

***“THE BLUE SHEET”***  
***Journey in the Word 2023-2024***  
**64<sup>th</sup> Edition: Dec 4 – Feb 18**  
**Advent – Christmas – Epiphany - Lent**

Welcome to the 64th edition of “The Blue Sheet Readings!” This edition will take us through the First Sunday in Advent, then Christmas and Epiphany, and into the First Sunday in Lent.

This edition is like previous editions in that on Sundays we follow the Revised Common Lectionary **Year B**. These are incredible readings, along with many believers around the world who will be reading them as well. I also added a couple of extra lectionary readings on special days – Epiphany, Presentation of the Lord, Transfiguration Sunday, Ash Wednesday.

Let me recommend 2 great resources regarding the Christian Year – **Living the Christian Year: Time to Inhabit the Story of God by Bobby Gross** and **Living the Way of Jesus: Practicing the Christian Calendar One Week at a Time by Michael LaVigne**. Both resources will deeply impact your reading journey.

One more tremendous resource I would highly recommend for a great understanding for reading the Bible as a whole. The title is **How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth by Gordon D. Fee & Douglas Stuart**.

Our readings during the Advent season, will feature passages that reflect Israel’s longing for the coming of the Messiah – hence the word “advent.” See if you can “pick up” on their yearning for hope, deliverance, response from God as you read. Are you able to apply these same themes to our lives today? We will also spend some time in significant passages throughout the Gospels. Once again, prepare your heart to hear from the Spirit prior to your reading and then take time to reflect and respond to the promptings of the Spirit. Finally, another feature of this particular edition will find us doing a slow, daily read of Psalm 119. The 119<sup>th</sup> Psalm is developed by following the Hebrew alphabet.

You will find some daily readings will have only a few verses. The purpose behind this is to deliberately take time and consider as opposed to reading several verses together. This is by design to help us “slow down” and reflect.

Do your best to begin a journal regarding your readings if you haven’t done so by now. I would encourage you as the New Year begins, to decide to read from a different translation than the one you normally read from. It will be different, but you will also benefit greatly from reading through a different lens, so to speak.

As always, please share your discoveries with others, for as you know, the Scriptures are written to be read and lived within community. Enjoy spending time in the Word this season and we pray that the Word will spend time in you! Thanks for being a part of this journey – pk!

***DECEMBER***

Dec 4 – Jeremiah 31:1-26  
Dec 5 – Jeremiah 31:33-34; 32:1-15  
Dec 6 – Isaiah 2:1-5  
Dec 7 – Isaiah 12:1-6  
Dec 8 – Isaiah 25:1-9  
Dec 9 – Isaiah 26:1-9  
Dec 10 – Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13;  
2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8  
Dec 11 – Lamentations 3:21-26  
Dec 12 – Ezekiel 34:1-10  
Dec 13 – Ezekiel 34:11-31  
Dec 14 – Ezekiel 36:22-38  
Dec 15 – Ezekiel 37:1-10  
Dec 16 – Ezekiel 37:11-14  
Dec 17 – Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126;  
1 Thess. 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28  
Dec 18 – Isaiah 9:1-7  
Dec 19 – Isaiah 62:6-12  
Dec 20 – Isaiah 52:7-10  
Dec 21 – Isaiah 7:10-14  
Dec 22 – Luke 1:1-25  
Dec 23 – Luke 1:26-80  
Dec 24 – 2 Samuel 7:1-11,16; Luke 1:46b-55;  
Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38  
Dec 25 – Luke 2:1-20  
Dec 26 – Matt 1:18-25  
Dec 27 – John 1:1-18  
Dec 28 – Matt. 25:14-30  
Dec 29 – Matt. 25:31-46  
Dec 30 – Mark 11:27-28; 12:1-12  
Dec 31 – Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148;  
Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

## **JANUARY**

Jan 1 – Matthew 7:24-29  
Jan 2 – Mark 4:26-29  
Jan 3 – Mark 4:30-34  
Jan 4 – Luke 4:14-30  
Jan 5 – Luke 4:31-37  
Jan 6 – **Epiphany** Isa. 60:1-6; Ps. 72:1-7,10-14;  
Eph. 3:1-12; Matt. 2:1-12  
Jan 7 – Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29;  
Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11  
Jan 8 – Luke 15:1-10  
Jan 9 – Luke 15:11-32  
Jan 10 – Luke 19:1-10  
Jan 11 – Luke 19:37-44  
Jan 12 – Titus 2:11-14  
Jan 13 – Titus 3:4-7  
Jan 14 – 1 Sam. 3:1-10; Ps. 139: 1-6,13-18;  
1 Cor. 6:12-20; John 1:43-51  
Jan 15 – Ezekiel 47:1-12  
Jan 16 – Psalm 119:1-8  
Jan 17 – Psalm 119:9-16  
Jan 18 – Psalm 119:17-24  
Jan 19 – Psalm 119:25-32  
Jan 20 – Psalm 119:33-40  
Jan 21 – Jonah 3:1-5,10; Psalm 62:5-12;  
1 Cor. 1:29-31; Mark 1:14-20  
Jan 22 – Psalm 119:41-48  
Jan 23 – Psalm 119:49-56  
Jan 24 – Psalm 119:57-64  
Jan 25 – Psalm 119:65-72  
Jan 26 – Psalm 119:73-80  
Jan 27 – Psalm 119:81-88  
Jan 28 – Deut. 18:15-20; Psalm 111;  
1 Cor 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28  
Jan 29 – Psalm 119:89-96  
Jan 30 – Psalm 119:97-104  
Jan 31 – Psalm 119:105-112

## **FEBRUARY**

Feb 1 – Psalm 119:113-120  
Feb 2 – **Presentation of the Lord**  
Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm 84;  
Heb. 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40  
Feb 3 – Psalm 119:121-128  
Feb 4 – Isaiah 40:21-31; Ps. 147:1-11,20c  
1 Cor. 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39  
Feb 5 – Psalm 119:129-136  
Feb 6 – Psalm 119:137-144  
Feb 7 – Psalm 119:145-152

Feb 8 – Psalm 119:153-160  
Feb 9 – Psalm 119:161-168  
Feb 10 – Psalm 119:169-176  
Feb 11 – **Transfiguration Sunday**  
2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6;  
2 Cor. 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9  
Feb 12 – Mark 9:10-29  
Feb 13 – Mark 9:30-37  
Feb 14 – **Ash Wednesday**  
Joel 2:1-2,12-17; Psalm 51:1-7;  
2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10; Matt 6:1-6,16-21  
Feb 15 – Mark 10:13-16  
Feb 16 – Mark 10:32-44  
Feb 17 – Luke 20:9-18  
Feb 18 – **First Sunday in Lent**  
Gen. 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10;  
1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

## ***Some Suggestions***

~ Find a quiet place  
~ Try to find a consistent time  
~ Pick up a journal or composition notebook as a companion to your readings  
~ Write down one verse (or more than one) that stands out to you from each reading with the date of that reading  
~ Share at least one verse with at least one person during the week  
~ If you miss a day, don't go back, start with the current date  
~ Enjoy the journey  
~ Whatever you do, don't give up!  
~ For a great challenge, read these passages from a different translation than the one you normally read from.

## **RACK PRINCIPLE**

**Stay in the Word – *Read***  
**Stand on the Word – *Apply – journal/notes***  
**Share from the Word – *Confirm – others***  
**Strength through the Word – *Know God in a deeper way***