

Sharing Denominational Resources for Singing the Psalms

One of the more innovative liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council was the introduction of a three-year cycle of readings for the Sunday assembly, replacing the one-year lectionary¹ that had been in use for centuries. The one-year lectionary had two readings appointed for each Sunday and festival, a gospel reading and an epistle reading, which was selected to fit with the gospel. A psalm text (introit) was chosen for the choir to sing. The three-year lectionary added a reading from the Old Testament followed by a responsorial psalm, which was intended to be sung not by the choir, but by the assembly.

Many Protestant denominations had also used a one-year lectionary similar to the Roman lectionary but agreed that this change to a three-year lectionary would greatly expand the breadth of scriptures used in worship. When *Lutheran Book of Worship* was published in 1978, it introduced a three-year lectionary that was based upon but different from the Roman lectionary. Other Protestant denominations followed.

Much has changed since 1978, including the ELCA's adoption of the Revised Common Lectionary² in 1994 (included in *ELW* in 2006), and the revised three-year lectionaries adopted by the LCMS and by the WELS and published in their new hymnals in 2006 and 1993, respectively. Although similar, these four lectionaries (and the appointed psalms) are different from each other.

Singing the psalms in a variety of different musical settings and in a variety of different ways has the potential of opening up the psalms for worshippers and, hopefully, more actively engaging them in singing the psalms. Psalm settings produced by the various denominations through their publishing houses provide a firm foundation for congregational singing of the psalms. They will normally include both psalm translations and refrains approved/recommended/supported by the church body. As such they provide an exact match to the denomination's appointed lectionary psalms for Sundays and festivals.

The more adventurous among us may decide to broaden our psalm horizons by singing psalms other than those published by our own denominations. Because of the lectionary variations in psalms appointed for each liturgical day and because many psalm collections are arranged in liturgical order, it is important to know where in that particular denomination's lectionary the psalm appears. The chart on the pages that follow is arranged in psalm number order and uses short-hand "codes" for the names of the Sundays and festivals. Most of the codes are easily identifiable. It is important to note that the codes "Lect." (lectionary), "Proper", and "OT" (ordinary time) all refer to Sundays after Epiphany and Sundays after Pentecost, the "green" seasons of the year. There are two main numbering systems in use for those Sundays, but each lectionary will be clear in its numbering system. Twenty-four psalms are not included in any of the four lectionaries, so they do not appear in the chart that follows.

Ready to identify some psalm resources outside your own denomination? Simply find the appointed psalm number in the lectionary you use and find the psalm number in the chart.

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¹ There are two meanings of the word lectionary: 1) a list of biblical readings that a church adopts, and 2) the book from which those readings are organized and read. When "lectionary" is used in this article, it refers to the cycle of readings, not the book. For an accessible introduction to the lectionary, see Gail Ramshaw's *A Three-Year Banquet: The Lectionary for the Assembly* published by Augsburg Fortress as part of their "Worship Matters" series.

² Additional information about the Revised Common Lectionary is available at commontexts.org/rcf/.

Psalm	ELCA/RCL * = Semicontinuous track	LCMS	WELS (Proposed)³	Roman Catholic
1	Epiphany 6C Easter 7B Lect. 23C Lect. 25B* Lect. 30A	Epiphany 6C Easter 7B Proper 6B Proper 18C Proper 25A	Epiphany 4A Epiphany 6C Proper 4A Proper 6B Proper 18C Proper 25A	OT 6C
2	Transfiguration A	Christmas Day Easter Tuesday Transfiguration A	Christmas 1A Epiphany 1B, 1C Transfiguration A, B, C	
3		Proper 7C		
4	Easter 3B	Lent 2C Easter 3B Proper 4A	Proper 15C Proper 25B	Easter 3B
5	Lect. 11C* Martyrs	Proper 25C		
6	Day of Penitence	Day of Supplication and Prayer		
7	James, Apostle			
8	Holy Trinity A, C Lect. 27B Name of Jesus New Year's Eve	Holy Trinity A, C Circumcision and Name of Jesus	Holy Trinity A, C	Holy Trinity C
9	Lect. 12B* Saints			
11	Simon and Jude, Apostles	St. John		
12	Bartholomew, Apostle			
13	Lect. 13A*			
14	Lect. 17B* Lect. 24C*	Proper 16B		
15	Epiphany 4A Lect. 16C Lect. 22B	Epiphany 4A		OT16C OT 22B
16	Vigil of Easter (Reading 3) Easter Monday Easter 2A, 2B Lect. 13C Lect. 33B	Holy Saturday Easter Day Proper 8C Proper 28B	Easter Day C Easter 2A, 2B Proper 28B	Easter Vigil (resp. 2) Easter 3A OT 13C OT 33B
17	Lect. 18A* Lect. 32C			OT 32C
18	Confession of Peter	Proper 14A		OT 30A OT 31B
19	Epiphany 3C Lent 3B Vigil of Easter (Reading 6) Lect. 24B* Lect. 26B Lect. 27A* Andrew, Apostle	Epiphany 3C Lent 3B	Lent 3B Proper 11A Proper 21B	OT 3C Lent 3B Easter Vigil (resp. 6) OT 15C (option 2) OT 26B

³ The new WELS hymnal will be available in Advent 2021. The citations here are from lectionary-appointed psalms that will be included in the new hymnal.

20	Lect. 11B* National Holiday			
22	Lent 2B Good Friday Easter 5B Lect. 12C Lect. 28B*	Lent 2B Good Friday	Lent 2B Good Friday	Palm Sunday A, B, C Easter 5B
23	Lent 4A Easter 4A, 4B, 4C Lect. 16B Lect. 28A	Easter 4A, 4B, 4C Proper 11B Proper 23A	Easter 4A, 4B, 4C Christ the King A Proper 11B	Lent 4A Easter 4A OT 16B OT 28A OT 34A (Christ the King)
24	All Saints Day B Lect. 15B*	Advent 4A	Advent 1A, 1B, 1C Palm Sunday C	Advent 4A Presentation of the Lord All Saints
25	Advent 1C Lent 1B Lect. 15C Lect. 26A	Advent 1C Lent 1B Pentecost A Proper 21A	Advent 1C Lent 1B Proper 10C Proper 21A	Advent 1C Lent 1B OT 3B OT 26A
26	Lect. 27B*	Proper 17A		
27	Epiphany 3A Lent 2C	Epiphany CA Pentecost Tuesday Proper 11C Proper 20A	Epiphany 3A Lent 4A Proper 8A Proper 9B Proper 26A	OT3A Lent 2C Easter 7A
29	Baptism of Our Lord Holy Trinity B	Baptism of Our Lord/ Epiphany 1 Holy Trinity B	Epiphany 4B Holy Trinity B	Baptism of Our Lord
30	Epiphany 6B Easter 3C Lect. 10C Lect. 13B Lect. 14C*	Epiphany 6B Easter 3C Proper 5C Proper 8B	Epiphany 6B Easter Dawn A, B Easter 3C Proper 8B	Easter Vigil (resp. 4) Easter 3C OT 10C OT 13B
31	Sunday of the Passion Easter 5A Lect. 9A	Good Friday Palm/Passion Sunday A	Passion Sunday A, C Proper 17A Proper 27B	Good Friday OT 9A
32	Lent 1A Lent 4C Lect. 11C Lect. 31C	Lent 1A Lent 4C Proper 6C Proper 18A	Epiphany 7B Lent 4B, 4C Proper 18A	OT 6B OT 11C
33	Vigil of Pentecost Lect. 10A* Lect. 19C	Proper 14C Proper 15B		Lent 2A Easter Vigil (resp. 1b) Easter 5A Holy Trinity B OT 19C OT 29B
34	Lect. 19B Lect. 20B Lect. 21B Lect. 30B All Saints Day Mary, Mother of Our Lord	Proper 14B	Proper 3A Proper 14B	Lent 4C OT 19B OT 20B OT 21B OT 30C Sts. Peter & Paul

36	Epiphany 2C Monday in Holy Week	Holy Monday St. Philip and St. James		
37	Epiphany 7C Lect. 27C			
40	Epiphany 2A Annunciation of Our Lord	Epiphany 2A Holy Cross Day	Epiphany 2A Proper 6C	OT 2A OT 2B Annunciation of the Lord
41	Epiphany 7B	Epiphany 7B Proper 10C		OT 7B
42	(and 43) Vigil of Easter (Reading 7) (and 43) Lect. 12C*		Lent 2C Proper 7B	(and 43) Easter Vigil (resp. 7b)
43	Lect. 31A	Pentecost Evening/Mon Proper 26 A St. Simon and St. Jude		
44	Philip and James, Apostles			
45	Lect. 14A* Lect. 22B* Annunciation of Our Lord	Annunciation St. Mary	Epiphany 1A Epiphany 8B Proper 3B	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
46	Vigil of Easter (Reading 2) Christ the King C Lect. 9A* Reformation Day Renewers of the Church	Last Sunday 29C St. Peter and St. Paul Reformation Day	Proper 13B Proper 19B Reformation	
47	Ascension	Ascension	Ascension	Ascension
48	Lect. 14B*			
49	Lect. 18C			
50	Transfiguration B Lect. 10A Lect. 19C*	Transfiguration B Proper 16C		OT 10A
51	Ash Wednesday Lent 5B Lect. 18B* Lect. 24C	Ash Wednesday	Ash Wednesday Proper 19C	Lent 1A Lent 5B Easter Vigil (resp. 7b) OT 24C
52	Lect. 16C*			
54	Lect. 25B	Proper 20B Holy Innocents		OT 25B
56	Matthias, Apostle	St. James the Elder		
57	Mark, Evangelist			
61		Easter Wednesday		
62	Epiphany 3B	Epiphany 3B Proper 22C	Epiphany 3B Epiphany 8A Proper 4B Proper 8C Proper 9A Proper 22C Proper 24B	
63	Lent 3C		Easter 5B Proper 12A Proper 26C	OT 8A OT 12C OT 22A OT 32A

65	Lect. 15A Lect. 30C* Day of Thanksgiving A Harvest	Proper 10A Harvest Observance	Easter 6C Proper 10A	OT 15A
66	Easter 6A Lect. 14C Lect. 28C*	Advent 2C Easter 6A Proper 9C	Advent 2C Easter 6A Proper 7C	Easter 6A OT 14C
67	Easter 6C Lect. 20A Conversion of Paul	Easter 6C Proper 15A Conversion of Paul Thanksgiving	Epiphany 5C Proper 9C Proper 15A	Easter 6C OT 20A Mary, Mother of God
68	Easter 7A	Easter 7A		OT 22C
69	Lect. 12A		Passion Sunday B	OT 12A OT 15C (opt. A)
70	Wednesday in Holy Week Lect. 32A	Holy Wednesday Proper 27		
71	Epiphany 4C Tuesday in Holy Week Lect. 21C*	Epiphany 4C Holy Tuesday Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist St. Titus St. Timothy	Advent 3B Epiphany 4C	OT 4C
72	Advent 2A Epiphany of Our Lord	Advent 2A Epiphany	Epiphany	Advent 2A Epiphany
73	Mary Magdalene, Apostle	St. Mary Magdalene	Lent 5C Proper 14A	
77	Lect. 13C*			
78	Lect. 18B Lect. 26A* Lect. 32A* Holy Cross Day		Proper 10B	OT 18B Exultation of the Cross
79	Lect. 25C*			
80	Advent 1B Advent 4A, 4C Lect. 20C*	Advent 1B Advent 4C Proper 22A	Advent 1A, 1B Proper 22A	Advent 1B OT 27A
81	Lect. 9B Lect. 22C*	Proper 4B		OT 9B
82	Lect. 15C* Lect. 20C			
84	Lect. 21B* Presentation of Our Lord Dedication/Anniversary Pastors and Bishops	Purification/Presentation Anniversary of a Congregation	Christmas 1C Christmas 2B Proper 23A	Christmas 1/Holy Family C
85	Advent 2B Lect. 15B Lect. 19A Lect. 17C* Peace	Advent 2B Advent 3C Lent 3C Proper 10B Nativity John the Baptist	Advent 2B Advent 4C Lent 3C	Advent 2B OT 15B OT 19A
86	Lect. 12A* Lect. 16A			OT 16A
87	Peter and Paul, Apostles			
88	Maundy Thursday stripping of the altar			

89	Advent 4B Lect. 13A Lect. 16B* Joseph, Guardian of Jesus	Advent 4B	Advent 4A Easter 6B	Advent 4B Christmas Vigil Mass OT 13A St. Joseph
90	Lect. 28B Lect. 30A* Lect. 33A	Proper 23B Proper 28A New Year's Eve	Proper 13C Proper 23B Proper 25C Proper 27A	OT 18C OT 23C OT 28B
91	Lent 1C Lect. 26C* Lect. 29B	Lent 1C Proper 7A St. Michael and All Angels	Lent 1C Proper 7A St. Michael and All Angels	Lent 1C
92	Epiphany 8C/Lect. 8C Lect. 11B	Epiphany 8C		OT 8C OT 11B
93	Christ the King A Ascension of Our Lord	Last Sunday 29B		OT 34B/Christ the King B
94	Renewers of Society			
95	Lent 3A Christ the King A	Lent 3A Proper 29A	Lent 3A Last Sunday of the Church Year A, B, C Christ the King B, C	OT 4B Lent 3A OT 23A OT 27C
96	Christmas (I) Lect. 9C Lect. 9C* Lect. 29A Artists and Scientists	Christmas Eve Midnight Proper 4C Proper 24A Mission Observance	Christmas Eve Proper 4C Proper 24A	Christmas: Mass at Midnight OT 2C OT 29A
97	Christmas (II) Easter 7C			Christmas: Mass at Dawn Easter 7C Transfiguration
98	Christmas (III) Vigil of Easter (Reading 9) Easter 6B Lect. 32C* Lect. 33C Holy Cross Day	Christmas Dawn Easter 6B Proper 28C	Christmas Day Proper 28C	Christmas: Mass during the Day Easter 6B OT 28C OT 33C
99	Transfiguration A, C Lect. 29A*	Transfiguration C Easter Evening/Monday		
100	Lect. 22A Christ the King A Day of Thanksgiving C	Proper 6A Proper 13C	Proper 6A	Easter 4C OT 11A
103	Ash Wednesday, alternate Epiphany 8B/Lect. 8B Lect. 21C Lect. 24A Michael and All Angels	Epiphany 7C Epiphany 8B Proper 3B Proper 19A	Epiphany 5B Epiphany 7C Proper 16C Proper 19A	Lent 3C Easter 7B OT 7A, 7C OT 8B OT 24A Sacred Heart A
104	Day of Pentecost Lect. 29B* Stewardship of Creation	Proper 21B	Pentecost Day A, B, C	Baptism of the Lord C Easter Vigil (resp. 1b) Pentecost Vigil Pentecost Sunday
105	Lect. 17A* Lect. 19A* Lect. 22A* Lect. 25A*			Christmas 1/Holy Family B

106	Lect. 28A*			
107	Lent 4B Lect. 12B Lect. 18C* Lect. 31A*	Lent 4B		
110		Christmas Eve Early		Body & Blood of Christ C
111	Epiphany 4B Lect. 20B* Lect. 28C	Christmas 1A, 1B, 1C Epiphany 4B Proper 23C	Christmas 1B Proper 15B Proper 23C	
112	Lect. 22C Barnabas, Apostle	Epiphany 5A Proper 3C St. Barnabas	Epiphany 5A Proper 17C	OT 5A
113	Lect. 25C Visit of Mary to Elizabeth	Pentecost Eve Proper 20C		OT 25C
114	Easter Evening Lect. 24A*			
115		Epiphany 8A Proper 3A	Proper 20A Proper 20B	
116	Maundy Thursday Easter 3A Lect. 11A* Lect. 24B John, Apostle and Evangelist	Holy Thursday Easter 3A Proper 19B	Holy Thursday Easter 3A Proper 5C	Lent 2B Holy Thursday Body & Blood of Christ B OT 24B
117				OT 9C OT 21C
118	Easter Day Easter 2C	Palm/Passion Sunday A Easter Sunrise Confession of St. Peter	Easter Dawn C Easter Day A, B Easter 5A	Easter Vigil (resp. 8) Easter Sunday Easter 2A, 2B, 2C Easter 4B
119	Epiphany 6A Epiphany 7A Lect. 15A* Lect. 17A Lect. 23A Lect. 29C* Lect. 31C* Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist Theologians and Teachers	Christmas 2 Epiphany 6A Epiphany 7A Lent 5B Proper 5A Proper 8A Proper 11A Proper 15C Proper 17B Proper 19C Proper 24B Proper 26B St. Matthew Christian Education St. Stephen	Epiphany 6A Epiphany 7A Proper 5A Proper 11C Proper 16B Proper 17B Proper 26B	OT 6A OT 17A
121	Lent 2A Lect. 29C	Lent 2A Proper 24C St. Bartholomew	Lent 2A Lent 5B Proper 14C Proper 24C	OT 29C
122	Advent 1A	Advent 1A		Advent 1A OT 34C/Christ the King C
123	Lect. 14B Lect. 33A*	Proper 9B		OT 14B

124	Lect. 21A* Lect. 26B* Holy Innocents, Martyrs Luke, Evangelist	Proper 7B	Easter 7A, 7B	
125	Lect. 23B*	Proper 12A		
126	Advent 3B Lent 5C Lect. 30B Day of the Thanksgiving B	Advent 3B Lent 5C Proper 25B		Advent 2C Lent 5C OT 30B
127	Lect. 32B*	St. Joseph	Proper 22B	
128	Lect. 17A*	Epiphany 2C Proper 22B	Proper 20C Proper 28A	Christmas 1/Holy Family ABC OT 27B OT 33A
130	Lent 5A Vigil of Pentecost Lect. 10B Lect. 13B* Lect. 18B*	Lent 5A Proper 5B Proper 26C National or Local Tragedy	Advent 2A Advent 3C Lent 1A Lent 5A Proper 5B Last Sunday of the Church Year C	Lent 5A OT 10B
131	Epiphany 8A Lect. 8A	Proper 17C		OT 31A
132	Christ the King B*			
133	Easter 2B Lect. 12B* Lect. 20A* Christian Unity	Easter 7C St. James of Jerusalem	Epiphany 8C Easter 7C Proper 3C	
134		St. Matthias		
136	Vigil of Easter (Reading 1) Thomas, Apostle	Proper 12B Proper 13A St. Thomas	Proper 13A	
137	Lect. 27C*			Lent 4B
138	Epiphany 5C Lect. 10B* Lect. 17C Lect. 21A	Epiphany 5C Proper 12C Proper 16A Visitation	Proper 12C Proper 16A	OT5C OT 17C OT 21A
139	Epiphany 2B Lect. 9B* Lect. 16A* Lect. 23C*	Epiphany 2B Pentecost B St. Andrew	Advent 4B Epiphany 2B	Easter 5C OT 14A OT 17B OT 18A OT 25A OT 31C Nativity John the Baptist
140	Day of Mourning			
141	John the Baptist			
142		Lent 4A		
143	Vigil of Easter (Reading 8)	Pentecost C		
145	Lect. 14A Lect. 17B Lect. 18A Lect. 25A Lect. 32C	Proper 9A Proper 13B	Epiphany 2C Easter 5C Proper 12B	

146	Advent 3A	Advent 3A Easter 5A Proper 18B Proper 21C Proper 27B St. Mark	Advent 3A Epiphany 3C Proper 18B Proper 21C	Advent 3A OT 5B OT 23B OT 26C OT 32B
147	Christmas 2 Epiphany 5B	Epiphany 5B St. Luke		Christmas 2 OT 5B Body & Blood of Christ A
148	Christmas 1A, 1B, 1C Easter 5C	Easter 2 Easter 5C Proper 27C	Christmas 2A, 2C Proper 27C	
149	Lect. 23A* All Saints Day C	All Saints' Day	All Saints A, B, C	
150	Easter 2C	Easter 5B	Easter 3B Easter 2C	