

Calendar and Lectionary

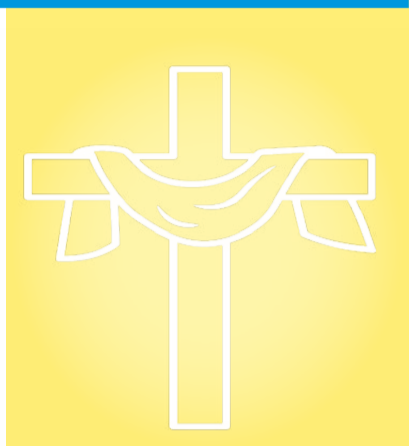
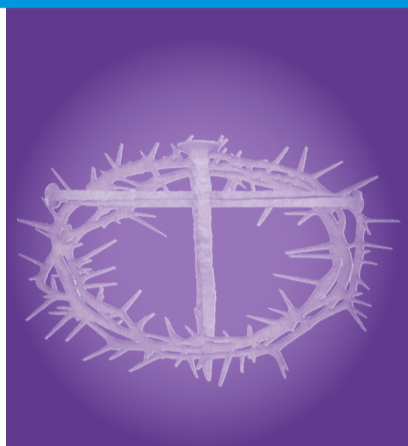


UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
ASSEMBLY RESOURCING UNIT

Year C 2024 - 2025

'The Uniting Church acknowledges that the Church has received the books of the Old and New Testaments as unique prophetic and apostolic testimony, in which it hears the Word of God and by which its faith and obedience are nourished and regulated ...

The Uniting Church lays upon its members the serious duty of reading the Scriptures, [and] commits its ministers to preach from these ...'
Basis of Union (1992 Edition), paragraph 5



Lectionary Introduction

The Gospel of Luke invites us into a unique and profoundly compassionate vision of Christ's ministry—a vision that speaks especially to the lost, the marginalised, and the least among us. This gospel highlights a Jesus anointed by the Spirit to bring good news to the poor, proclaim release to captives, recovery of sight to the blind, and to set the oppressed free (Lk 4:18-19). In Luke, we see Jesus fulfilling a radical mission of liberation, with salvation woven through as an inclusive hope for all people.

Luke's narrative also offers a unique space for women, lifting up their voices and experiences in ways unseen in other gospels. Mary, Elizabeth and Anna take central roles in the story of Jesus' birth and early ministry. Through Mary's prophetic song—the Magnificat—we hear the cry for justice and liberation resound as she proclaims a God who scatters the proud and exalts the humble, a truth that echoes through the ages.

Hospitality and fellowship are recurring themes in Luke, where we find Jesus sharing in meals that defy social boundaries and transform lives. Luke brings us memorable stories centred on table fellowship, such as the Emmaus Road, where Jesus breaks bread with the disciples, revealing himself in a simple act of hospitality. These gatherings around food embody God's welcome, where all are invited to taste and see God's grace, and it is this radical hospitality which speaks to our own calling as a community of Christ today.

Some of the most beloved parables and stories are found uniquely in Luke: the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son, the lost coin, the annunciation to Mary, and the shepherds who visit the newborn Jesus. Each of these stories holds a mirror to our own lives, challenging us to see Christ in the stranger, to forgive unconditionally, to celebrate the return of the lost, and to find God in the ordinary. They are not just stories for their time; they are stories that call us to a transformative discipleship that is both daring and compassionate.

Luke's gospel is a call to see the kingdom of God not as distant or inaccessible but as breaking into our lives here and now. As we journey through this liturgical year, let us reflect on the Spirit's anointing upon us—to be good news to the poor, to set captives free, and to proclaim God's grace to all.

May Luke's witness inspire us to weave Christ's love that knows no bounds, welcoming all with the same compassion, justice, and joy that Jesus embodied.

Rev Charissa Suli
President of the Uniting Church in Australia

A Short Guide to Using the Lectionary

The *Revised Common Lectionary (RCL)* offers for 4 readings for each week, in a three-year cycle:

First Reading from the Old Testament

Psalm

Second Reading from the apostles' writings

Gospel following a cycle of the synoptic Gospels: Matthew (Year A), Mark (Year B), and Luke (Year C). (The Gospel of John is used as a supplement, particularly around Christmas, Lent, and Easter.)

The lectionary encourages us to connect the stories of our lives to the story of God's faithful throughout Scripture. These texts are not simply offered to focus our sermons, but also to shape our prayers and liturgy and song. It is worth keeping in mind these words from the *Basis of Union*:

"The Word of God on whom salvation depends is to be heard and known from Scripture appropriated in the worshipping and witnessing life of the Church." (Paragraph 5)

The connection between Scripture and our worshipping and witnessing life should invite flexibility and pastoral sensitivity in how we use the lectionary. You might choose to follow the lectionary for key seasons: Advent / Christmas, Lent / Easter, and focus on locally chosen texts in other seasons. In places with preachers serving multiple communities, you might follow lectionary texts in different orders so that preachers can take their sermons "on the road" (a common practice of John Wesley).

Lectionaries offer us a sign of unity with other churches who share in the same readings week by week. At the same time, the *RCL* often omits stories about women, and more difficult texts within Scripture. Local leaders should consider making sure the full witness of Scripture is heard across the life of the community. You might consider how often the focus text is the Gospel, rather than the Old Testament reading, for example.

Before Trinity Sunday the Old Testament readings complement the Gospel reading. After Pentecost the Uniting Church follows a semi-continuous narrative within the Old Testament, connections between the Old Testament and Gospel readings are not intentional.



More RCL resources are available on the Assembly website, which is updated regularly.

Please scan or click the QR code.





UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

Year 'C' REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY 2024-2025

(Below in the right hand column : C = Colour; P = Purple; W = White; G = Green; R = Red; B= Black)

ADVENT

A season of preparation, beginning on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, in which the church recalls its hope and expectation in the coming of Christ, past, present and future.

Date	Day	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel	C
Dec 1 2024	Advent 1	Jer 33:14-16	Ps 25:1-10	1Thes 3:9-13	Lk 21:25-36	P
Dec 8 2024	Advent 2	Mal 3:1-4	Lk 1:68-79	Phil 1:3-11	Lk 3:1-6	P
Dec 15 2024	Advent 3	Zep 3:14-20	Is 12:2-6	Phil 4:4-7	Lk 3:7-18	P
Dec 22 2024	Advent 4	Mic 5:2-5a	Lk 1:46b-55 or Ps 80:1-7	Heb 10:5-10	Lk 1:39-45, (46-55)	P

CHRISTMAS

The Christmas season includes Christmas Eve/Day and the twelve days of Christmas. It recalls the stories of the birth and infancy of Christ. The Church in this time celebrates the wonder of the incarnation. (Any of the Nativity selections may be used either for Christmas Day or Christmas Eve services.)

Date	Day	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel	C
Dec 24/25 2024	Nativity 1	Is 9:2-7	Ps 96	Tit 2:11-14	Lk 2:1-14, (15-20)	W
	Nativity 2	Is 62:6-12	Ps 97	Tit 3:4-7	Lk 2:(1-7), 8-20	W
	Nativity 3	Is 52:7-10	Ps 98	Heb 1:1-4, (5-12)	Jn 1:1-14	W
Dec 29 2024	Christmas 1	1 Sm 2:18-20, 26	Ps 148	Col 3:12-17	Lk 2:41-52	W
Jan 1 2025	New Year's Day	Eccl 3:1-13	Ps 8	Rev 21:1-6a	Mt 25:31-46	W
Jan 1 2025	Holy Name of Jesus	Num 6:22-27	Ps 8	Gal 4:4-7 or Phil 2:5-11	Lk 2:15-21	W
Jan 5 2025	Christmas 2	Jeremiah 31:7-14	Ps 147:12-20	Ephesians 1:3-14	John 1:(1-9), 10-18	W

EPIPHANY

An 'Epiphany' is a revealing, appearing or manifesting of something or someone, and in this season the Church reflects on the manifestation of Christ to all people. The length of this period varies depending on the date of Easter.

Date	Day	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel	C
Jan 6 2025	Epiphany	Is 60:1-6	Ps 72:1-7, 10-14	Eph 3:1-12	Mt 2:1-12	W
Jan 12 2025	Baptism of Jesus	Is 43:1-7	Ps 29	Acts 8:14-17	Lk 3:15-17, 21-22	W
Jan 19 2025	Epiphany 2	Is 62:1-5	Ps 36:5-10	1 Cor 12:1-11	Jn 2:1-11	G
Jan 26 2025	Epiphany 3	Neh 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	Ps 19	1 Cor 12:12-31a	Lk 4:14-21	G
Feb 2 2025	Epiphany 4	Jer 1:4-10	Ps 71:1-6	1 Cor 13:1-13	Lk 4:21-30	G
Feb 2 2025	Presentation of the Lord	Malachi 3:1-4	Ps 84	Hebrews 2:14-18	Lk 2:22-40	W
Feb 9 2025	Epiphany 5	Is 6:1-8, (9-13)	Ps 138	1 Cor 15:1-11	Lk 5:1-11	G
Feb 16 2025	Epiphany 6	Jer 17:5-10	Ps 1	1 Cor 15:12-20	Lk 6:17-26	G
Feb 23 2025	Epiphany 7	Gen 45:3-11, 15	Ps 37:1-11, 39-40	1 Cor 15:35-38 42-50	Lk 6:27-38	G
Mar 2 2025	Transfiguration of Jesus	Ex 34:29-35	Ps 99	2 Cor 3:12 - 4:2	Lk 9:28-36, (37-43a)	W

LENT

A season of preparation and discipline that begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes at sundown on Holy Saturday. During the forty weekdays and six Sundays in Lent, the church remembers the life and ministry of Jesus and renews its commitment to him in Christian discipleship. This season is the traditional time to prepare for baptisms and confirmations to be celebrated at the Easter Vigil or on Easter Sunday, or during the season of Easter.

Date	Day	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel	C
Mar 5 2025	Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Is 58:1-12	Ps 51:1-17	2 Cor 5:20b - 6:10	Mt 6:1-6, 16-21	P
Mar 9 2025	Lent 1	Dt 26:1-11	Ps 91:1-2, 9-16	Rom 10:8b-13	Lk 4:1-13	P
Mar 16 2025	Lent 2	Gen 15:1-12, 17-18	Ps 27	Phil 3:17 - 4:1	Lk 13:31-35 or Lk 9:28-36 (37-43a)	P
Mar 23 2025	Lent 3	Is 55:1-9	Ps 63:1-8	1 Cor 10:1-13	Lk 13:1-9	P
Mar 25 2025	Annunciation of the Lord	Is 7:10-14	Ps 45 or Ps 40:5-10	Heb 10:4-10	Lk 1:26-38	W
Mar 30 2025	Lent 4	Jos 5:9-12	Ps 32	2 Cor 5:16-21	Lk 15:1-3, 11b-32	P
Apr 6 2025	Lent 5	Is 43:16-21	Ps 126	Phil 3:4b-14	Jn 12:1-8	P
Apr 13 2025	Passion Sunday	Is 50:4-9a	Ps 31:9-16	Phil 2:5-11	Lk 22:14 - 23:56 or Lk 23:1-49	P
Apr 13 2025	Palm Sunday	Is 50:4-9a	Ps 118:1-2, 19-29	Phil 2:5-11	Lk 19:28-40	P
Apr 14 2025	Monday in Holy Week	Is 42:1-9	Ps 36:5-11	Heb 9:11-15	Jn 12:1-11	P
Apr 15 2025	Tuesday in Holy Week	Is 49:1-7	Ps 71: 1-14	1 Cor 1:18-31	Jn 12:20-36	P
Apr 16 2025	Wednesday in Holy Week	Is 50:4-9a	Ps 70	Heb 12:1-3	Jn 13:21-32	P
Apr 17 2025	Maundy Thursday	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	P
Apr 18 2025	Good Friday	Is 52:13 - 53:12	Ps 22	Heb 10:16-25 or Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9	Jn 18:1 - 19:42	B/R
Apr 19 2025	Holy Saturday	Job 14:1-14 or Lam 3:1-9, 19-24	Ps 31:1-4, 15-16	1 Pet 4:1-8	Mt 27:57-66 or Jn 19:38-42	B

EASTER

The great fifty days of Easter includes eight Sundays beginning with the Easter Vigil and concluding on the Day of Pentecost. The season celebrates the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Date	Day	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel	C
Apr 19/20 2025	Easter Vigil	Gen 1:1-2:4a Gen 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13 Gen 22:1-18 Ex 14:10-31; 15:20-21 Is 55:1-11 Prv 8:1-8, 19-21; 9:4b-6 Ez 36:24-28 Ez 37:1-14 Zep 3:14-20	Ps 136:1-9, 23-26 Ps 46 Ps 16 Ex 15:1b-13, 17-18 Is 12:2-6 Ps 19 Pss 42 and 43 Ps 143 Ps 98 Ps 114	Rom 6:3-11	Lk 24:1-12	W
(A minimum of 3 OT readings to be read; Ex 14 & 15 always included)						
Apr 20 2025	Easter Day	Acts 10:34-43 or Is 65:17-25	Ps 118:1-2, 14-24	1 Cor 15:19-26 or Acts 10:34-43	Jn 20:1-18 or Lk 24:1-12	W
Apr 20 2025	Easter Evening	Is 25:6-9	Ps 114	1 Cor 5:6b-8	Lk 24:13-49	W
Apr 27 2025	Easter 2	Acts 5:27-32	Ps 118:14-29 or Ps 150	Rev 1:4-18	Jn 20:19-31	W
May 4 2025	Easter 3	Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)	Ps 30	Rev 5:11-14	Jn 21:1-19	W
* <i>UnitingWorld Sunday</i>						
May 11 2025	Easter 4	Acts 9:36-43	Ps 23	Rev 7:9-17	Jn 10:22-30	W
May 18 2025	Easter 5	Acts 11:1-18	Ps 148	Rev 21:1-6	Jn 13:31-35	W
May 25 2025	Easter 6	Acts 16:9-15	Ps 67	Rev 21:10, 22 - 22:5	Jn 14:23-29 or Jn 5:1-9	W
May 29 2025	Ascension Day	Acts 1:1-11	Ps 47 or Ps 93	Eph 1:15-23	Lk 24:44-53	W
Jun 1 2025	Easter 7	Acts 16:16-34	Ps 97	Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21	Jn 17:20-26	W
Jun 8 2025	Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21 or Gen 11:1-9	Ps 104:24-34, 35b	Rom 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21	Jn 14:8-17, (25-27)	R

AFTER PENTECOST

A period of time that varies in length depending on whether Easter is early or late. In this period, the church recalls its faith in the Holy Trinity. It seeks to relate its faith as a people of God to Christ's mission in the world. It commences with Trinity Sunday and concludes with the feast of Christ the King.

Date	Day	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel	C
Jun 15 2025	Trinity Sunday	Prv 8:1-4, 22-31	Ps 8	Rom 5:1-5	Jn 16:12-15	W
Jun 22 2025	Pent 2 [12]	1 Kgs 19:1-4, (5-7) 8-15a or Is 65:1-9	Ps 42 and 43 or 22: 19-28	Gal 3:23-29	Lk 8:26-39	G
Jun 22 2025	UCA Anniversary	2 Chr 30:1-9	Ps 100	Eph 2:19-22	Jn 17:1-11	R
Jun 29 2025	Pent 3 [13]	2 Kgs 2:1-2, 6-14	Ps 77:1-2, 11-20	Gal 5:1, 13-25	Lk 9:51-62	G
Jul 6 2025	Pent 4 [14]	2 Kgs 5:1-14	Ps 30	Gal 6:(1-6), 7-16	Lk 10:1-11, 16-20	G
Jul 13 2025	Pent 5 [15]	Am 7:7-17	Ps 82	Col 1:1-14	Lk 10: 25-37	G
Jul 20 2025	Pent 6 [16]	Am 8:1-12	Ps 52	Col 1:15-28	Lk 10: 38-42	G
* <i>UCA Intercultural Neighbouring Sunday</i>						
Jul 27 2025	Pent 7 [17]	Hos 1:2-10	Ps 85	Col 2:6-15 (16-19)	Lk 11:1-13	G
Aug 3 2025	Pent 8 [18]	Hos 11:1-11	Ps 107:1-9, 43	Col 3:1-11	Lk 12:13-21	G
Aug 10 2025	Pent 9 [19]	Is 1:1, 10-20	Ps 50:1-8, 22-23	Heb 11:1-3, 8-16	Lk 12:32-40	G
Aug 17 2025	Pent 10 [20]	Is 5:1-7	Ps 80:1-2, 8-19	Heb 11:29-12:2	Lk 12:49-56	G
Aug 24 2025	Pent 11 [21]	Jer 1:4-10	Ps 71:1-6	Heb 12:18-29	Lk 13:10-17	G
Aug 31 2025	Pent 12 [22]	Jer 2:4-13	Ps 81:1, 10-16	Heb 13:1-8, 15-16	Lk 14:1, 7-14	G
* <i>Frontier Services Sunday</i>						
Sep 7 2025	Pent 13 [23]	Jer 18:1-11	Ps 139:1-6, 13-18	Phlm 1-21	Lk 14:25-33	G
* <i>Season of Creation (1 Sep - 4 Nov)</i>						
Sep 14 2025	Pent 14 [24]	Jer 4:11-12, 22-28	Ps 14	1 Tim 1:12-17	Lk 15:1-10	G
Sep 21 2025	Pent 15 [25]	Jer 8:18 - 9:1	Ps 79:1-9	1 Tim 2:1-7	Lk 16:1-13	G
Sep 28 2025	Pent 16 [26]	Jer 32:1-3a, 6-15	Ps 91:1-6, 14-16	1 Tim 6:6-19	Lk 16:19-31	G
Oct 5 2025	Pent 17 [27]	Lam 1:1-6	Lam 3:19-26 or Ps 137	2 Tim 1:1-14	Lk 17:5-10	G
* <i>UCA Older Persons Sunday</i>						
Oct 12 2025	Pent 18 [28]	Jer 29:1, 4-7	Ps 66:1-12	2 Tim 2:8-15	Lk 17:11-19	G
Oct 19 2025	Pent 19 [29]	Jer 31:27-34	Ps 119:97-104	2 Tim 3:14 - 4:5	Lk 18:1-8	G
* <i>Anniversary of the National Apology to Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse (22 Oct)</i>						
Oct 26 2025	Pent 20 [30]	Joel 2:23-32	Ps 65	2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18	Lk 18:9-14	G
Nov 1 2025	All Saints Day	Dan 7:1-3, 15-18	Ps 149	Eph 1:11-23	Lk 6:20-31	W
Nov 2 2025	Pent 21 [31]	Hab 1:1-4, 2:1-4	Ps 119:137-144	2 Thes 1:1-4, 11-12	Lk 19:1-10	G
Nov 9 2025	Pent 22 [32]	Hag 1:15b - 2:9	Ps 145:1-5, 17-21 or Ps 98	2 Thes 2:1-5, 13-17	Lk 20:27-38	G
Nov 16 2025	Pent 23 [33]	Is 65:17-25	Is 12	2 Thes 3:6-13	Lk 21:5-19	G
Nov 23 2025	Christ the King or The Reign of Christ	Jer 23:1-6	Lk 1:68-79	Col 1:11-20	Lk 23:33-43	W
* <i>16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (25 Nov - 10 Dec)</i>						

* Assembly resources including suggested readings for these occasions will be available on the Lectionary Resources webpage when released.

UCA Anniversary Readings may be substituted for the Sunday before or after the 22nd June. The beginnings or endings of some Psalms vary from those in *Uniting in Worship 2*. You may choose to use the verse selections in *Uniting in Worship 2*.

A Calendar of Other Commemorations is to be found in *Uniting in Worship 2* pages 566 to 571.

Keep up to date at

uniting.church/worship-community/

- Discover publications produced by the Assembly Resourcing Unit
- Liturgical resources to help with preaching and worship;
- Some recently produced Orders of Service;
- Background Papers on a wide range of subjects;
- Other Websites worth investigating for worship and preaching;
- The Lectionary and Liturgical dates;
- Music and the Arts.

ORTHODOX DATES

GOOD FRIDAY	18 April 2025
EASTER	20 April 2025
PENTECOST	8 June 2025