



# Lectionary & Calendar

2026 – 2027

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Year B – Mark



# Calendar and Lectionary

## Introduction

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### **Calendar**

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

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### **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 known as 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.

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### **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.

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<b>Christmas</b>	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.
<b>Epiphany</b>	The period of several weeks in which the church reflects on the manifestation of Christ to all peoples.
<b>Lent</b>	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 costly Christian discipleship.
<b>Easter</b>	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.
<b>Pentecost</b>	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.
<b>Ordinary Readings</b>	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 not chosen to relate to one another at all. Instead, these readings follow three different "streams" of texts semi-continuously over a period of weeks. (Unless you are following the alternate complementary RCL readings, 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.
<b>Additional Readings</b>	Dates shown with an asterisk (*) alongside denote special occasions, which are listed at the back of the

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Lectionary. As well as these, preachers are encouraged to read and make use of parallel passages alongside the given Gospel reading, where they occur.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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)

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### **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.

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# Lectionary and Calendar 2026-2027

Abbreviations and versification are according to the NRSV.

Verse references in brackets indicate optional, extended readings.

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
<b>2026</b>					
<b>ADVENT</b>					
November 29 Advent 1 01B	V	Is 64: 1-9	Ps 80: 1-7, 17-19	1 Cor 1: 3-9	Mk 13: 24-37
December 6 Advent 2 02B	V	Is 40: 1-11	Ps 85: 1-2, 8-13	2 Peter 3: 8-15a	Mk 1: 1-8
December 13 Advent 3 03B	V	Is 61: 1-4, 8-11	Ps 126	1 Thess 5: 16-24	Jn 1: 6-8, 19-28
December 20 Advent 4 04B	V	2 Sam 7: 1-11, 16	Ps 89: 1-4, 19-26	Rom 16: 25-27	Lk 1: 26-38
<b>CHRISTMAS</b> Christmas Eve and Christmas Day 05B					
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
December 27 Christmas 1 06B	W	Is 61: 10 - 62: 3	Ps 148	Gal 4: 4-7	Lk 2: 22-40
<b>2027</b>					
January 3 Christmas 2 07B	W	Jer 31: 7-14	Ps 147: 12-20:	Eph 1: 3-14	Jn 1: (1-9) 10-18
<b>EPIPHANY</b>					
January 6 Epiphany 08B <sup>1</sup> [see footnote]	W	Is 60: 1-6	Ps 72: 1-7, 10-14	Eph 3: 1-12	Mt 2: 1-12
January 10 Epiphany 1 09B (Baptism of Jesus)	W	Gen 1: 1-5	Ps 29	Acts 19: 1-7	Mk 1: 4-11
January 17 Epiphany 2 10B	G	1 Sam 3: 1-10, (11-20)	Ps 139: 1-6, 13-18	1 Cor 6: 12-20	Jn 1: 43-51

<sup>1</sup> 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 24 * Epiphany 3 11B	G	Jonah 3: 1-5, 10	Ps 62: 5-12	1 Cor 7: 29-31	Mk 1: 14-20
January 31 Epiphany 4 12B	G	Deut 18: 15-20	Ps 111	1 Cor 8: 1-13	Mk 1: 21-28
February 7 * 17B Transfiguration	W	2 Kings 2: 1-12	Ps 50: 1-6	2 Cor 4: 3-6	Mk 9: 2-9
<b>LENT</b>					
February 10 Ash Wednesday 18B	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
February 14 Lent 1 19B	V	Gen 9: 8-17	Ps 25: 1-10	1 Peter 3: 18-22	Mk 1: 9-15
February 21 Lent 2 20B	V	Gen 17: 1-7, 15-16	Ps 22: 23-31	Rom 4: 13-25	Mk 8: 31-38 <i>or</i> Mk 9: 2-9
February 28 Lent 3 21B	V	Ex 20: 1-17	Ps 19	1 Cor 1: 18-25	Jn 2: 13-22
March 7 Lent 4 22B	V	Num 21: 4-9	Ps 107: 1-3, 17-22	Eph 2: 1-10	Jn 3: 14-21
March 14 Lent 5 23B	V	Jer 31: 31-34	Ps 51: 1-12 <i>or</i> Ps 119: 9-16	Heb 5: 5-10	Jn 12: 20-33
March 21 Lent 6 24B 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	Palm Mk 11: 1-11 <i>or</i> Jn 12: 12-16 Passion Mk 14: 1- 15: 47 <i>or</i> Mk 15: 1-39 (40- 47)

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
<b>HOLY WEEK</b>					
March 22 Monday 25B	V	Is 42: 1-9	Ps 36: 5-11	Heb 9: 11-15	Jn 12: 1-11
March 23 Tuesday 26B	V	Is 49: 1-7	Ps 71: 1-14	1 Cor 1: 18-31	Jn 12: 20-36
March 24 Wednesday 27B	V	Is 50: 4-9a	Ps 70	Heb 12: 1-3	Jn 13: 21-32
March 25 28B Maundy Thursday	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
March 26 Good Friday 29B	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
March 27 Holy Saturday 30B	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
<b>EASTER</b>					
March 28 Easter Dawn 31B	W	Ex 14: 10-31, 15: 20-21	Ps 114	Rom 6: 3-11	Mk 16: 1-8
March 28 Easter Day 31B	W	Acts 10: 34-43 <i>or</i> Is 25: 6-9	Ps 118: 1-2, 14-24	1 Cor 15: 1-11 <i>or</i> Acts 10: 34-43	Jn 20: 1-18 <i>or</i> Mk 16: 1-8
April 4 Easter 2 32B	W	Acts 4: 32-35	Ps 133	1 Jn 1: 1 - 2: 2	Jn 20: 19-31
April 11 Easter 3 33B	W	Acts 3: 12-19	Ps 4	1 Jn 3: 1-7	Lk 24: 36b-48
April 18 Easter 4 34B	W	Acts 4: 5-12	Ps 23	1 Jn 3: 16-24	Jn 10: 11-18
April 25 * Easter 5 35B	W	Acts 8: 26-40	Ps 22: 25-31	1 Jn 4: 7-21	Jn 15: 1-8
May 2 * Easter 6 36B	W	Acts 10: 44-48	Ps 98	1 Jn 5: 1-6	Jn 15: 9-17
May 6 Ascension 37B <sup>2</sup> [see footnote]	W	Acts 1: 1-11	Ps 47 <i>or</i> Ps 93	Eph 1: 15-23	Lk 24: 44-53

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

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
May 9 * Easter 7 38B	W	Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26	Ps 1	1 Jn 5: 9-13	Jn 17: 6-19
<b>PENTECOST</b>					
May 16 * Pentecost 39B	R	Acts 2: 1-21 <i>or</i> Ezek 37: 1-14	Ps 104: 24-34, 35b	Rom 8: 22-27 <i>or</i> Acts 2: 1-21	Jn 15: 26-27, 16: 4b-15
May 23 * Trinity 40B	W	Is 6: 1-8	Ps 29	Rom 8: 12-17	Jn 3: 1-17
May 30 Pentecost 2 41B	G	1 Sam 3: 1-10 (11-20)	Ps 139: 1-6 13-18	2 Cor 4: 5-12	Mk 2: 23- 3: 6
June 6 Pentecost 3 42B	G	1 Sam 8: 4-11 (12-15), 16-20 (11: 14-15)	Ps 138	2 Cor 4: 13 - 5: 1	Mk 3: 20-35
June 13 Pentecost 4 43B	G	1 Sam 15: 34 - 16: 13	Ps 20	2 Cor 5: 6-10,(11- 13) 14-17	Mk 4: 26-34
June 20 * Pentecost 5 44B	G	1 Sam 17: (1a, 4-11, 19-23) 32-49	Ps 9: 9-20	2 Cor 6: 1-13	Mk 4: 35-41
June 27 * Pentecost 6 45B	G	2 Sam 1: 1, 17-27	Ps 130	2 Cor 8: 7-15	Mk 5: 21-43
July 4 Pentecost 7 46B	G	2 Sam 5: 1-5, 9-10	Ps 48	2 Cor 12: 2-10	Mk 6: 1-13
July 11 Pentecost 8 47B	G	2 Sam 6: 1-5, 12b-19	Ps 24	Eph 1: 3-14	Mk 6: 14-29
July 18 Pentecost 9 48B	G	2 Sam 7: 1-14a	Ps 89: 20-37	Eph 2: 11-22	Mk 6: 30-34, 53-56
July 25 Pentecost 10 49B	G	2 Sam 11: 1-15	Ps 14	Eph 3: 14-21	Jn 6: 1-21
August 1 * Pentecost 11 50B	G	2 Sam 11: 26-12: 13a	Ps 51: 1-12	Eph 4: 1-16	Jn 6: 24-35
August 8 * Pentecost 12 51B	G	2 Sam 18: 5-9, 15, 31-33	Ps 130	Eph 4: 25 - 5: 2	Jn 6: 35, 41-51

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
August 15 * Pentecost 13 52B	G	1 Kings 2: 10-12, 3: 3-14	Ps 111	Eph 5: 15-20	Jn 6: 51-58
August 22 * Pentecost 14 53B	G	1 Kings 8: (1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43	Ps 84	Eph 6: 10-20	Jn 6: 56-69
August 29 Pentecost 15 54B	G	Song Sol 2: 8-13	Ps 45: 1-2, 6-9	James 1: 17-27	Mk 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23
<b>CREATION * September 5 – October 3</b>					
September 5 * Pentecost 16 55B	G	Prov 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23	Ps 125	James 2: 1-10, (11-13) 14-17	Mk 7: 24-37
September 12 Pentecost 17 56B	G	Prov 1: 20-33	Ps 19	James 3: 1-12	Mk 8: 27-38
September 19 * Pentecost 18 57B	G	Prov 31: 10-31	Ps 1	James 3: 13-4: 3, 7-8a	Mk 9: 30-37
September 26 * Pentecost 19 58B	G	Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10, 9: 20-22	Ps 124	James 5: 13-20	Mk 9: 38-50
October 3 * Pentecost 20 59B	G	Job 1: 1, 2: 1-10	Ps 26	Heb 1: 1-4, 2: 5-12	Mk 10: 2-16
October 10 * Pentecost 21 60B	G	Job 23: 1-9, 16-17	Ps 22: 1-15	Heb 4: 12-16	Mk 10: 17-31
October 17 * Pentecost 22 61B	G	Job 38: 1-7, (34-41)	Ps 104: 1-9, 24, 35c	Heb 5: 1-10	Mk 10: 35-45
October 24 * Pentecost 23 62B	G	Job 42: 1-6, 10-17	Ps 34: 1-8, (19-22)	Heb 7: 23-28	Mk 10: 46-52
October 31 * Pentecost 24 64B( <i>If All Saints not observed on this day</i> )	G	Ruth 1: 1-18	Ps 146	Heb 9: 11-14	Mk 12: 28-34
November 1 All Saints 63B <sup>3</sup> [see footnote]	W	Wis Sol 3: 1-9 <i>or</i> Is 25: 6-9	Ps 24	Rev 21: 1-6a	Jn 11: 32-44

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

Date	Clr	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
November 7 Pentecost 25 65B	G	Ruth 3: 1-5, 4: 13-17	Ps 127	Heb 9: 24-28	Mk 12: 38-44
November 14 Pentecost 26 66B	G	1 Sam 1: 4-20	1 Sam 2: 1-10 <i>or</i> Ps 16	Heb 10: 11-14, (15-18), 19-25	Mk 13: 1-8
November 21 67B Reign of Christ	W	2 Sam 23: 1-7	Ps 132: 1-12, (13-18) <i>or</i> Ps 93	Rev 1: 4b-8	Jn 18: 33-37

*Suggested readings for occasional services are over the page*

# Additional Readings

Date	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
<b>Watchnight or End of Year Service</b>	Eccl 3: 1-15	Ps 90	1 Thes 5: 1-11	Mt 24: 32-51
<b>New Year's Service</b>	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				
<b>Covenant Sunday</b>	Jer 31: 31-33 or Deut 7: 7-11	Ps 25: 4-15	Rom 12: 1-2	Jn 15: 1-8
<b>Methodist Martyrs</b> – Jan 22 or Sunday nearest	Gen 45: 4-8; 50: 19-21	Ps 7: 1-11	Rev 2: 8-11	Jn 15: 7-17
<b>Waitangi Day</b> – or Sunday nearest Feb 6	Deut 10: 12-21	Ps 144: 9-15	1 Cor 1: 26-31	Mt 6: 19-24
<b>World Day of Prayer</b> – 1st Friday in March				
<b>Anzac Day</b> – or Sunday nearest April 25	Is 52: 7-12	Ps 76	Eph 6: 10-20	Lk 6: 27-36
<b>Faka-Me</b> – 1st Sunday in May: Special Sunday for Tongan children and youth.				
<b>Home and Family Sunday</b> – 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
<b>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</b> – Ascension Day to Pentecost Sunday				
<b>Wesley Day</b> – Sunday preceding/on May 24	Is 12: 1-6	Ps 130	2 Peter 1: 1-11	Mt 9: 35 - 10: 16
<b>Asia Sunday</b> – Sunday before Pentecost				
<b>World Refugee Day</b> – June 20 (or the Sunday immediately after)				
<b>Disability Sunday</b> – 3rd Sunday in June				
<b>Matariki</b> – Public holiday June 25 2027				
<b>Bible Sunday</b> – is now Bible month. Use a Sunday in July to promote the scriptures (worship and Christian education resources available annually from the Bible Society)				

Date	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
<b>Hiroshima Day</b> (Aug 6) or <b>Peace Sunday</b> (Sunday nearest Aug 6)	Micah 4: 1-4	Ps 85	2 Cor 5: 16-20	Jn 20: 19-21 or Mt 5: 1-12
<b>Lay Preachers' Sunday</b> – 2nd Sunday in August				
<b>Youth Sunday</b> – 3rd or 4th Sunday in August				
<b>Season of Creation</b> <i>2027 theme: The Word in Creation</i>				
September 5	1st Sunday in Creation Genesis 1: 1-25	Ps 33: 1-9	Planet Earth Sunday Rom 1: 18-23	Jn 1: 1-14
September 12	2nd Sunday in Creation Genesis 1: 26-28	Ps 8	Humanity Sunday Phil 2: 1-8	Mk 10: 41-45
September 19	3rd Sunday in Creation Jer 4: 23-28	Ps 19: 1-6	Sky Sunday Phil 2: 14-18	Mk 15: 33-39
September 26	4th Sunday in Creation Is 65: 17-25	Ps 48: 1-11	Mountain Sunday Rom 8: 28-39	Mk 16: 14-18
October 3	5th Sunday in Creation St Francis of Assisi Day October 4		Blessing of the Animals	
Online resources from <a href="http://www.seasonofcreation.com">www.seasonofcreation.com</a> or alternative themes from <a href="http://www.seasonofcreation.org">www.seasonofcreation.org</a> and <a href="http://www.ecochurch.org.nz/season-of-creation">www.ecochurch.org.nz/season-of-creation</a>				
<b>Father's Day</b> – 1st Sunday in September	Gen 37: 19-24, 29-35	Ps 103: 6-13	Eph 6: 1-4	Mt 1: 18-25
<b>Māori Language Week</b> – Dates vary from year to year. For the 2026 dates go to the Māori Language Commission website <a href="http://www.tetaurawhiri.govt.nz">www.tetaurawhiri.govt.nz</a>				
<b>Citizenship Sunday</b> – 4th Sunday in September				
<b>World Communion Sunday</b> – 1st Sunday in October	Jer 1: 4-10	Ps 96	1 Peter 2: 4-10	Mt 28: 16-20
<b>White Sunday</b> – 2nd Sunday in October: Special Sunday for Samoan children and youth				
<b>Week of Prayer for World Peace</b> – 2nd to 3rd Sunday in October				
<b>Industrial Sunday</b> – Sunday preceding Labour Day (4th Monday in October). In Methodist Churches the "Social Principles" may be read				
<b>Reformers of the Church</b> – October 31 (or Sunday nearest)	Amos 5: 14-24	Ps 106: 1-12	1 Peter 2: 1-10	Lk 6: 46-49

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



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