THE LECTIONARY

The Revised Common Lectionary

The Prayer Book Lectionary – BCP p. 888

What is a Lectionary?

See Prayer Book lectionary pg. 889

Sunday Pattern of scripture readings: Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, Gospel

Except for Easter when a reading from the Acts of the Apostles takes the place of the OT reading – why?

Lectionary vs. Bible Translations

Lectionary a table of readings.

Bible translations:

NRSV, Jerusalem, King James, Living Bible, New International Version, New American, The Message (Bible paraphrase)

Why us a lectionary?

What's the alternative?

Introduction to the RCL

Pastor's Bible Study

Ecumenism

"Global" connection

Patter of a 3 year cycle

Difficult Readings

The Challenge:

The readings do not often relate to each other

Exception: certain seasons of the church year (ex. 2 Advent)

Lectionary Development

- 1963 Vatican II
- 1969 the Table of Readings
- 1970 other Christian churches join in
- 1978 Consultation on Common Texts
 - Prayer Book Lectionary
- 1983 Common Lectionary
- 1992 Revised Common Lectionary
 - Replaces the Prayer Book Lectionary in 2006

Lectionary has a 3 year cycle – A, B, & C – Gospels: Matthew, Mark and Luke (2018 – B)

John in Easter, along with Acts

Lectionary covers much of the New Testament – 27 books Less of the Old Testament's 26 books

Example:

Old Testament series from season of Pentecost (last summer -year A):

The Great Stories of Salvation History:

Abraham's call, Abraham and Sarah will have a son, Isaac and Ishmael, Sacrifice of Isaac, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob and Esau, Jacob's Ladder, Leah and Rachel, wrestling with the angel, Joseph sold in to slavery, J saves his family, birth of Moses, burning bush, Passover requirements, red sea, whining in wilderness, whining for water, 10 commandments, idol worship, promised land... (from Abraham to the promised land)

Preaching!

What do these scripture readings say to us today? Convey the truth

Try to tie all three together?

Teach about all 3?

Talk about 1 or 2 – Bible study vs. preaching

Focus on the Gospel (importance of Gospel: special book, process with cross and candles, turn and face)

Lectionary Year B

The Gospel of Mark
- "Continuous" Reading

Ist Gospel - written 65-70 A.D.

Author: Likely "John Mark" of scripture

"2 Source Theory" – Mt. & Lk. Used Mark and "Q"

Some Features of Mark:

-Written as a story

-Begins at Jordan River with John the Baptist — what's missing?

-Original Ending

-Emphasis on the Kingdom of God

Healings

-show us what life in the kingdom is like

Parables

- -"Para" = beside "ble" = place
- -take something unknown and place it beside what is known ex: "the kingdom of heaven is like a sower..."

Insiders and Outsiders

-those who should understand (the disciples, pharisees) do not, those who shouldn't (crowds, demons, gentiles) do. Climax: Jesus dies on cross a centurion proclaims "Truly this man was God's Son!"