

Structured Devotional

I Structure

This devotional¹ consists of an *Ordinary* four-week cycle repeated 12 times in the year. There are four *Celebratory* weeks marking Christmas, Holy Week, Easter Week, and Pentecost Week. An additional Advent Week completes the calendar when it is necessary.

The year starts on the Sunday before Christmas (12/18-24). There are 0-6 days of Ordinary Week 1 before Christmas Eve. The Christmas season runs for seven days, beginning with Christmas Eve Day. Then we fill out Ordinary Week 1 with 1-7 days. Ordinary Week 2 then occurs and the four-week cycle continues.

The 52 week cycle of 48 Ordinary Weeks and four Celebratory weeks ends on a Saturday; when that day occurs prior to December 17, we have an Advent Week before starting the next year.

¹Constructed by Alan Parks during 2016-17; we began using it in January 2017.

2 Order

Morning prayer.

1. *In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*
2. Repeat steps (a)-(d) for the first psalm, second psalm, and Old Testament reading.
 - (a) Reading
 - (b) *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.*
 - (c) Respond in Prayer.
 - (d) Repeat a phrase from the psalm as an antiphon.
3. *The Gospel of our Lord. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.*
4. The Gospel reading in its cycle.²
5. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*
6. Improvised litany.
7. The Cantic of Zachariah.
8. *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.*
9. *Our Father, Who art in heaven, . . ., deliver us from evil.*
10. Prayer.
11. *For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.*
12. *May the Lord bless us, guide us, and keep us from sin this whole day.*
13. *In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

²There are three cycles of gospel readings in both morning and evening prayer. Thus, with respect to gospel readings, there are twelve cycles of four weeks. Each cycle occurs four times in the Ordinary of a single year.

Evening prayer.

1. *In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*
2. Repeat steps (a)-(d) for the first psalm, second psalm, and New Testament reading.
 - (a) Reading
 - (b) *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.*
 - (c) Respond in Prayer.
 - (d) Repeat a phrase from the psalm as an antiphon.
3. *The Gospel of our Lord. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.*
4. The Gospel reading in its cycle.
5. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*
6. Improvised litany.
7. The Magnificat.
8. *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.*
9. *Our Father, Who art in heaven, . . ., deliver us from evil.*
10. Prayer.
11. *For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.*
12. *May the Lord bless us, guide us, and keep us from sin this evening and night.*
13. *In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

An *antiphon* is a phrase from the reading that stands as its own thought.
An *improvised litany* involves phrases A, B, C from the reading and has the form

- (a) AB
- (b) ACB
- (c) *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*
- (d) AB

Ideally, the meaning of A changes slightly when the C section is recited.

Canticle of Zachariah³.

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,
because He has come to His people and redeemed them.
He has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of His servant David.
As He said through His holy prophets of long ago,
salvation from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us
to show mercy to our ancestors
and to remember His holy covenant,
the oath He swore to our father Abraham:
to rescue us from the hand of our enemies,
and to enable us to serve Him without fear
in holiness and righteousness before Him all our days.
And you, my child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for Him,
to give His people the knowledge of salvation
through the forgiveness of their sins,
because of the tender mercy of our God,
by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven
to shine on those living in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the path of peace.

³Luke 1.68-79; Holy Bible, New International Version, ©2011.

Magnificat⁴.

My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for He has been mindful of the humble state of His servant.
From now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me;
holy is His Name.
His mercy extends to those who fear Him,
from generation to generation.
He has performed mighty deeds with His arm;
He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.
He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.
He has helped His servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as He promised our ancestors

⁴Luke 1.46-55; IBID

Azariah (The Prayer of Azariah)⁵.

Blessed art thou, O Lord, God of our fathers,
And blessed is thy glorious, holy name
to be praised and highly exalted for ever;
Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holy glory
Blessed art thou, who sittest upon cherubim and lookest upon the deeps,
Blessed art thou upon the throne of thy kingdom
in the firmament of heaven
Bless the Lord, all works of the Lord,
sing praise to him and exalt him for ever.
You heavens bless the Lord
You angels of the Lord, bless the Lord
All waters above the heaven, bless the Lord
All powers, bless the Lord
Sun and moon, stars of heaven, bless the Lord
All rain and dew, all winds, lightnings and clouds bless the Lord
Fire and heat, bless the Lord
Winter cold and summer heat, bless the Lord
Dews and snows, bless the Lord
Nights and days, bless the Lord
Light and darkness, bless the Lord
Ice and cold, frosts and snows, bless the Lord
Let the earth bless the Lord,
sing praise to him and exalt him for ever.
Mountains and hills, bless the Lord
All things that grow on the earth, bless the Lord
You springs, seas and rivers, bless the Lord
Whales and all creatures that move in the waters, bless the Lord
All birds of the air, bless the Lord
All beasts and cattle, bless the Lord
You sons of men, bless the Lord
O Israel, bless the Lord
You priests of the Lord, bless the Lord
Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord
Spirits and souls of the righteous, bless the Lord
You who are holy and humble in heart, bless the Lord
Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael, bless the Lord
for he has rescued us from Hell and saved us from the hand of death,
and delivered us from the midst of the burning fiery furnace;
from the midst of the fire he has delivered us.

⁵The Song of Azariah 1.29-66, paraphrase of the Revised Standard Version ©1946, 1952, and 1971 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.

3 Ordinary

Week 1: Mornings			
day	psalms	OT	gospel
S	Azariah, 100	Genesis 17.1-8	Matthew 3.1-17 Mark 4.1-20 Luke 12.1-12
M	1, 19	Exodus 3.1-10	Matthew 4.12-25 Mark 4.30-34 Luke 12.49-59
T	32, 42	Exodus 15.1-10 Exodus 15.11-18 Exodus 15.19-27	Matthew 5.21-30 Mark 5.1-20 Luke 13.10-17
W	119.9-16, 146	Deuteronomy 4.1-8 Deuteronomy 4.9-20 Deuteronomy 4.1-8	Matthew 6.1-15 Mark 6.7-13 Luke 13.22-35
R	76, 87	Ruth 1.14-22 Joshua 1.1-9 Joshua 1.1-9	Matthew 7.13-29 Mark 6.30-44 Luke 14.25-35
F	97, 111	I Samuel 16.1-13	Matthew 9.1-8 Mark 7.1-23 Luke 15.11-32
A	122, 63	I Kings 19.9-21	Matthew 9.18-34 Mark 8.1-13 Luke 16.19-31

Week 1: Evenings			
day	psalms	NT	gospel
S	119.1-8, 142	Romans 5.1-11	Matthew 4.1-11 Mark 4.21-29 Luke 12.35-48
M	3, 20	Romans 8.1-11	Matthew 5.1-12 Mark 4.35-41 Luke 13.1-9
T	33.1-12, 33.13-22	Romans 8.28-39	Matthew 5.31-48 Mark 5.21-43 Luke 13.18-21
W	54, 65	Romans 12.1-13	Matthew 6.25-34 Mark 6.14-29 Luke 14.7-24
R	77, 88	2 Corinthians 1.3-7	Matthew 8.1-13 Mark 6.45-56 Luke 15.1-10
F	98, 112	2 Corinthians 5.11-19	Matthew 9.9-17 Mark 7.24-30 Luke 16.1-13
A	123, 130	Ephesians 1.3-14	Matthew 10.1-15 Mark 8.14-21 Luke 17.1-10

Week 2: Mornings

day	psalms	OT	gospel
S	Azariah, 150	Isaiah 43.1-7	Matthew 11.1-19 Mark 8.27-30 Luke 17.11-19
M	4, 23	Isaiah 2.1-5	Matthew 12.1-21 Mark 9.1-13 Luke 18.1-14
T	34, 43	Isaiah 6.1-7 Isaiah 6.8-13	Matthew 12.38-45 Mark 10.1-12
W	56, 147	Isaiah 6.1-7 Isaiah 7.10-16	Luke 18.18-30 Matthew 13.31-43 Mark 10.17-31 Luke 19.1-10
R	80, 90	Isaiah 9.1-7	Matthew 14.13-21 Mark 10.46-52 Luke 19.28-44
F	99, 113	Isaiah 12	Matthew 15.1-20 Mark 11.15-25 Luke 20.1-8
A	124, 132	Isaiah 26.1-9	Matthew 15.29-39 Mark 12.1-12 Luke 20.19-26

Week 2: Evenings			
day	psalms	NT	gospel
S	119, 105-112, 143	Ephesians 2.1-10	Matthew 11.25-30 Mark 8.31-38 Luke 17.20-37
M	8, 24	Ephesians 4.10-16	Matthew 12.22-37 Mark 9.14-29 Luke 18.15-17
T	37.1-11, 37.23-34	Philippians 1.3-11	Matthew 13.1-30 Mark 10.13-16 Luke 18.31-43
W	57, 67	Philippians 2.5-11	Matthew 14.1-12 Mark 10.35-45 Luke 19.11-27
R	81, 91	Philippians 4.4-9	Matthew 14.22-36 Mark 11.1-11 Luke 19.45-48
F	101, 114	Colossians 1.15-20	Matthew 15.21-28 Mark 11.27-33 Luke 20.9-18
A	125, 135	Colossians 3.1-11	Matthew 16.1-12 Mark 12.13-17 Luke 20.27-40

Week 3: Mornings			
day	psalms	OT	gospel
S	Azariah, 100	Isaiah 52.7-10	Matthew 16.13-20 Mark 12.18-27 John 1.19-34
M	9, 25	Isaiah 65.17-25	Matthew 17.1-13 Luke 3.1-22 John 2.1-12
T	38, 45	Jeremiah 31.1-14	Matthew 18.1-5 Luke 4.14-30 John 3.22-36
W	59, 148	Jeremiah 31.31-40	Matthew 19.1-12 Luke 5.17-26 John 4.25-42
R	82, 92	Lamentations 3.19-33	Matthew 19.16-30 Luke 6.1-11 John 5.18-24
F	102, 115	Ezekiel 36.22-38	Matthew 20.29-34 Luke 7.1-17 John 5.33-47
A	126, 137.1-6	Jonah 2	Matthew 21.12-17 Luke 8.4-15 John 6.25-40

Week 3: Evenings			
day	psalms	NT	gospel
S	119, 169-176, 144	Colossians 3.12-17	Matthew 16.21-28 Mark 12.28-34 John 1.35-51
M	11, 27	Hebrews 1	Matthew 17.14-23 Luke 4.1-13 John 3.1-21
T	39, 46	Hebrews 4.1-13	Matthew 18.7-20 Luke 4.38-44 John 4.1-24
W	61, 70	Hebrews 10.1-10	Matthew 19.13-15 Luke 5.27-39 John 5.1-17
R	8, 93	Hebrews 10.15-25	Matthew 20.20-28 Luke 6.12-19 John 5.25-32
F	103, 116	Hebrews 11.1-16	Matthew 21.1-11 Luke 7.18-35 John 6.15-24
A	127, 138	Hebrews 12.1-13	Matthew 21.23-32 Luke 8.16-21 John 6.41-59

Week 4: Mornings			
day	psalms	OT	gospel
S	Azariah, 150	Jeremiah 30.3-11	Matthew 21.33-46 Luke 8.22-25 John 6.60-71
M	13, 29	Hosea 14	Matthew 22.23-33 Luke 8.40-56 John 8.12-30
T	40, 47	Joel 3.9-21	Matthew 25.14-30 Luke 9.12-17 John 9.1-12
W	62, 72	Amos 9.11-15 Micah 5.7-15	Mark 1.14-20 Luke 9.28-36
R	84, 94	Amos 9.11-15 Habbakuk 3	John 10.1-21 Mark 1.40-45 Luke 9.46-62
F	108, 120	Zephaniah 3.12-20	John 11.1-29 Mark 2.13-22 Luke 10.21-24
A	118.1-1-18, 118.19-29	Zechariah 8.1-8	John 12.1-11 Mark 3.13-19 Luke 11.14-28 John 12.27-43

Week 4: Evenings			
day	psalms	NT	gospel
S	119, 89-96, 145	Hebrews 12.25-29	Matthew 22.15-22 Luke 8.26-39 John 7.28-39
M	16, 30	1 Peter 1.13-21	Matthew 22.34-40 Luke 9.1-11 John 8.31-59
T	41, 48	1 Peter 2.4-10	Mark 1.1-13 Luke 9.18-27 John 9.35-41
W	64, 75	1 Peter 2.21-25	Mark 1.21-39 Luke 9.37-45 John 10.22-42
R	85, 96	1 Peter 3.1-12	Mark 2.1-12 Luke 10.1-20 John 11.30-46
F	110, 121	2 Peter 1.1-11	Mark 2.23-3.12 Luke 10.25-37 John 12.20-26
A	128, 139	1 John 1.5-10	Mark 3.20-30 Luke 11.29-54 John 12.44-50

4 Celebratory

Christmas: Mornings

day	psalms	OT	gospel
Christmas Eve	23, 27.1-6	Genesis 1.26-31	Luke 1.26-38
Christmas Day	149.1-4, 150	Genesis 12.1-9	Luke 2.1-7
12/26	145.1-13, 145.14-21	Isaiah 40.1-5	Matthew 2.1-6
12/27	147.7-11, 147.12-20	Isaiah 40.6-11	Matthew 2.13-15
12/28	118.1-9, 118.10-21	Isaiah 40.12-17	Luke 1.18-25
12/29	139.1-6, 139.7-18	Isaiah 40.18-26	Matthew 2.19-23
12/30	24.1-6, 24.7-10	Isaiah 40.27-31	Luke 2.36-40

Christmas: Evenings

day	psalms	NT	gospel
Christmas Eve	27.7-14, 131	Hebrews 1.1-4	John 1.6-13
Christmas Day	24.1-6, 24.7-10	Colossians 1.15-20	Luke 1.18-25
12/26	146, 147.1-6	II John 4-11	Luke 1.34-38
12/27	113, 114	I John 5.1-5	Matthew 1.22-25
12/28	118.22-29, 116.1-4	2 Corinthians 5.1-10	Luke 2.8-20
12/29	139.19-24, 148	2 Corinthians 5.11-19	Luke 2.25-35
12/30	23, 146	I Corinthians 13	Matthew 2.7-12

Holy Week: Mornings

day	psalms	OT	gospel
S	12, 14	Genesis 3.1-7	Matthew 27.11-26
M	22.19-24, 23	Genesis 3.8-13	Matthew 27.45-56
T	31.9-13, 31.14-18	Genesis 3.14-19	Luke 22.63-23.16
W	44.9-16, 44.17-26	Isaiah 52.13-53.3	Luke 23.32-49
R	51.1-9, 51.10-13	Isaiah 53.4-6	John 18.1-14
F	18.11-19, 18.20-30	Isaiah 53.7-9	John 18.28-40
A	77, 121	Isaiah 53.10-12	John 19.17-30

Holy Week: Evenings

day	psalms	NT	gospel
S	22.1-8, 9-18	Romans 1.18-25	Matthew 27.27-44
M	22.25-31, 31.1-8	Romans 1.26-32	Luke 22.47-62
T	31.19-24, 44.1-8	Romans 3.21-26	Luke 23.17-31
W	33.1-12, 33.13-22	I Corinthians 1.18-25	Luke 23.50-56
R	51.14-19, 18.1-10	I Corinthians 1.26-31	John 18.15-24
F	18.31-40, 18.43-50	Hebrews 3.1-6	John 19.1-16
A	120, 131	Hebrews 10.1-18	John 19.31-42

Easter Week: Mornings

day	psalms	OT	gospel
S	8, 24	Genesis 22.1-8	Mark 16.1-8
M	19.1-6, 19.7-14	Genesis 22.9-14	Matthew 28.11-20
T	27.1-6, 27.7-14	Genesis 22.15-19	Luke 24.13-27
W	30, 46	I Kings 17.17-24	Luke 24.36-53
R	33.1-12, 33.13-22	Ezekiel 37.1-6	John 20.11-18
F	34.1-10, 45.1-9	Ezekiel 37.7-14	John 20.24-29
A	61, 62.1-8	Daniel 6.16-23	John 21.15-19

Easter Week: Evenings

day	psalms	NT	gospel
S	92, 93	I Corinthians 15.1-10	Matthew 28.1-10
M	97, 98	Romans 6.1-11	Luke 24.1-12
T	135.1-7, 138	Romans 6.12-18	Luke 24.28-35
W	139.1-12, 146	Ephesians 4.1-10	John 20.1-10
R	145.1-13, 145.14-21	Hebrews 10.19-25	John 20.19-23
F	147.1-11, 147.12-20	Hebrews 12.1-11	John 21.1-14
A	148, 149.1-4	Acts 11.19-26	John 21.20-25

Pentecost Week: Mornings

day	psalms	OT	gospel
S	23, 27.1-6	Genesis 1.1-5	John 13.1-20
M	149.1-5, 150	Genesis 2.4-24	John 14.8-14
T	145.1-13, 145.14-21	Judges 6.11-24	John 14.22-31
W	147.7-11, 147.12-20	2 Kings 2.1-14	John 15.9-17
R	118.1-9, 118.10-21	Joel 2.28-32	John 16.1-11
F	139.1-6, 139.7-18	Micah 4.1-8	John 16.23-33
A	24.1-6, 24.7-10	Zechariah 4	John 17.13-21

Pentecost Week: Evenings

day	psalms	NT	gospel
S	27.7-14, 131	Acts 1.1-11	John 14.1-7
M	24.1-6, 24.7-10	Acts 2.1-13	John 14.15-21
T	146, 147.1-6	Acts 2.14-21	John 15.1-8
W	113, 114	Acts 2.22-25	John 15.18-27
R	118.22-29, 116.1-4	Acts 2.26-36	John 16.12-22
F	139.19-24, 148	I Corinthians 2.1-11	John 17.1-12
A	23, 146	I Corinthians 2.12-16	John 17.22-26

Advent Week: Mornings

day	psalms	OT	gospel
S	8, 24	Exodus 12.1-6	Matthew 1.1-17
M	19.1-6, 19.7-14	Exodus 12.7-13	Matthew 2.16-23
T	27.1-6, 27.7-14	Exodus 12.14-20	Luke 1.57-66
W	30, 46	Exodus 12.21-28	Mark 8.31-38
R	33.1-12, 33.13-22	Numbers 6.1-8	Mark 9.38-50
F	34.1-10, 45.1-9	Deuteronomy 6.1-9	John 6.1-14
A	61, 62.1-8	Deuteronomy 6.10-19	John 7.14-27

Advent Week: Evenings

day	psalms	NT	gospel
S	92, 93	2 Timothy 1.8-14	Matthew 2.13-15
M	97.1-9, 98	2 Timothy 2.1-10	Mark 1.39-45
T	135.1-7, 138	2 Timothy 3.10-17	Mark 7.31-37
W	139.1-12, 146	Titus 2.1-10	Mark 9.30-37
R	145.1-13, 145.14-21	James 1.2-11	Mark 12.35-37
F	147.1-11, 147.12-20	James 2.1-13	John 7.1-13
A	148, 149.1-4	James 2.14-26	John 12.12-19

5 Calendars

Year 2018.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Celebratory
				12/24/17 Christmas
12/31	1/7/18	1/14	1/21	
1/28	2/4	2/11	2/18	
2/25	3/4	3/11	3/18	
				3/25 Holy Week
				4/1 Easter
4/8	4/15	4/22	4/29	
5/6	5/13			5/20 Pentecost
		5/27	6/3	
6/10	6/17	6/24	7/1	
7/8	7/15	7/22	7/29	
8/5	8/12	8/19	8/26	
9/2	9/9	9/16	9/23	
9/30	10/7	10/14	10/21	
10/28	11/4	11/11	11/18	
11/25	12/2	12/9	12/16	

Year 2019.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Celebratory
12/23/18 (1)				12/24 Christmas
12/31/18 (6)	1/6/19	1/13	1/20	
1/27	2/3	2/10	2/17	
2/24	3/3	3/10	3/17	
3/24	3/31	4/7		4/14 Holy Week
				4/21 Easter
			4/28	
5/5	5/12	5/19	5/26	
6/2				6/9 Pentecost
	6/16	6/23	6/30	
7/7	7/14	7/21	7/28	
8/4	8/11	8/18	8/25	
9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22	
9/29	10/6	10/13	10/20	
10/27	11/3	11/10	11/17	
11/24	12/1	12/8	12/15	

Year 2020.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Celebratory
12/22/19 (2)				12/24 Christmas
12/29/19 (5)	1/5/20	1/12	1/19	
1/26	2/2	2/9	2/16	
2/23	3/1	3/8	3/15	
3/22	3/29			4/5 Holy Week 4/12 Easter
		4/19	4/26	
5/3	5/10	5/17	5/24	5/31 Pentecost
6/7	6/14	6/21	6/28	
7/5	7/12	7/19	7/26	
8/2	8/9	8/16	8/23	
8/30	9/6	9/13	9/20	
9/27	10/4	10/11	10/18	
10/25	11/1	11/8	11/15	
11/22	11/29	12/6	12/13	