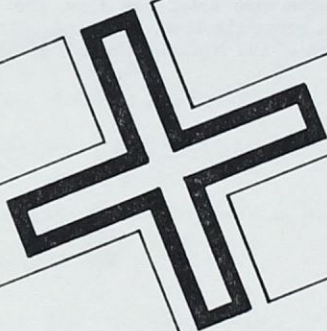


SERMONS ON
GOSPEL TEXTS FROM
THE NEW LECTIONARY
AND CALENDAR

AUGSBURGH
SERMONS



GOSPEL
SERIES B

AUGSBURG
MINNEAPOLIS

HAMMA LIBRARY
TRINITY LUTHERAN SEMINARY
2199 EAST MAIN STREET
COLUMBUS, OH 43209

BX
8066
.A1
A9
Ser. B
c. 2

AUGSBURG SERMONS—GOSPELS—SERIES B

Copyright © 1975 Augsburg Publishing House

Library of Congress Catalog Card No. 75-2844

International Standard Book No. 0-8066-1489-7

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews. For information address Augsburg Publishing House, 426 South Fifth Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415.

Scripture quotations unless otherwise noted are from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright 1946, 1952, and 1971 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches.

Manufactured in the United States of America

Contents

Introduction	11
 FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT	
Isa. 63:16b-17; 64:1-8 1 Cor. 1:3-9	
He Made Me a Watchman —Mark 13:33-37 Larry A. Hoffsis	15
 SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT	
Isa. 40:1-11 2 Peter 3:8-14	
Our Role in God's Drama —Mark 1:1-8 Franklin D. Fry	19
 THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT	
Isa. 61:1-3, 10-11 1 Thess. 5:16-24	
Do You Recognize Jesus? —John 1:6-8, 19-28 Omar Stuenkel	24
 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT	
2 Sam. 7:(1-7) 8-11, 16 Rom. 16:25-27	
That's the Point of Christmas! —Luke 1:26-38 Erling H. Wold	29
 THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD—Christmas Day	
Isa. 9:2-7 Titus 2:11-14	
God in Our Midst —Luke 2:1-20 Henry E. Horn	33
 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	
Isa. 45:22-25 Col. 3:12-21	
Don't Exchange the Gift! —Luke 2:25-38 Cyril M. Wismar	37
 THE NAME OF JESUS	
Num. 6:22-27 Rom. 1:1-7	
Your Name, Relationships, Destiny, and Behavior—	
Luke 2:21 James R. Otterness	41
 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	
Isa. 61:10-62:3 Eph. 1:3-6, 15-18	
To Solve the Riddle of God—	
John 1:1-18 Hugh George Anderson	46
 THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD	
Isa. 60:1-6 Eph. 3:2-12	
The Dark Side of Epiphany —Matt. 2:1-12 Richard Lischer	49

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD—First Sunday after the Epiphany

Isa. 42:1-7 Acts 10:34-38

John's, Jesus', and My Baptism—

Mark 1:4-11

L. David Brown 53

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

1 Sam. 3:1-10 1 Cor. 6:12-20

Doors to Destiny—John 1:43-51

Reynold N. Johnson 57

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 1 Cor. 7:29-31

The Time Has Come—Mark 1:14-20

Reginald H. Holle 62

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Deut. 18:15-20 1 Cor. 8:1-13

The Secret of Life—Mark 1:21-28

Jan C. Walker 68

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Zeph. 3:14-20 1 Cor. 9:16-23

A Day in the Life of Jesus—

Mark 1:29-39

Kenneth L. Stangeland 73

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

2 Kings 5:1-14 1 Cor. 10:31-11:1

Proof Positive; Proof Negative—

Mark 1:40-45

Richard Andersen 77

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Isa. 43:18-25 2 Cor. 1:18-22

Body Language—Listen!—Mark 2:1-12

Arnold D. Weigel 84

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD—Last Sunday after the Epiphany

2 Kings 2:1-12a 2 Cor. 3:12-4:2

Don't Miss the Point—Mark 9:2-9

Harold Kitzmann 89

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Gen. 22:1-14 Rom. 8:31-39

The Humanity of Christ and Our Lives—

Mark 1:12-15

William Hordern 93

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Gen. 28:10-17 Rom. 5:1-11

Finding Life by Losing It—Mark 8:31-38 Robert W. Stackel 98

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Exod. 20:1-17 Rom. 10:5-13

Genuine Worship—John 2:13-22 Clarence W. Knippa 103

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Num. 21:4-9 Eph. 2:4-10

Craving for Saving—John 3:14-21 Jack Hustad 106

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Jer. 31:31-34 Heb. 5:7-9

What Do You Sing For? What Do You Long For?—

John 12:20-33 Ralph Edward Peterson 110

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION—Palm Sunday

Zech. 9:9-12 Phil. 2:5-11

The Heart of the Gospel—

Mark 15:1-39 Richard R. Caemmerer Sr. 113

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Exod. 24:3-11 1 Cor. 10:16-17

The Sacramental Meal—Mark 14:12-26 Arthur H. Becker 118

GOOD FRIDAY

Isa. 52:13-53:12 Heb. 4:14-5:10

He Died for You and Me—John 19:17-30 Ingolf B. Kindem 122

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD—Easter Day

Isa. 25:6-9 1 Cor. 15:19-28

Left Hanging on the Resurrection—

Mark 16:1-8 Alton F. Wedel 127

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 4:32-35 1 John 5:1-6

Doubt and Faith—John 20:19-31 Reuben Groehler 132

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 1 John 1:1-2:2

The Road of Salvation—

Luke 24:36-49 Eduard Richard Rieght 137

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 4:8-12 1 John 3:1-2

Jesus' Claim and Call—

John 10:11-18

Palmer G. H. Ruschke 141

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 9:26-31 1 John 3:18-24

Abiding in Christ—John 15:1-8

Fred Bernlohr 145

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 10:34-48 1 John 4:1-11

Chosen in Love to Love—John 15:9-17

J. Peter Pelkonen 150

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

Acts 1:1-11 Eph. 1:16-23

Christ the King—Luke 24:44-53

Nathan O. Loesch 154

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 1:15-26 1 John 4:13-21

Sanctify Us in the Truth—John 17:17b-19

Wade E. Davick 157

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Ezek. 37:1-14 Acts 2:1-21

Give Me a River!—John 7:37-39a

Ronald Hals 163

THE HOLY TRINITY—First Sunday after Pentecost

Deut. 6:4-9 2 Cor. 13:11-14

Born of the Spirit—John 3:1-17

David L. Luecke 166

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Deut. 5:12-15 2 Cor. 4:5-11

The Lord of the Sabbath—Mark 2:23-28 Mervin E. Thompson 171

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Gen. 3:9-15 2 Cor. 4:13-5:1

Binding Up the Strong Man—

Mark 3:20-35

William E. Leshner 175

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Ezek. 17:22-24 2 Cor. 5:6-10

God Is the King—Mark 4:26-34

Robert G. Heckmann 180

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Job 38:1-11 2 Cor. 5:14-17

When You Are in a Storm—

Mark 4:35-41

C. Richard Evenson 183

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Lam. 3:22-33 2 Cor. 8:1-9

I Say to You, Arise—Mark 5:21-24a, 35-43 Giles C. Ekola 187

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Ezek. 2:2-5 2 Cor. 12:7-10

The Wounded Healer—Mark 6:1-6 Lester E. Zeitler 191

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Amos 7:10-15 Eph. 1:3-14

Discipleship Means Involvement—

Mark 6:7-13

Leslie F. Brandt 198

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jer. 23:1-6 Eph. 2:13-22

The Reach of God's Concern—

Mark 6:30-34

Wallace E. Fisher 202

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Exod. 24:3-11 Eph. 4:1-7, 11-16

Working Miracles with Food—John 6:1-15 Robert L. Griesse 207

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Exod. 16:2-15 Eph. 4:17-24

Share the Bread of Life—John 6:24-35 Daniel W. Olson 211

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

1 Kings 19:4-8 Eph. 4:30-5:2

Decision's Great Divide—John 6:41-51 Walter M. Wick 215

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Prov. 9:1-6 Eph. 5:15-20

Jesus Is Our Bread—John 6:51-58 Daniel W. Fuelling 220

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Josh. 24:1-2a, 14-18 Eph. 5:21-31

To Whom Shall We Go?—John 6:60-69 Keith Krebs 223

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Deut. 4:1-2, 6-8 James 1:17-22 (23-25) 26-27

Traditions in Conflict—

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Morris J. Niedenthal 226

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Isa. 35:4-7a James 2:1-5

The Sign Language of God—Mark 7:31-37

Hubert Beck 229

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Isa. 50:4-10 James 2:14-18

On the Side of God—Mark 8:27-35

John W. Coffey Jr. 234

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jer. 11:18-20 James 3:13-18

True Greatness—Mark 9:30-37

A. Howard Weeg 238

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Num. 11:24-30 James 5:1-11

The Pain that Works Peace—

Mark 9:38-50

Paul G. Bretscher 243

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Gen. 2:18-24 Heb. 2:9-11

Courtroom or Courtship?—Mark 10:2-16

Loyal E. Golf 247

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Prov. 3:13-20 Heb. 4:12-13

The Poverty of Wealth—

Mark 10:17-27 (28-30)

Carl J. Johansson 251

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Isa. 53:10-12 Heb. 5:1-10

Summoned to Serve—Mark 10:35-45 George W. Bornemann 254

LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—Christ the King

Dan. 7:13-14 Rev. 1:4b-8

Our Vulnerability and the King of Truth—

John 18:33-37

Warren A. Sorteberg 258

A DAY OF THANKSGIVING

Deut. 8:1-10 Phil. 4:6-20 or 1 Tim. 2:1-4

The Gift of Gratitude—Luke 17:11-19

Charles V. Bergstrom 263

Introduction

The Calendar and Lectionary introduced by the Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship (ILCW) in Advent 1973, has become one of the most popular liturgical tools for contemporary worship and preaching. It is the answer to many requests in Lutheran churches for a revision of the church year and a new lectionary.

The church year calendar has been modified and modernized. The lectionary has been extensively overhauled by drawing on parallel efforts by the Protestant Episcopal, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic churches.

This new lectionary has proved to be just what preachers have been asking for

The New Church Year Calendar

This new calendar is similar to all previous calendars in that Easter is still the heart of it, and the Gospel still tells the story of Jesus Christ throughout the year.

The revisions in the new calendar are these:

- The *gesima* Sundays, sometimes known as pre-Lent, are now listed as Sundays after Epiphany. The season of Epiphany is therefore lengthened, which makes possible a fuller development of Epiphany themes.
- The Sundays between Easter and Pentecost will be known as the Sundays *of* Easter, rather than *after* Easter.
- The Latin titles for the Sundays of Lent and Easter have been deleted.
- Passion Sunday has been moved from the Fifth Sunday in Lent to the Sixth Sunday (Palm Sunday).
- The Sundays in the Pentecost-Trinity season have been numbered *after Pentecost* instead of *after Trinity*.
- In color terminology, *purple* replaces *violet*, and *red* is suggested for use during Holy Week.