

Daily Bible Readings for June

This month's readings really have no uniting theme as they might during Lent or Advent, but they do bring the Easter season to a close. What strikes me most about this month's readings is the emphasis on Holy Saga in the stories of Job and Genesis. Let me explain. Some of the stories in the Bible that we used to take as literal fact have changed over time and we see them now in a different way. Some of the Genesis stories are that way. Adam and Eve had three sons. The sons go and get wives...from where??? Literalism smacks in the face of logic on this one! We have come to understand that some of the stories in the Bible may not be historically factual, but they still contain a religious Truth. That means that while they are not historically accurate, they tell us something about how God's Spirit moved in that time and how God continues to be revealed through those stories today. It doesn't make them less important or any less inspired! It just means that we don't get hung up on whether they mesh with history, science or logic. Remember, these stories were oral tradition for many generations and as such, the details got a bit fuzzy over the years! Job is another example. Was Job a literal person? No, not as we know him. Was there a person named Job who was known for unfortunate life circumstances? Perhaps, but that's not the point. The point of Job, like many of the stories in the Hebrew Scriptures is not historical but theological. Why do people suffer and where is God in the face of human suffering. Remember when you read the Bible, don't get your faith all twisted up over literalism and historical accuracy. The point is to ask where God is in the story and how God spoke to them and continues to speak to us through the stories!

Our readings list comes from the Revised Common Lectionary recommended for use by the United Church of Christ and by many other Christian denominations in North America. The daily Bible readings are clustered into weeks with Sunday being the center of each week. The readings for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of each week orient our prayer and preparation for the Sunday lessons; the readings for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday reflect on Sunday's lessons.

In the worship of Grace Church we normally read only two lessons. However, many Sundays the Psalm for the day is also incorporated into the service as a Call to Worship or prayer.

Pentecost		June 6	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Ezekiel 39:7-8, 21-29 Romans 8:26-27
June 1	Psalm 33:12-22 Exodus 19:1-9a Acts 2:1-11		
June 2	Psalm 33:12-22 Exodus 19:16-25 Romans 8:14-17	June 7	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Numbers 11:24-30 John 7:37-39
June 3	Psalm 33:12-22 Exodus 20:1-21 Matthew 5:1-12	Trinity June 8	Psalm 8 Job 38:1-11 2 Timothy 1:8-12a
June 4	<i>Day of Pentecost</i> Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21 John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39	June 9	Psalm 8 Job 38:12-21 2 Timothy 1:12b-14
June 5	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Joel 2:18-29 Romans 8:18-24	June 10	Psalm 8 Job 38:22-38 John 14:15-17

June 11	<i>Trinity Sunday</i> Genesis 1:1—2:4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20	Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time June 22	Psalm 86:1-10 Exodus 12:43-49 Hebrews 2:5-9
June 12	Psalm 29 Job 38:39—39:12 1 Corinthians 12:1-3	June 23	Psalm 86:1-10 Genesis 35:1-4 Acts 5:17-26
June 13	Psalm 29 Job 39:13-25 1 Corinthians 12:4-13	June 24	Psalm 86:1-10 Ezekiel 29:3-7 Luke 11:53—12:3
June 14	Psalm 29 Job 39:26—40:5 John 14:25-26	June 25	<i>Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Genesis 21:8-21 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 Romans 6:1b-11 Matthew 10:24-39
Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time		June 26	Psalm 86:11-17 Genesis 16:1-15 Revelation 2:1-7
June 15	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 Genesis 21:1-7 Hebrews 3:1-6	June 27	Psalm 86:11-17 Genesis 25:12-18 Revelation 2:8-11
June 16	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 Genesis 24:1-9 Acts 7:35-43	June 28	Psalm 86:11-17 Jeremiah 42:18-22 Matthew 10:5-23
June 17	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 Genesis 24:10-52 Mark 7:1-13	Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time	
June 18	<i>Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Genesis 18:1-15 [21:1-7] Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 Romans 5:1-8 Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]	June 29	Psalm 13 Micah 7:18-20 Galatians 5:2-6
June 19	Psalm 126 Genesis 23:1-19 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5	June 30	Psalm 13 2 Chronicles 20:5-12 Galatians 5:7-12
June 20	Psalm 126 Genesis 25:7-11 2 Thessalonians 2:13—3:5	July 1	Psalm 13 Genesis 26:23-25 Luke 17:1-4
June 21	Psalm 126 Nehemiah 9:1-8 Luke 6:12-19	July 2	<i>Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 13 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42

