



This month's reading list sees us through the advent journey as we read about the consummation of all things at the end of time (the victorious Christ) as well as the expectation of the Promised One in Bethlehem (the newborn Christ). These are very typical advent readings, but there is a reading from the book of Baruch. Baruch???? Where is that? Baruch is one of the Inter-testament-al books in what is often referred to as The Apocrypha (meaning "hidden"). The Early Church relied on these books, like the Macabees, Baruch, Ecclesiasticus, Tobit, etc... as a part of the Old Testament. Here's the Problem: Protestant reformers were intent that we are guided by the Bible. But what exactly made up the Bible?

Catholics and Orthodox Christians included these books as sacred scripture. Jesus even used them! Hanukkah, for example comes from these books! But here's the issue: When the Jewish people gathered at the council of Jamnia and decided what would constitute the Hebrew Scriptures, these were NOT included! SO we had Christians who called them Old Testament books (or Hebrew Scriptures) and the Jews who didn't recognize them as authoritative. Protestants, then, relegated them to a middle ground. They are not scripture in the same way the other books are, but they are important in that they show the stories of generations of people in that time between the testaments and give us important stories of faith. Baruch is a fun book. Enjoy!

**Wednesday, December 1, 2021:** Psalm 90; Isaiah 1:24-31; Luke 11:29-32

**Thursday, December 2, 2021:** Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 3:5-12; Philippians 1:12-18a

**Friday, December 3, 2021:** Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 3:13-18; Philippians 1:18b-26

**Saturday, December 4, 2021:** Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 4:1-6; Luke 9:1-6

**Sunday, December 5, 2021:** Second Sunday of Advent

**Monday, December 6, 2021:** Psalm 126; Isaiah 40:1-11; Romans 8:22-25

**Tuesday, December 7, 2021:** Psalm 126; Isaiah 19:18-25; 2 Peter 1:2-15

**Wednesday, December 8, 2021:** Psalm 126; Isaiah 35:3-7; Luke 7:18-30

**Thursday, December 9, 2021:** Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 6:1-8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

**Friday, December 10, 2021:** Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 8:4-12; 2 Corinthians 9:1-15

**Saturday, December 11, 2021:** Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos

9:8-15; Luke 1:57-66

**Sunday, December 12, 2021:** Third Sunday of Advent

**Monday, December 13, 2021:** Isaiah 11:1-9; Numbers 16:1-19; Hebrews 13:7-17

**Tuesday, December 14, 2021:** Isaiah 11:1-9; Numbers 16:20-35; Acts 28:23-31

**Wednesday, December 15, 2021:** Isaiah 11:1-9; Micah 4:8-13; Luke 7:31-35

**Thursday, December 16, 2021:** Psalm 80:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 10:10-18

**Friday, December 17, 2021:** Psalm 80:1-7; Isaiah 42:10-18; Hebrews 10:32-39

**Saturday, December 18, 2021:** Psalm 80:1-7; Isaiah 66:7-11; Luke 13:31-35

**Sunday, December 19, 2021:** Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Monday, December 20, 2021:** Psalm 113; Genesis 25:19-28; Colossians 1:15-20

**Tuesday, December 21, 2021:** Psalm 113; Genesis 30:1-24; Romans 8:18-30

**Wednesday, December 22, 2021:** Luke 1:46b-55;

Micah 4:1-5; Ephesians 2:11-22

**Thursday, December 23, 2021:** Luke 1:46b-55; Mi-

cah 4:6-8; 2 Peter 1:16-21

**Friday, December 24 & 25, 2021:** Nativity of the

Lord **Sunday, December 26, 2021:** First Sunday

after Christmas Day

**Monday, December 27, 2021:** Psalm 148; Proverbs

8:32-36; John 21:19b-24

**Tuesday, December 28, 2021:** Psalm 148; Isaiah

54:1-13; Revelation 21:1-7

**Wednesday, December 29, 2021:** Psalm 147:12-20;

1 Chronicles 28:1-10; 1 Corinthians 3:10-17

**Thursday, December 30, 2021:** Psalm 147:12-20; 2

Chronicles 1:7-13; Mark 13:32-37

**Friday, December 31, 2021:** Psalm 147:12-20; 1

Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19