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67	Ps 45: 10-17 <i>or</i> Song Sol 2: 8-13	Rom 7: 15-25a	Mt 11: 16-19, 25-30
July 16 Pentecost 6 47A	G	Gen 25: 19-34	Ps 119: 105-112	Rom 8: 1-11	Mt 13: 1-9, 18-23
July 23 Pentecost 7 48A	G	Gen 28: 10-19a	Ps 139: 1-12, 23-24	Rom 8: 12-25	Mt 13: 24-30, 36-43
July 30 Pentecost 8 49A	G	Gen 29: 15-28	Ps 105: 1-11, 45b <i>or</i> Ps 128	Rom 8: 26-39	Mt 13: 31-33, 44-52
August 6 * Pentecost 9 50A	G	Gen 32: 22-31	Ps 17: 1-7, 15	Rom 9: 1-5	Mt 14: 13-21
August 13 * Pentecost 10 51A	G	Gen 37: 1-4, 12-28	Ps 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b	Rom 10: 5-15	Mt 14: 22-33

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

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalms	Second Reading	Gospel
August 20 * Pentecost 11 52A	G	Gen 45: 1-15	Ps 133	Rom 11: 1-2a, 29-32	Mt 15: (10-20), 21-28
August 27 * Pentecost 12 53A	G	Ex 1: 8-2: 10	Ps 124	Rom 12: 1-8	Mt 16: 13-20
CREATION					
September 3 * Pentecost 13 54A	G	Ex 3: 1-15	Ps 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45b	Rom 12: 9-21	Mt 16: 21-28
September 10 Pentecost 14 55A	G	Ex 12: 1-14	Ps 149	Rom 13: 8-14	Mt 18: 15-20
September 17 Pentecost 15 56A	G	Ex 14: 19-31	Ps 114 <i>or</i> Ex 15: 1b-11, 20-21	Rom 14: 1-12	Mt 18: 21-35
September 24 * Pentecost 16 57A	G	Ex 16: 2-15	Ps 105: 1-6, 37-45	Phil 1: 21-30	Mt 20: 1-16
October 1 * Pentecost 17 58A	G	Ex 17: 1-7	Ps 78: 1-4, 12-16	Phil 2: 1-13	Mt 21: 23-32
October 8 * Pentecost 18 59A	G	Ex 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20	Ps 19	Phil 3: 4b-14	Mt 21: 33-46
October 15 * Pentecost 19 60A	G	Ex 32: 1-14	Ps 106: 1-6, 19-23	Phil 4: 1-9	Mt 22: 1-14
October 22 * Pentecost 20 61A	G	Ex 33: 12-23	Ps 99	1 Thes 1: 1-10	Mt 22: 15-22
October 29 * Pentecost 21 62A	G	Deut 34: 1-12	Ps 90: 1-6, 13-17	1 Thes 2: 1-8	Mt 22: 34-46
November 1 All Saints 63A ³ [see footnote]	W	Rev 7: 9-17	Ps 34: 1-10, 22	1 Jn 3: 1-3	Mt 5: 1-12
November 5 Pentecost 22 64A	G	Josh 3: 7-17	Ps 107: 1-7, 33-37	1 Thes 2: 9-13	Mt 23: 1-12
November 12 Pentecost 23 65A	G	Josh 24: 1-3a, 14-25	Ps 78: 1-7	1 Thes 4: 13-18	Mt 25: 1-13
November 19 Pentecost 24 66A	G	Judg 4: 1-7	Ps 123	1 Thes 5: 1-11	Mt 25: 14-30
November 26 Pentecost 25 67A Reign of Christ	W	Ez 34: 11-16, 20-24	Ps 100	Eph 1: 15-23	Mt 25: 31-46

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

Additional Readings

Date	First Reading	Psalms	Second Reading	Gospel
Watchnight or End of Year Service	Eccl 3: 1-15	Ps 90	1 Thes 5: 1-11	Mt 24: 32-51
New Year's Service	Eccl 3: 1-13	Ps 8	Rev 21: 1-6a	Mt 25: 31-46
First full week of the year (Monday to Saturday) – Tongan and Samoan Methodists hold meetings for prayer, morning and evening in preparation for the coming year.				
Covenant Sunday	Jer 31: 31-33 <i>or</i> Deut 7: 7-11	Ps 25: 4-15	Rom 12: 1-2	Jn 15: 1-8
Methodist Martyrs – Jan 22 or Sunday nearest	Gen 45: 4-8; 50: 19-21	Ps 7: 1-11	Rev 2: 8-11	Jn 15: 7-17
Waitangi Day – or Sunday nearest Feb 6	Deut 10: 12-21	Ps 144: 9-15	1 Cor 1: 26-31	Mt 6: 19-24
World Day of Prayer – 1st Friday in March				
Anzac Day – or Sunday nearest April 25	Is 52: 7-12	Ps 76	Eph 6: 10-20	Lk 6: 27-36
Faka-Me – 1st Sunday in May: Special Sunday for Tongan children and youth.				
Home and Family Sunday – 2nd Sunday in May (Mother's Day)	Is 66: 10-13	Ps 84: 1-4	1 Jn 4: 7-12, 20-21	Lk 2: 40-52
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – Ascension Day to Pentecost Sunday				
Wesley Day – Sunday preceding / on May 24	Is 12: 1-6	Ps 130	2 Peter 1: 1-11	Mt 9: 35-10: 16
Asia Sunday – Sunday before Pentecost				
Disability Sunday – 3rd Sunday in June				
World Refugee Day – June 20 (or the Sunday immediately after)				
Matariki – June 25, 2017				

Date	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
Bible Sunday – Is now Bible month. Use a Sunday in July to promote the Scriptures (Worship and Christian Education resources available annually from the Bible Society)				
Maori Language Week – begins Monday of the 4th week in July				
Hiroshima Day (Aug 6) or Peace Sunday (Sunday nearest Aug 6)	Micah 4: 1-4	Ps 85	2 Cor 5: 16-20	Jn 20: 19-21 or Mt 5: 1-12
Lay Preachers' Sunday – 2nd Sunday in August				
Youth Sunday – 3rd or 4th Sunday in August				
Season of Creation <i>2017 theme: The Spirit in Creation</i>				
September 1	Creation Day			
September 3	1st Sunday in Creation		Forest Sunday	
September 10	2nd Sunday in Creation		Land Sunday	
September 17	3rd Sunday in Creation		High Country Sunday	
September 24	4th Sunday in Creation		River Sunday	
October 1	5th Sunday in Creation		Blessing of the Animals	
October 4	St Francis of Assisi Day			
October 8	Final Sunday in Creation			
<i>Online resources from www.seasonofcreation.com</i>				
Father's Day – 1st Sunday in September	Gen 37: 19-24, 29-35	Ps 103: 6-13	Eph 6: 1-4	Mt 1: 18-25
Citizenship Sunday – 4th Sunday in September.				
World Communion Sunday – 1st Sunday in October:	Jer 1: 4-10	Ps 96	1 Peter 2: 4-10	Mt 28: 16-20
White Sunday – 2nd Sunday in October: Special Sunday for Samoan children and youth.				
Week of Prayer for World Peace – 3rd to 4th Sunday in October.				
Industrial Sunday – Sunday preceding Labour Day (4th Monday in October). In Methodist Churches the "Social Principles" may be read.				
Reformers of the Church – October 31 (or Sunday nearest)	Amos 5: 14-24	Ps 106: 1-12	1 Peter 2: 1-10	Lk 6: 46-49

Date	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
Spring or Flower Services	Gen 1: 1-5, 11-13	Ps 104	1 Cor 3: 1-9	Mt 13: 24-30
Harvest Thanksgiving	Deut 26: 1-11	Ps 126	Gal 6: 6-10	Mt 13: 1-13, 18-23
Dedication of Buildings	Is 56: 1-7	Ps 150	Heb 10: 19-25	Mt 21: 12-16
Church Anniversary	Ex 13: 3-10	Ps 84	1 Peter 2: 1-5	Mt 21: 12-16
Members' Sunday	Joshua 24: 1-24	Ps 105: 1-11	1 Cor 12: 12-27	Mt 22: 1-14
Induction Service	Is 40: 1-9	Ps 96	2 Tim 1: 8-14	Mt 9: 35-38
Vocations Sunday	Jer 1: 1-10	Ps 139: 1-18, 23-24	1 Cor 12: 4-13	Mk 10: 35-45

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