

JUNE 2026

# THE VINE

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

Leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ, His followers, and His world.

## Worship in June

This month we began our summer worship series, "You Asked For It!" Thank you to all who submitted topics for this series.

June 7

### The Timeless God in Time

The Bible teaches that God has planned our salvation from before time began. But then what does that mean for the fall into sin? Was that planned as well? How are we to think about our relationship with a God who is outside of time, who created time, but who acts in time and in our lives? We focus on the mystery of the sovereignty of God and the good news of what it means for us today.

June 14

### Exploring the Nature of God

Kevin Mathison will be delivering a message based on the theme of this year's Vacation Bible School, "Rainforest Falls," focusing on the attributes of God.

June 21

### Unveiled: A Witness Shaped By Christ

With unveiled faces we turn toward Christ, who removes the barriers that keep us from seeing God's mercy clearly. In today's reading from 2 Corinthians, Paul uses the image of the veil to show how the Spirit brings clarity, courage, and hope—not so we can boast, but so we can bear gentle, honest witness to the One who shines His light into every shadowed heart. As people transformed by that light, we are sent to reflect Christ with humility and confidence, trusting Him to do the unveiling in others.

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## Worship in June

June 28

### I Am Your Holiness

Guest Preacher: Rev. Aaron Putnam of LINC Bay Area

What does a holy God do with unclean people? In Zechariah's vision, the high priest stands before God covered in filthy garments—yet God removes his uncleanness and clothes him in purity. This sermon points us to Jesus, our true holiness, who takes our sin upon Himself so that we may be welcomed into God's presence clean, forgiven, and clothed in His righteousness.



## 2026 GRADUATES



Congratulations to our 2026 high school and college graduates!



Graduate's Name	High School	Future Plans
Ivy Alexander	Vintage High School	Napa Valley College

Graduate's Name	College	Degree Earned
Liam Alexander	University of California, Davis	BS in Managerial Economics
Aiden Cushing	Claremont McKenna College	BS in Economics-Accounting
Bryce Powers	Westmont College	BA in Political Science
Ella Powers	University of California, Los Angeles	BA in Global Studies



## What's coming up in our Summer Worship Series?

### JULY

**July 5**

#### What Is Freedom?

As our nation celebrates its 250th birthday, we focus on the meaning of freedom as it is used in the New Testament. How does that compare to the founders' definition? How does it compare to its meaning in our culture today?

**July 12**

#### God and Country

We are citizens of God's Kingdom and we are citizens of our country. What does this mean for how we live and think of our country? How do we keep love of God and love of country in the right order? We will touch on patriotism and nationalism and more.

**July 19**

#### Maker of Heaven and Earth

We confess in the creed our belief in God the creator. But what does that mean for how we think about how He created the world? Does it make a difference? We will touch on faith and science and more.

**July 26**

#### Taking Care of the Garden

What is our Christian mission regarding God's creation? In Genesis 2, God placed Adam in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. What does that mean for us today regarding God's creation and caring for it?

### AUGUST

**August 2**

#### Entertaining Angels

God's Word encourages Christians toward hospitality, welcoming and caring for others. Why is this important in today's world? How can we do this when our lives are often so busy and hectic?

**August 9**

#### The Word of the Lord

Why should we trust the Bible? How reliable is it? The culture at large seems to adopt a skeptical approach to God's Word. How do we respond to this? What does it matter?

**August 16**

#### School Year Theme for 2026-2027

Worship this week will be based on the theme for the new school year starting this fall.

**August 23**

#### For Hearth and Home

What does it mean to be a Christian family? How do we incorporate and reflect our identity in Christ in our marriages, our parenting, our grandparenting?

**August 30**

#### The Gift of Peace

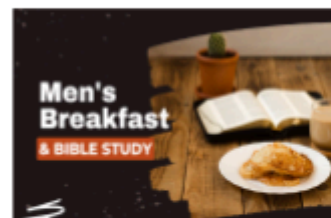
In John 14, Jesus promises peace to His disciples, a peace beyond what the world can give. What is this peace? How does He give it to us today?



## Pastor Mike's Bible Class

### The Book of Revelation

Pastor Mike is leading a Bible study series on the Book of Revelation. What is the meaning of this book? What does it say to us today? What are we to make of the striking images and symbols? We will be going through the entire book in the months ahead, seeking to understand and apply Jesus' revelation to John, and through him, to us today. We meet in Room 10 each Sunday after worship at 11:00 AM.



## Men's Bible Study

The Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study is currently studying the Epistle to the Ephesians. All men are welcome to join us every Saturday morning in Room 10. Breakfast will be at 7:30 AM, and the Bible study will be from 8:00-9:00 AM.



## Women's Bible Study

The Women's Monday Morning Bible Study will be studying the Epistle to the Philippians this month. All women are welcome to join us every Monday morning in the Sanctuary from 10:00-11:30 AM. After this month, we will break for the summer and resume in the fall with a study of Genesis. All study materials will be handed out when we meet. For more information, please contact Judi Rock at [goalyc2041@gmail.com](mailto:goalyc2041@gmail.com).

## Right Now Media

Right Now Media is an online resource providing Christian videos for all ages - children's resources, Bible studies, lectures and more. As a congregation, we have subscribed to Right Now Media, so access is free for all in our St. John's family. If you haven't already signed up for Right Now Media, you can find a link to sign up in the weekly E-Vine.



Every week is an opportunity to invite someone to join with us in worship, whether in person or online. The first step, though, is to pray for those who you may invite. Who can you pray for? **Who will you invite?**



## Join Us For Children's Church!

All children ages preschool through 5th grade are invited to join us for Children's Church, an age-specific time of teaching and fellowship during the main worship service every Sunday morning.



The children will spend the first part of the service in the sanctuary, then join their teachers for Children's Church in one of the classrooms. The children then rejoin their families for the last part of the worship service. We are also looking for more adults and teens to help lead these classes, so if you are interested, please reach out to Kevin at [kevin@stjohnsnapa.org](mailto:kevin@stjohnsnapa.org).

## June 15-19 - Vacation Bible School

Join us for an adventure to Rainforest Falls this summer! St. John's Lutheran Church is hosting VBS for preschoolers through rising 4th graders on **June 15-19 (Monday-Friday) from 9am-Noon**. Each day our campers will be reminded of God's immense love for them as they travel through Rooted Bible Adventures, run and play at Wild Rainforest Games, create memorable take-homes with Rainforest Crafts, and enjoy some of the tastiest treats the Falls has to offer.



There is no cost to attend, but registration is required. Don't hesitate to invite a friend! In order to offer this awesome week of fun we rely on numerous volunteers and we would love you to consider joining the team this year. Please register using the link in the E-Vine!

## Confirmation Classes

Congratulations to our 2026 confirmands! Our confirmation classes have wrapped up for this school year, but any current 6th and 7th graders who are interested in participating in confirmation classes in the fall can reach out to Kevin Mathison for more information.



## Tuesday Night High School Hangouts

Tuesday is Youth Night! We're kicking things off with an apologetics series to better prepare ourselves for sharing our faith. Join us as we dive into the Word and have a little fun while doing so! Invite a friend and come join us! We'll meet on Tuesday nights from 7:00-8:30 PM in the SJL Library. For more information, please contact Kevin Mathison.



## June 7 - Congregational Budget and Election Meeting

The annual budget and election congregational meeting will be held Sunday, June 7 at 11:00 AM in the sanctuary. We will be electing candidates for four positions on the Board of Directors. We will also be considering and voting on the proposed 2026-2027 Ministry Plan and Budget. Information on the Board nominees and the proposed Ministry Plan and Budget can be viewed on our website. Hard copies are also available in the church narthex.



## St. John's Summer BBQ

June 14 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm on the Patio

Join us as we kick off summer with a campus-wide BBQ celebrating the heart of St. John's: our congregation. This relaxed afternoon is all about good food, good company, and the joy of being together as a church family.

We'll be serving burgers, hot dogs, and brats hot off the grill. Please bring a dessert or salad to share, along with your favorite non-alcoholic drink. Outdoor games are welcome too if your family has a favorite.

To help us prepare well, please sign up and let us know you're coming.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/SJLSummerBBQ>

or use this QR code:



**When: Sunday, 06/14/2026**  
**Time: 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm**  
**Where: Patio/Parish Hall**



## July 16-17 - High School Rafting Trip

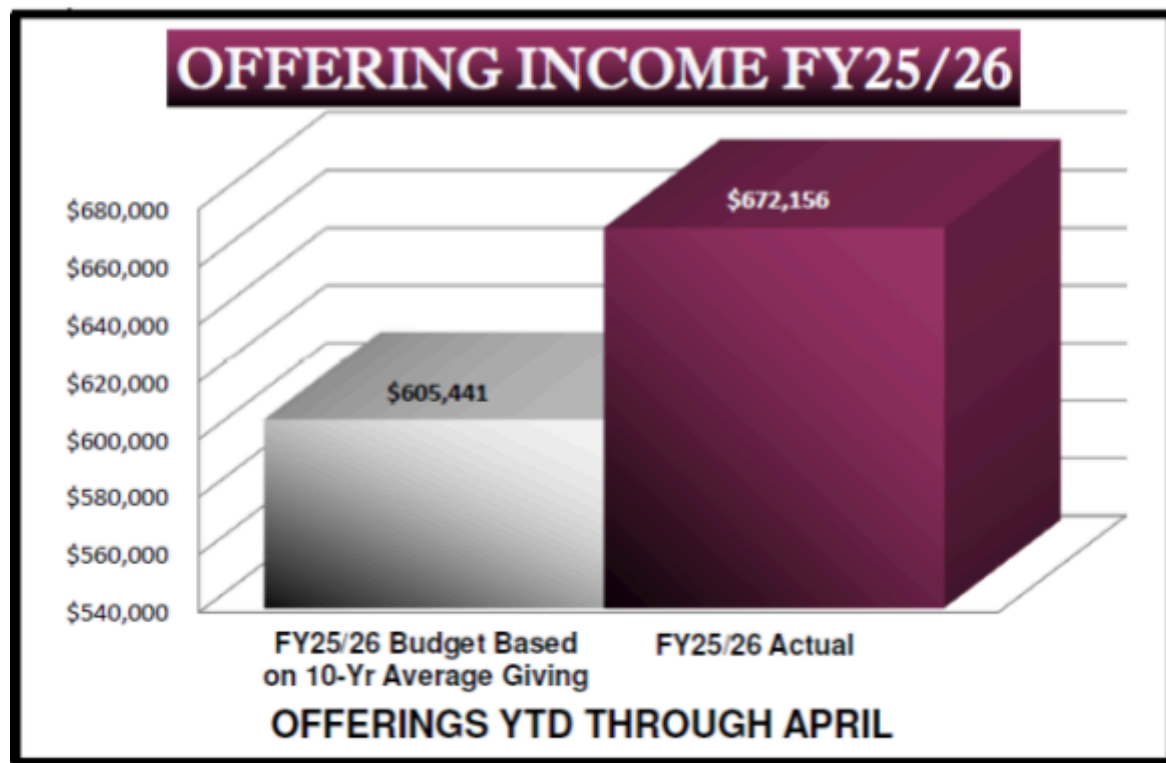
The High School Crew is going rafting! We will be hitting the American River rapids on July 16th, camping out, and hitting them again on the 17th. A two day trip filled with fun, fellowship, and maybe a dip in the river. Spots are still available if you'd like to join us as we experience God's goodness through nature. Please let Kevin Mathison know if you'd like to join the crew by **Monday, June 8th**.



## OFFERING UPDATE

Actual Offering Income for April: **\$70,217.**  
 Total Offerings for FY 2025-26 (as of Apr 30, 2026): **\$672,156** which is **11.02%** or **\$66,715** above our budgeted offering income.

Total expenses appear to be relatively in line with our budget, and we paid all bills received. \*The budget amount shown below is based on the ten-year average offering received for that time period.



### Meditation:

*"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24-25)*

## Summer Stewardship

"Summertime and the livin' is easy" the old song goes. Warm weather, vacations, no school, golf, tennis, fishing, hiking, swimming, relaxing, less hectic schedules... all seem to define summertime.

Thankfully, our Lord never takes a vacation from blessing us with His abundant love, gracious gifts, and providential care. The Psalmist writes about our Heavenly Father, *"...he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD watches over you — the LORD is your shade at your right hand"* (Psalm 121:4-5). The Lord's care is ongoing. He never tires of caring for us.

Summer presents God's people with numerous opportunities to be good stewards of His manifold gifts. We should care for the wonderful world He has given us when we are outdoors. We should treasure the important relationships we enjoy as we spend time with loved ones. Also, we should use wisely the material blessings He gives us.

There is great temptation during the summer months to neglect the most precious of all our Lord's gifts, His holy Word and Sacraments offered in worship. As many other responsibilities are taken more lightly in the relaxed atmosphere of summer living, so, too, are we tempted to take lightly the spiritual aspect of our lives. Vacation plans and recreational activities often replace worship. We diminish in the stewardship of our Christian faith by letting worldly things take precedence over God in our lives.

In response to our Lord for His grace and mercy, may we place Him first in all our summer plans and activities, allowing adequate time for worship, Bible reading, meditation, and prayer. May we be good stewards of God's rich blessings. May we all continue to support the mission and ministries of St. John's Lutheran Church with our regular tithes and offerings given from thankful hearts, even when we are away from home.

### Prayer:

Lord, I thank You for choosing me as Your steward. Grant me faith to please You with my stewardship. I pray that, through Your Holy Spirit, Your will becomes my will. In Your precious name I pray. Amen.

Adapted from *"12 Months of Congregational Stewardship"* by Ronald J. and Phyllis J. Chewning, Stewardship Advisors, Inc.

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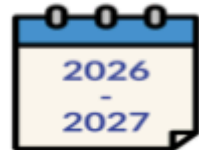


June brings us to the end of the 2025-2026 school year. As we look back and reflect on all that this year has brought to us, we remember God's plan for each and everyone of us as stated in Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."



June is always a bittersweet time on a school campus. As we rejoice that another academic year is in the books, it also means that we will be saying farewell to some beloved faculty members as well as graduating a class of 8th graders and sending them off to high school in the fall. We are excited to see where God leads each of our graduates and pray that, as said in the words of the prophet Isaiah in Chapter 40, verse 31, "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Once a St. John's Eagle, always a St. John's Eagle! Soar high!

We had the honor of celebrating Mr. Mike Newton on his 50th year of teaching. He will be moving out of the classroom, but will still be on campus leading our Handbell Choir.



Planning for the 2026-2027 school year is progressing at a rapid pace. Our faculty and staff retreat will be August 9 - 11, 2026. The first day of school will be Wednesday, August 19, 2026, with a half day for the elementary students.

I am excited that the APT is working diligently on creating fellowship opportunities for our community. Please save the dates for the following activities: September 25 - Country Fair and October 24 - Get on Track.



As always, please keep St. John's Lutheran School in your prayers! For ongoing information on what is happening at St. John's, please read our weekly newsletter on our website at [www.stjohnsnapa.org](http://www.stjohnsnapa.org).



Submitted by: Farmer Ted, AKA Pastor Ted

With all due respect to Clement Clarke Moore, author of "The Night Before Christmas," when I looked out at the Mission Farm fields recently, I sighed and paraphrased the poem in my heart: "The veggies were nestled all snug in their beds/ while visions of harvest danced through my weary head."

The fields are fully planted now except for pumpkins for school children. Now there is the waiting . . . and the watering . . . and the weeding . . . and the worrying. Some things are under our control. But many things are outside of our control: the weather, the hungry critters who visit and help themselves, the quality and quantity of production, and enough workers when needed most. Yet year after year we see miracles unfolding. And the hungry are fed. God be praised.



This has been a particularly challenging beginning to the crop season. The weather has been somewhat unpredictable, and that's a problem being felt throughout the nation and the world. Rains came when we needed to be working the soil or planting. Recent strong winds played havoc with the corn and tomatoes. Some very key leaders of the team have had to spend more time addressing family needs rather than tending the farm. Yet the work gets done by others. And the gracious Farmer and Father and Feeder of all will once again open his hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

And we who are out there working will have the satisfaction of knowing we are allied with him in this most important work. We reflect something of his magnificent nature when we are out there nurturing the plants so they in turn can nourish his creatures. It isn't just work. It is "worship."



## Disability Ministry Task Force

St. John's has a small group of people who have served as a Disability Ministry Task Force for several years. The Task Force will be meeting in early summer to review the current ministry and to set the goals and events for the coming year. If you are interested in being a part of this group, please contact Elaine Zimmerman, Rebecca Lowe-Vitkus, or Kristy at the church office.

The Task Force is eager to hear your ideas and suggestions of ways that the St. John's congregation can more effectively share ministry with people of the parish and the community who are challenged by disabilities or are caring for others who have special needs. Without your input the Task Force can only make a guess of what is needed and helpful. Consequently, the assistance offered may not effectively address the situation. It could even come across as being presumptuous or disrespectful in some way. Respectful conversation with the person who has the need is always the best way to learn what would be helpful Christian ministry for them.

Please communicate your interest in being part of the Disability Ministry Task Force and/or sharing your suggestions for disability ministry by contacting Elaine, Rebecca, or Kristy.

Elaine Zimmerman [zimelaine@comcast.net](mailto:zimelaine@comcast.net) 707-225-4291

Rebecca Lowe-Vitkus [havegoalstomeet@gmail.com](mailto:havegoalstomeet@gmail.com) 775-685-6201

Kristy Watkins [churchoffice@stjohnsnapa.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsnapa.org) 707-225-0119



## Keeping Confidences

*"Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing." - Proverbs 12:18*

Confidentiality is a cornerstone of Stephen Ministry. It gives care receivers the reassurance they need so that they can risk revealing to their Stephen Ministers their deepest thoughts and feelings, details they might not be able to discuss with anyone else. It is through the sharing of innermost feelings that God can work the miracle of healing, and restore faith and hope to care receivers' lives. Without the assurance of confidentiality, most care receivers would have a difficult time opening up, which would impede the healing process.

Think about the importance of confidentiality in your day-to-day relationships. When someone shares a personal feeling, a thought that is troubling him or her, or something for which he or she might feel guilty, it might be tempting to pass along that information. Even when motives are noble (for instance, wanting to pass the information along as a prayer request), it could be damaging or painful to the person who first shared the information.

Confidentiality is a valuable standard of conduct for everyone – not just those involved in our Stephen Ministry. Confidentiality promotes trust, builds one another up, and encourages healing in a Christian community.

A Stephen Minister is ready to meet with you on a weekly basis to listen, care, provide emotional and spiritual support, and remind you of Christ's presence in your life. The care you'll receive is encouraging and confidential.

If you, or someone you know, would like to learn more about connecting with a Stephen Minister, please contact Penni Cremen (707-483-9321) or Pastor Mike in the church office (707-255-0119).

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# LARGE PRINT MINISTRY

**LARGE PRINT MINISTRIES**



Please join us producing Bibles for people all over the world with sight impairments

**We meet in room 10**  
9:00-11:00 a.m.  
Every Monday and Friday

## RESOURCES AND CONTACT INFORMATION



3521 Linda Vista Ave.  
Napa, CA 94558-2703

### Website Resources

Our weekly sermons are available on the church website at [church.stjohnsnapa.org](http://church.stjohnsnapa.org).

Visit our school website at [school.stjohnsnapa.org](http://school.stjohnsnapa.org).



Our facilities calendar can be viewed at [teamup.com/ks059311afd6a21c57](http://teamup.com/ks059311afd6a21c57).

### Social Media Resources

St. John's Lutheran Church

 @sjlcnapa  @stjohnsnapa

St. John's Lutheran School

 @StJohnsLutheranSchoolNapa  @sjlschool

### Contact Information

#### Church

Phone: (707) 255-0119

Email: [churchoffice@stjohnsnapa.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsnapa.org)

Rev. Michael A. Schmid, Lead Pastor (ext. 122)

Mr. Howard Scully, Business Administrator (ext. 121)

Mrs. Kristy Watkins, Church Office Manager (ext. 120)

Mr. Kevin Mathison, Dir. of Youth Ministry (ext. 106)

#### School

Phone: (707) 226-7970


Email: [sjlschooloffice@stjohnsnapa.org](mailto:sjlschooloffice@stjohnsnapa.org)

Dr. Christy Wood, Principal (ext. 103)


Mrs. Kristal Broyles, School Office Manager (ext. 101)

Mrs. Joy Dahl, Preschool Director (ext. 107)

# BIRTHDAYS

		14	Annie DeSousa, John Kostelac, Tyler Lamb
		15	Abriana Helfrich
		17	Tyler Koen
		18	Bailey Loban
1	Brent Koen	19	Jaxson Uffmann
2	Mark Rispoli, Matthew Seiter	20	Ezekiel Anderson, Jessica Bresee, Tyler Roberts, William Smith
3	Shannon Lloyd, Rebecca Newman, Kelsey Rodriguez	21	Pam Foottit, Elaine Hoff, Korey Johnson
4	Barbara Miller, Sandee Schachner	22	Ellen Burmester
5	Bob Harvey, Joel Wahlers	23	George Clark
6	John Van Hofwegen	24	Lenora Balsiger, Brian Bresee, Amy Smith
8	Declan Wood	25	Grace Bouchet, Carolyn Fruchtenicht, Brian Youngblood
9	Dean Ehlen, Kristin Goller	26	Tom Commander
10	Bennett Goller	27	Dustin Messner, Lisa Walter
11	Ken Tews, Abigail Zimmerman	28	Gunnar De Young, Aaron Eisberg, Kristy Watkins
13	Haley Cremen, Brian Wood	30	Jeffery McFarland-Johnson

# ANNIVERSARIES

2	Craig & Karol Underhill (42 years)		
5	Bob & Doris Klein (55 years) Bob & Kari Perna (32 years)		
7	David & Janece Como (18 years)		
9	Christopher & Beth Vecera (14 years)	23	Dan & Cathy Bunnell (47 years)
11	Ron & Amy Shively (54 years)	24	Martin & Eva Meissenhalter (26 years)
12	Tim & Christy Kramer (44 years)	25	Jacob & Sarah Bartelt (10 years)
13	Cliff & Ellen Burmester (34 years)	26	Karl & Rachel Frisinger (22 years) Scott & Autumn Zimmerman (33 years) Pastor Ted & Elaine Zimmerman (61 years)
14	Bill & Susan Clark (57 years)	27	Brent & Jessica Koen (11 years)
15	Chad & Jennifer Alexander (24 years) Carl & Linda Hammond (62 years) Jerry & Karen Zachry (41 years)	28	Gary & Marlen Virkus (58 years) Joel & Dawn Wahlers (29 years)
18	David & Rebecca Hudgins (56 years) Gerry & Midge Schneider (61 years)	29	Andrew & Erika Boudreaux (12 years) Christopher & Heidi Newman (13 years) Pastor Mike & Teresa Schmid (41 years)
20	Herbert & Nancy Heil (61 years) Bradly & Shannon Lloyd (5 years)	30	Michael & Janelle Newton (47 years)

# DAILY BIBLE READINGS

	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
1	Psalm 71:1-8	Numbers 18:25-19:22	Mark 14:66-72
2	Psalm 71:9-18a	Numbers 20:1-21:9	Mark 15:1-20
3	Psalm 71:18b-24	Numbers 21:10-22:6	Mark 15:21-32
4	Psalm 72:1-11	Numbers 22:7-41	Mark 15:33-47
5	Psalm 72:12-20	Numbers 23	Mark 16:1-13
6	Psalm 73:1-12	Numbers 24, 25	Mark 16:14-Luke 1:4
7	Psalm 50:7-15	Hosea 5:15-6:6	Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26; Romans 4:13-25
8	Psalm 73:13-20	Numbers 26:1-25	Luke 1:5-25
9	Psalm 73:21-28	Numbers 26:26-56	Luke 1:26-38
10	Psalm 74:1-9	Numbers 26:57-27:23	Luke 1:39-45
11	Psalm 74:10-17	Numbers 28:1-29:6	Luke 1:46-56
12	Psalm 74:18-23	Numbers 29:7-40	Luke 1:57-66
13	Psalm 75	Numbers 30:1-31:12	Luke 1:67-80
14	Psalm 100	Exodus 19:2-8a	Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23); Romans 5:1-8
15	Psalm 76	Numbers 31:13-47	Luke 2:1-20
16	Psalm 77:1-9	Numbers 31:48-32:27	Luke 2:21-32
17	Psalm 77:10-15	Numbers 32:28-42	Luke 2:33-40
18	Psalm 77:16-20	Numbers 33	Luke 2:41-52
19	Psalm 78:1-8	Numbers 34	Luke 3:1-20
20	Psalm 78:9-16	Numbers 35:1-21	Luke 3:21-38
21	Psalm 69:7-10, (11-15), 16-18	Jeremiah 20:7-13	Matthew 10:24-39; Romans 6:1b-11
22	Psalm 78:17-31	Numbers 35:22-36:13	Luke 4:1-13
23	Psalm 78:32-39	Deuteronomy 1	Luke 4:14-21
24	Psalm 78:40-55	Deuteronomy 2	Luke 4:22-30
25	Psalm 78:56-64	Deuteronomy 3	Luke 4:31-44
26	Psalm 78:65-72	Deuteronomy 4:1-31	Luke 5:1-11
27	Psalm 79:1-8	Deuteronomy 4:32-5:21	Luke 5:12-26
28	Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18	Jeremiah 28:5-9	Matthew 10:40-42; Romans 6:12-23
29	Psalm 79:9-13	Deuteronomy 5:22-6:25	Luke 5:27-39
30	Psalm 80:1-7	Deuteronomy 7	Luke 6:1-11