

Daily Bible Readings for October

There are two books of great interest this month that I want to point out to you. First is the book of Esther, one of only two books of the Bible that don't mention God! But God is seen all through the story. Esther gets chosen by the King to become the new queen and she keeps her Jewish identity a secret. Through her ascending the throne, God is at work preparing the salvation of the people of Israel as Esther intervenes to stop their destruction. It reminds us that God is often at work behind the scenes, even without our knowledge, working for our good. Job is also a book that is often misunderstood. We see Job as a man who suffered. And that is true. But it's not about Job's suffering, it's about his innocence. Why do bad things happen to good people? Why did Job suffer? Because life brings suffering, NOT because we deserve it or do something terrible. The entire point of Job (which is a metaphor by the way) is that suffering comes even to those who are faithful, and that when faced with suffering, we can remain faithful knowing that God will never leave or forsake us.

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.

Sept 30	<i>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 Psalm 124 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50	Oct 6	Psalm 26 Job 7:1-21 Luke 16:14-18
Oct 1	Psalm 140 Esther 4:1-17 1 Peter 1:3-9	Oct 7	<i>27th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Job 1:1; 2:1-10 Psalm 26 Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16
Oct 2	Psalm 140 Esther 5:1-14 1 John 2:18-25	Oct 8	Psalm 55:1-15 Job 8:1-22 1 Corinthians 7:1-9
Oct 3	Psalm 140 Esther 8:1-17 Matthew 18:6-9	Oct 9	Psalm 55:1-15 Job 11:1-20 1 Corinthians 7:10-16
Twenty-seventh Week in Ordinary Time			
Oct 4	Psalm 26 Job 2:11—3:26 Galatians 3:23-29	Oct 10	Psalm 55:1-15 Job 15:1-35 Matthew 5:27-36
Oct 5	Psalm 26 Job 4:1-21 Romans 8:1-11	Twenty-eighth Week in Ordinary Time	
		Oct 11	Psalm 22:1-15 Job 17:1-16 Hebrews 3:7-19

Oct 12	Psalm 22:1-15 Job 18:1-21 Hebrews 4:1-11	Oct 23	Psalm 75 Job 41:1-11 Hebrews 6:13-20
Oct 13	Psalm 22:1-15 Job 20:1-29 Matthew 15:1-9	Oct 24	Psalm 75 Job 41:12-34 John 13:1-17
Oct 14	<i>28th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Job 23:1-9, 16-17 Psalm 22:1-15 Hebrews 4:12-16 Mark 10:17-31	Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time Oct 25	Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22] 2 Kings 20:12-19 Hebrews 7:1-10
Oct 15	Psalm 39 Job 26:1-14 Revelation 7:9-17	Oct 26	Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22] Nehemiah 1:1-11 Hebrews 7:11-22
Oct 16	Psalm 39 Job 28:12—29:10 Revelation 8:1-5	Oct 27	Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22] Job 42:7-9 Mark 8:22-26
Oct 17	Psalm 39 Job 32:1-22 Luke 16:19-31	Oct 28	<i>30th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Job 42:1-6, 10-17 Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22] Hebrews 7:23-28 Mark 10:46-52
Twenty-ninth Week in Ordinary Time		Oct 29	Psalm 28 Isaiah 59:9-19 1 Peter 2:1-10
Oct 18	Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b Job 36:1-16 Romans 15:7-13	Oct 30	Psalm 28 Ezekiel 18:1-32 Acts 9:32-35
Oct 19	Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b Job 37:1-24 Revelation 17:1-18	Oct 31	Psalm 28 Ezekiel 14:12-23 Matthew 20:29-34
Oct 20	Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b Job 39:1-30 Luke 22:24-30		
Oct 21	<i>29th Week in Ordinary Time</i> Job 38:1-7 [34-41] Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45		
Oct 22	Psalm 75 Job 40:1-24 Hebrews 6:1-12		