

# WORSHIP RESOURCES

## Readings

The following readings were used in various recent services, but there are many more. You might like to look at The Green Bible (NRSV), which highlights relevant passages.

### Old Testament

Genesis 1  
Genesis 2  
Genesis 3:14-23  
Leviticus 25:1-7  
Psalm 8  
Psalm 19  
Psalm 24

Psalm 104  
Psalm 136  
Psalm 148  
Isaiah 55: 6-13  
Isaiah 66:1-2  
Job 38:4,16,18

### New Testament

Romans 8:18-25  
Revelation 21:1-4  
Revelation 22

### Gospel

Matthew 6:25-33  
Luke 12:22-34  
Luke 22:19-20  
John 1:1-5

---

### Series of readings

adapted from NRSV

#### Psalm 148

**Reader 1** Praise the Lord, sun and moon;  
praise him, all you stars of light.

**Reader 2** Praise the Lord from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;

**Reader 1** Fire and hail, snow and mist,  
tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word;

**Reader 2** Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;

**Reader 1** Wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and birds on the wing;

## Psalms 65,104

**Reader 3** Praise is due to you, O God;  
You visit the earth and water it;  
you make it very plenteous.

**Reader 4** The river of God is full of water;  
You prepare grain for your people, for so you provide for the earth.

**Reader 3** You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;  
you soften the ground with showers and bless its increase.

**Reader 4** You crown the year with your goodness,  
and your paths overflow with plenty.

**Reader 1** You make grass to grow for the cattle  
and plants to meet our needs,

**Reader 2** Bringing forth food from the earth  
and wine to gladden our hearts,  
Oil to give us a cheerful countenance  
and bread to strengthen our hearts.

**Reader 3** May the pastures of the wilderness flow with goodness  
and the hills be girded with joy.

**Reader 4** May the meadows be clothed with flocks of sheep  
and the valleys stand so thick with corn that they shall laugh and sing.

## Jeremiah 5

**Reader 3** Hear this, O foolish and senseless people, who have eyes, but do not see, who have ears, but do not hear. Do you not fear me? says the LORD; Do you not tremble before me? I placed the sand as a boundary for the sea, a perpetual barrier that it cannot pass; though the waves toss, they cannot prevail, though they roar, they cannot pass over it.

**Reader 1** But this people has a stubborn and rebellious heart; they have turned aside and gone away. They do not say to in their hearts, "Let us fear the LORD our God, who gives the rain in its season, the autumn rain and the spring rain, and keeps for us the weeks appointed for the harvest."

## Jeremiah 9,18

**Reader 4** Does the snow leave the crags of the mountain? Do the mountain waters run dry, the cold flowing streams?

**Reader 2** Take up weeping and wailing for the mountains, and a lamentation for the pastures of the wilderness, because they are laid waste so that no one passes through, and the lowing of cattle is not heard; both the birds of the air and the animals have fled and are gone.

**Reader 4** Who is wise enough to understand this? Why is the land ruined and laid waste like a wilderness, so that no one passes through?

**Reader 2** My people have forgotten me, they burn offerings to a delusion; they have stumbled in their ways in the ancient roads, making their land a horror.

## Jeremiah 12

**Reader 3** They have destroyed my vineyard, they have trampled down my portion, they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness.

**Reader 1** They have made it a desolation; desolate it mourns to me. The whole land is made desolate but no one lays it to heart.

## Ezekiel 47

**Reader 3** When the river of God enters the sea, the water will become fresh. Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish, once these waters reach the sea. It will become fresh; and everything will live where the river goes.

**Reader 4** People will stand fishing beside the sea; it will be a place for the spreading of nets; its fish will be of a great many kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea. But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they are to be left for salt.

**Reader 3** On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing."

## Hosea 2

**Reader 2** I will make for you a covenant on that day with the wild animals, the birds of the air, and the creeping things of the ground; and I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land; and I will make you lie down in safety.

## Romans 8

**Reader 1** I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God.

**Reader 4** We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

**Reader 1** For in hope we were saved.