

**The Lyddington Benefice**  
**The Parishes of Bisbrooke, Caldecott, Glaston, Harringworth,**  
**Lyddington, Seaton and Stoke Dry**

# Lectionary for Sundays and Principal Holy Days

**Readings for December 2024- December 2025**  
**Lectionary Year C**

## **Scripture Readings in The Lyddington Benefice**

With the single exception of the 8.30am Book of Common Prayer service held at Lyddington on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, readings in our churches are those set out in the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL). The RCL is international and ecumenical, though individual Churches may make alterations, as the Church of England does. The RCL is based on a three-year cycle; each year focuses on one of the synoptic Gospels.

**Year A: The Gospel according to St Matthew**

**Year B: The Gospel according to St Mark**

**Year C: The Gospel according to St Luke**

The Gospel according to St John is used across all three years, most notably during the Christmas and Easter seasons. St John is used more often in Year B because of the relatively shorter length of St Mark's Gospel.

For each Sunday and principal Holy Day, the RCL provides the following:

**Old Testament reading**

**Psalm**

**New Testament reading**

**Gospel reading**

Details of the readings are printed in that order.

During Ordinary Time, that is those Sundays which fall outside the major seasons of the Church, there are two 'tracks' of Old Testament readings. Track 1 provides a semi-continuous reading of specific books of the Old Testament and these do not directly relate to the Gospel reading. Track 2 selects passages which do relate to the Gospel reading of the day. This benefice uses Track 2 and that is what is published in the Newsletter and in the yearly lectionary booklet.

The New Testament reading is usually from one of the Epistles.

From Easter Day to Pentecost a reading from the Acts of the Apostles is used.

The preferred translation is the New Revised Standard Version. No bible translation is liked by every person, in every circumstance. However, NRSV is generally accepted as a good and accurate translation. This is the version used on the pew sheets.

**The Readings are usually used in the following way:-**

**Said Holy Communion:**

New Testament read by a member of the congregation or by the priest

Gospel read by the priest

**Holy Communion with hymns/Parish Communion**

Old Testament read by a member of the congregation (*This may be omitted for Family Communion*)

New Testament read by a member of the congregation

Gospel read by the priest (or sometimes by a Licensed Lay Minister/Reader acting as Liturgical Deacon).

### **Morning and Evening Prayer**

Old Testament read by a member of the congregation

Gospel read by a member of the congregation

The psalm is also used during these services and is read as directed by the person leading the service

### **Family Service**

Gospel read by a member of the congregation

The readings for the month are published in The Newsletter. This also gives the liturgical colours in use for each Sunday – this is helpful to those who set up the altar for Holy Communion and in those churches which have a full set of altar frontals and hangings.

### **Beginning and ending the readings**

In services from **Common Worship** it is sufficient to begin by saying “A reading from the book of the prophet.../ from the Letter of .../ from the Gospel of ....”

At the end the reader says ‘This is the word of the Lord’ to which the response is “Thanks be to God.” The announcement and ending for the Gospel reading at Holy Communion is usually set out in the service booklets.

In services from **The Book of Common Prayer** it is usual to begin in the way set out in the Prayer Book. At the end “Here endeth the Epistle/ the First Lesson/ the second Lesson, as appropriate. There is no congregational response.

A copy of the **The Lyddington Benefice Lectionary** booklet, which runs from Advent Sunday each year, is placed in each vestry and is also distributed to people who lead worship and arrange readers. They are produced towards the end of November and are freely available to anyone who would like one.

An online New Revised Standard Version of the Bible  
may be found here  
<http://bible.oremus.org>

## **Readings for December 2024- December 2025 Lectionary Year C**

### **1 December: Advent Sunday**

*Purple*

Jeremiah 33.14-16; Psalm 25.1-9; 1 Thessalonians 3.9-13; Luke 21.25-36

### **8 December 2021: Second Sunday of Advent**

*Purple*

Malachi 3.1-4; Canticle: Benedictus; Philippians 1.3-11; Luke 3.1-6

### **15 December: Third Sunday of Advent**

*Purple*

Zephaniah 3.14-20; Psalm 146.4-end; Philippians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18

### **22 December: Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*Purple*

Micah 5.2-5a; Canticle: Magnificat or Psalm 80.1-8; Hebrews 10.5-10  
Luke 1.39-45[46-55]

### **24/25 December: Midnight/ Christmas Day**

*White/Gold/Best*

Please consult the person taking/organising the service

### **29 December: (Christmas 1) St John the Evangelist (transferred)**

*White/Gold*

1 Samuel 2.18-20,26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3.12-17; Luke 2.41-52

## **January 2025**

### **5 January: The Epiphany of the Lord**

*White/Gold*

Isaiah 60.1-6; Psalm 72.[1-9] 10-15; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12

### **12 January: The Baptism of Christ**

*White/Gold*

Isaiah 43.1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8.14-17; Luke 3.15-17, 21-22

### **19 January: Second Sunday of Epiphany**

*White*

Isaiah 62.1-5; Psalm 36.5-10; 1 Corinthians 12.1-11; John 2.1-11

### **26 January: Third Sunday of Epiphany**

*White/Gold*

Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a;  
Luke 4.14-21

## **February 2025**

### **2 February: The Presentation of Christ**

*White*

Malachi 3.1-5; Psalm 24.1-10; Hebrews 2.14-18; Luke 2.22-40

### **9 February: The Fourth Sunday before Lent**

*Green*

Isaiah 6.1-8 (9-13); Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15.1-11; Luke 5.1-11

### **16 February: The Third Sunday before Lent**

*Green*

Jeremiah 17.5-10; Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15.12-20; Luke 6.17-26

### **23 February: The Second Sunday before Lent**

*Green*

Genesis 2.4b-9,15-25; Psalm 65; Revelation 4; Luke 8.22-25

## **March 2025**

### **2 March: The Sunday next before Lent**

*Green*

Exodus 34.29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3.12- 4.2;  
Luke 9. 28-36 (37-43a)

### **5 March: Ash Wednesday**

*Purple*

Joel 2.1-2,12-17 Psalm 51.1-18; 2 Corinthians 5.20b - 6.10;  
Matthew 6.1-6,16-21 *or* John 8.1-11

### **9 March: First Sunday of Lent**

*Purple*

Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Psalm 91.1-2,9-16; Romans 10.8b-13; Luke 4.1-13

**16 March: Second Sunday of Lent**

*Purple*

Genesis 15.1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3.17 - 4.1; Luke 13.31-35

**23 March: Third Sunday of Lent**

*Purple*

Isaiah 55.1-9; Psalm 63.1-9; 1 Corinthians 10.1-13; Luke 13.1-9

**30 March: Fourth Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)** *Purple/Pink*

Exodus 2.1-10 or 1 Samuel 1.20-end; Psalm 34.11-20 or 127.1-4;  
2 Corinthians 1.3-7 or Colossians 3.12-17; Luke 2.33-35 or John 19.25b-27

**April 2025**

**6 April: Fifth Sunday of Lent**

*Purple*

Isaiah 43.16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3.4b-14; John 12.1-8

**13 April: Palm Sunday**

*Red*

To be arranged

**17 April: Maundy Thursday**

*White/Gold*

Exodus 12.1-4 [5-10], 11-14; Psalm 116.1, 10-end [116.9-end];  
1 Corinthians 11.23-26; John 13.1-17, 31b-35

**15 April: Good Friday**

*No hangings*

Please consult the person leading the service

**20 April: Easter Day**

*White/Gold/Best*

*The passages from Acts must be used as either 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> reading before the Gospel*

Acts 10.34-43 or Isaiah 65.17-25; 1 Corinthians 15.19-26 or  
Acts 10.34-43; John 20.1-18 or Luke 24.1-12

**27 April: Second Sunday of Easter**

*White*

Acts 5.27-32; Psalm 118.14-29; Revelation 1.4-8; John 20.19-31

**May 2025**

*The passages from Acts must be used as either 1<sup>st</sup> or only reading before the Gospel*

**4 May: Third Sunday of Easter**

*White*

Acts 9.1-6, (7-20); Psalm 30; Revelation 5.11-14; John 21.1-19;

**11 May: Fourth Sunday of Easter**

*White*

Acts 9.36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7.9-17; John 10.22-30

**18 May: Fifth Sunday of Easter**

*White*

Acts 11.1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21.1-6; John 13.31-35

**25 May: Sixth Sunday of Easter (Rogation Sunday)**

*White*

Acts 16.9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21.10, 22 - 22.5; John 14.23-29

**29 May: Ascension Day**

*White/Gold*

Acts 1 .1-11; Psalm 47 or 93; Ephesians 1.15-23; Luke 24.44-53

**June 2025**

**1 June: Seventh Sunday of Lent (Sunday after Ascension)**

*White*

Acts 16.16-34; Psalm 97; Revelation 22.12-14, 16-17, 20-21;  
John 17.20-end

**8 June: Pentecost**

*Red*

Acts 2.1-21; Psalm 104.26-37; Romans 8.14-17; John 14.8-17 (25-27

**15 June: Trinity Sunday**

*White*

Proverbs 8.1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5.1-5; John 16.12-15

**22 June: First Sunday after Trinity (Proper 7)**

*Green*

Isaiah 65.1-9; Psalm 22.19-28; Galatians 3.23-end; Luke 8.26-39

**29 June: St Peter and St Paul**

*Red*

Zechariah 4.1-6a; Psalm 125; Acts 12.1-11; Matthew 16.13-19

**July 2025**

**6 July: Third Sunday after Trinity**

*Green*

Isaiah 66.10-14; Psalm 66.1-8; Galatians 6.[1-6] 7-16; Luke 10.1-11, 16-20

**13 July : Fourth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 10)**

*Green*

Deuteronomy 30.9-14; Psalm 25.1-10; Colossians 1.1-14;  
Luke 10.25-37;

**20 July: Fifth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 11)**

*Green*

Genesis 18.1-10a; Psalm 15; Colossians 1.15-28; Luke 10.38-end

**27 July: Sixth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 12)**

*Green*

Genesis 18.20-32; Psalm 138; Colossians 2.6-15[16-19]; Luke 11.1-13

**August 2025**

**3 August: Seventh Sunday after Trinity (Proper 13)**

*Green*

Ecclesiastes 1.2,12-14; 2.18-23; Psalm 49.1-12; Colossians 3.1-11  
Luke 12.13-21

**10 August: Eighth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 14)** *Green*

Genesis 15.1-6; Psalm 33.12-21; Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16; Luke 12.32-40;

**17 August: Ninth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 15)** *Green*

Jeremiah 23.23-29; Psalm 82; Hebrews 11.29 - 12.2; Luke 12.49-56

**24 August: St Bartholomew** *Red*

Isaiah 43.8-13; Psalm 145.1-7; Acts 5.12-16; Luke 22.24-30

**31 August: Eleventh Sunday after Trinity (Proper 17)** *Green*

Proverbs 25.6-7; Psalm 112; Hebrews 13.1-8, 15-16; Luke 14.1, 7-14;

**September 2025**

**Harvest Readings**

Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Psalm 100; Philippians 4.4-9 or  
Revelation 14.14-18; John 6.25-35

**7 September: Twelfth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 18)** *Green*

Deuteronomy 30.15-20; Psalm 1; Philemon 1-21; Luke 14.25-33

**14 September: Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 19)** *Green*

Exodus 32.7-14; Psalm 51.1-11; 1 Timothy 1.12-17; Luke 15.1-10

**21 September: St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist** *Red*

Proverbs 3.13-18; Psalm 119.65-72; 2 Corinthians 4.1-6; Matthew 9.9-13

**28 September: Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 21)** *Green*

Amos 6.1a,4-7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6.6-19; Luke 16.19-31

**October 2025**

**Harvest Readings**

Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Psalm 100; Philippians 4.4-9 or  
Revelation 14.14-18; John 6.25-35

**5 October: Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 22)** *Green*

Habakkuk 1.1-4; 2.1-4; Psalm 37.1-9; 2 Timothy 1.1-14; Luke 17.5-10

**12 October: Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 23)** *Green*

2 Kings 5.1-3, 7-15c; Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2.8-15; Luke 17.11-19

**19 October: Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 24)** *Green*

Genesis 32.22-31; Psalm 121; 2 Timothy 3.14-4.5; Luke 18.1-8

**26 October: Last Sunday after Trinity (Proper 25)** *Green*

Jeremiah 14.7-10, 19-22; Psalm 84.1-7; 2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18;  
Luke 18.9-14

**November 2025**

**2 November: All Saints' Sunday** *White/Gold*

Daniel 7.1-3, 15-18; Psalm 149; Ephesians 1.11-23; Luke 6.20-31

**9 November: Remembrance Sunday (3rd Sunday before Advent)** *Red/Green*

Please consult the person leading the Remembrance Service

**16 November: Second Sunday before Advent** *Red*

Malachi 4.1-2a; Psalm 98; 2 Thessalonians 3.6-13; Luke 21.5-19

**23 November: Christ the King** *Red*

Jeremiah 23.1-6; Psalm 46; Colossians 1.11-20; Luke 23.33-43

**Lectionary Year A Begins**

**30 November: Advent Sunday** *Purple*

Isaiah 2.1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13.11-end; Matthew 24.36-44

**December 2025**

**7 December: Second Sunday of Advent** *Purple*

Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm 72.1-7, 18-19; Romans 15.4-13; Matthew 3.1-12

**14 December: Third Sunday of Advent** *Purple*

Isaiah 35.1-10; Psalm 146.4-10 *or* Magnificat; James 5.7-10; Matthew 11.2-11

**21 December: Fourth Sunday of Advent** *Purple*

Isaiah 7.10-16; Psalm 80.1-8, 18-20; Romans 1.1-7; Matthew 1.18-end

**Notes:**

**Paschal Candle**

The Paschal (Easter) Candle is lit on **Easter Day** and at every service up to and including **Pentecost (Whitsunday)**. It is then moved to stand near the font for the rest of the year.

It is also lit at every **Baptism, Funeral and Memorial Service**. It is also used during the **All Souls' Day** service and on **Remembrance Sunday**.

## **Advent Candles**

The Advent Wreath has four candles in a ring around a white or gold candle. The outer candles may be white, red, purple or three purple and one pink; in this case the pink candle is lit on the third Sunday of Advent, traditionally known as *Gaudete*. The first candle is lit on Advent Sunday; additional ones are lit, one on each Sunday, and the white or gold one on Christmas Day. All five candles may appropriately be lit during services through the Christmas season.

There are several traditions about the meaning or theme of each candle. The scheme that accords best with the current Lectionary is:

Advent 1	The Patriarchs
Advent 2	The Prophets
Advent 3	John the Baptist
Advent 4	The Blessed Virgin Mary
Christmas Day	The Christ

Each of the four Sundays then reminds us of those who prepared for the coming of Christ. 'The Patriarchs' can naturally focus on Abraham, our father in faith, and David, Jesus' ancestor in whose city he was born. 'The Prophets' gives an opportunity to reflect on the way the birth of the Messiah was 'foretold'. John, who proclaimed the Saviour, and Mary, who bore him in her womb, complete the picture. The prayers used when lighting the candles reflect these themes.

## **Crib/ Nativity Scene**

Since the introduction of Common Worship, which established a **Christmas** season which extends to **Candlemas**, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, it has been customary to leave the Christmas Crib/Nativity scene in place until this date. At least it means the wise men don't appear and disappear all in the one day!