

NOVEMBER

- 5 -- **Matthew 25:14-30**; *Psalm 90:12-17*; *Hosea 11:1-4,8-9*; *I Thessalonians 5:1-11*
Whatever nest-egg God gives, hatch, and don't bury!
- 12 -- **Matthew 23:1-12**; *Psalm 131*; *Malachi 2:1-10*; *I Thessalonians 2:8-13*
In Christ's freedom neither accept nor be an authoritarian figure.
- 19 -- **Matthew 24:1-14**; *Psalm 105:1-7*; *Jeremiah 26:1-6*; *I Thessalonians 3:7-13*
Believer, expect serious trouble, but be sure you will last it out.
- 26 -- **Matthew 25:31-46**; *Psalm 95:1-7a*; *Ezekiel 34:11-16,23-24*; *I Corinthians 15:20-28*
We are weighed not for beliefs but for response to human need.

DECEMBER

- 3 -- **Mark 13:33-37**; *Psalm 80:1-7*; *Isaiah 63:16b-17;64:1-8*; *I Corinthians 1:3-9*
Only those anticipating an Advent are really watching with eagerness.
- 10 -- **Mark 1:1-8**; *Psalm 85*; *Isaiah 40:1-11*; *II Peter 3:8-14*
For anyone to be herald, announcer, forerunner, is a gift and vision.
- 17 -- **John 1:6-8,19-28**; *Luke 1:46b-55*; *Isaiah 61:1-3,10-11*; *I Thessalonians 5:16-24*
Holy expectation still inspires highway-building and liberation.
- 24 -- **Luke 1:26-38**; *Psalm 89:1-4,14-18*; *II Samuel 7:1-11,16*; *Romans 16:25-27*
What awe and delight to share God's intention for the world!
- 31 -- **Luke 2:25-38**; *Psalm 111*; *Isaiah 45:22-25*; *Colossians 3:12-21*
By ancient wisdom, God's grace may be discerned in each rising generation.

THE KIRKRIDGE PRAYER — Almighty Father, known in our silence, and entreated in our hunger for Thee, nourish us now with the common bread of Thy grace. Shape with Thy hands the witness of this quiet company, that our ministry may be Christ's own life in our day. Bestow Thy serenity and clean strength on each member of this circle, granting us honest work and steadfast friendship in Him. Deepen, O God, Thy intention for our life in Thee. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SHARED INTENTIONS — This varied fellowship seeks a style-of-life with *daily*:

1. Openness to Scripture till word or verse speaks with power;
2. Intercessions by name, with thanks and praise;
3. Centering down in silence for at least minutes before God;
4. Seeking to act out Christian claims about justice, enemies, church, families, body-earth-air, intellect, our own affluence.

It is the aim of Kirkridge in everything to celebrate Christian faith in joy, without compulsion and without anxiety. Join us!



KIRKRIDGE

Bangor, Pennsylvania 18013

The Kirkridge symbol, a modified Celtic cross, is actually the medieval sign for annealing, tempering -- our own devout intention.

KIRKRIDGE

Readings and Intentions 1978

WEEK-BASE DAILY LECTIONS

for private or group meditation and prayer



Daily Scripture has been a Kirkridge "discipline" since 1943, but this is only the third year of our listing the agreed Catholic-Protestant foursome for each Sunday (here the Lutheran options). In the three-year cycle Matthew is the gospel in 1978, Luke 1979, Mark 1980, with John distributed through each year. Many of us read the weekly passages daily, in various translations and with helps: it is devotion and also study. We let the eye wander elsewhere in the Bible, but find it good to touch base with several hundred million Christians who now share the agreed lectionary. Kirkridge titles (this year by John Oliver Nelson) point to the gospel passages -- as do the other readings in the ecumenical pattern. Read with us!

JANUARY

- 1 -- **Matthew 2:1-12**; *Psalm 72*; *Isaiah 60:1-6*; *Ephesians 3:2-12*
Only the wisest trace God's brightness to its living center on earth.
- 8 -- **Matthew 3:13-17**; *Psalm 45:6-8*; *Isaiah 42:1-7*; *Acts 10:34-38*
One visionary "yes" to God can change history more than all our "no's".
- 15 -- **John 1:29-41**; *Psalm 40:1-11*; *Isaiah 49:1-6*; *I Corinthians 1:1-9*
Look to Him, not me, for His is the redeeming leadership.
- 22 -- **Matthew 4:12-23**; *Psalm 27:1-6*; *Isaiah 9:1-4*; *I Corinthians 1:10-17*
Why repent? Because the Kingdom, real and present, lays claim upon us.
- 29 -- **Matthew 5:1-12**; *Psalm 1*; *Zephaniah 2:3;3:11-13*; *I Corinthians 1:26-31*
Jesus' "be-attitudes" are a far cry from today's "Religion is a fun thing".

FEBRUARY

- 5 -- **Matthew 17:1-9**; *Psalm 2:6-11*; *Exodus 24:12,15-18*; *II Peter 1:16-19*
Mystery and historic memory are still the milieu for our discerning Christ.
- 12 -- **Matthew 4:1-11**; *Psalm 130*; *Genesis 2:7-9,15-17;3:1-7*; *Romans 5:12-19*
To get things, to show off, to command -- or simply to live in God?
- 19 -- **John 4:5-26**; *Psalm 105:4-11*; *Genesis 12:1-8*; *Romans 4:1-5,13-17*
Witness can start small, and deepen into the offering of salvation.
- 26 -- **John 9:1-41**; *Psalm 142*; *Isaiah 42:14-21*; *Ephesians 5:8-14*
Beyond logic and law, miracle must be what actually has happened to me.

Founder of Kirkridge

MARCH

- 5 -- **Matthew 20:17-28**; *Psalm 43; Hosea 5:15-6:2; Romans 8:1-10*
In a career, not success but significance, not boss but servant-of-all.
- 12 -- **John 11:1-53**; *Psalm 116:1-9; Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:11-19*
Power to reclaim life is also power to disturb and convict.
- 19 -- **Matthew 27:11-54**; *Psalm 31:1-5,9-16; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11*
Love and tragedy never so stark and indelible as on that green hill.
- 26 -- **Matthew 28:1-10**; *Psalm 118:1,2,15-24; Colossians 3:1-4; Acts 10:34-43*
From actual seeing comes the report; from the report, living truth.

APRIL

- 2 -- **John 20:19-31**; *Psalm 105:1-7; Acts 2:42-47; I Peter 1:3-9*
Only by the marks of sacrifice can we identify anyone who is "in God".
- 9 -- **Luke 24:13-35**; *Psalm 16; Acts 2:22-32; I Peter 1:17-21*
Walk together, bless food together -- and find your guest to be Christ.
- 16 -- **John 10:1-10**; *Psalm 23; Acts 2:36-41; I Peter 2:19-25*
Even amid industrial traffic, we can know shepherd and fold and feeding.
- 23 -- **John 14:1-12**; *Psalm 33:1-11; Acts 6:1-7; I Peter 2:4-10*
In God we die sustained, or live with strength continually replenished.
- 30 -- **John 14:15-21**; *Psalm 66:1-7,16-20; Acts 8:5-8,14-17; I Peter 3:15-18*
Love is at once obedience and intimate, transforming fellowship.

MAY

- 7 -- **John 17:1-11**; *Psalm 47; Acts 1:6-14; I Peter 4:13-19*
We are members of a prayed-for circle, a family fondly supported by God.
- 14 -- **John 20:19-23**; *Psalm 104:24-33; Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:1-21*
The greeting: Peace! The proof: wounds. The awesome gift: Holy Spirit.
- 21 -- **Matthew 28:16-20**; *Psalm 29; Deuteronomy 4:32-34,39-40; Romans 8:14-17*
Globally, we are still sent, still ordained, still accompanied.
- 28 -- **Matthew 7:21-29**; *Psalm 31:1-5,19-24; Deuteronomy 11:18-21,26-28; Romans 3:21-25a*
Choose to build your life on New Testament truths; only you can decide.

JUNE

- 4 -- **Matthew 9:9-13**; *Psalm 50:1-15; Hosea 6:1-6; Romans 4:18-25*
He comes only to those who know they need healing.
- 11 -- **Matthew 9:35-10:7**; *Psalm 100; Exodus 19:2-6a; Romans 5:6-11*
The crop is people, and believers are sent to gather it in.
- 18 -- **Matthew 10:26-33**; *Psalm 69:1-18; Jeremiah 20:7-13; Romans 5:12-15*
Gain courage for life by realizing God's involvement in all you do.
- 25 -- **Matthew 10:34-42**; *Psalm 89:1-4,15-18; Jeremiah 28:5-9; Romans 6:2b-11*
No cross, no crown: yield self to God and get liberty, and joy in return.

JULY

- 2 -- **Matthew 11:25-30**; *Psalm 145:1-21; Zephaniah 9:9-10; Romans 7:15-25a*
The Kingdom flashes true to children, but is borne only by yoke-bearers.
- 9 -- **Matthew 13:1-9**; *Psalm 65; Isaiah 55:10-11; Romans 8:18-23*
How tramped down, stony, weedy, or fertile are we for God's sowing?
- 16 -- **Matthew 13:24-30**; *Psalm 86:11-17; Isaiah 44:6-8; Romans 8:26-27*
People good and bad grow up alongside each other: let the Lord judge.
- 23 -- **Matthew 13:44-52**; *Psalm 119:129-136; I Kings 3:5-12; Romans 8:28-30*
Choose out the utmost good, and hold it high.
- 30 -- **Matthew 14:13-21**; *Psalm 104:24-30; Isaiah 55:1-5; Romans 8:35-39*
Compassion, with God's power for feeding people, is our whole ministry.

AUGUST

- 6 -- **Matthew 14:22-33**; *Psalm 85:8-13; I Kings 19:9-18; Romans 9:1-5*
Marvels become possible by faith -- and dissolve by un-faith.
- 13 -- **Matthew 15:21-28**; *Psalm 67; Isaiah 56:1,6-8; Romans 11:13-15,29-32*
None of us really deserves the banquet: give us even the leavings.
- 20 -- **Matthew 16:13-20**; *Psalm 138; Exodus 6:2-8; Romans 11:33-36*
Only God's prompting enables us to recognize Him; we are given keys as we do.
- 27 -- **Matthew 16:21-26**; *Psalm 26; Jeremiah 15:15-21; Romans 12:1-8*
Again, sacrifice looms ahead for anyone who takes Jesus seriously.

SEPTEMBER

- 3 -- **Matthew 18:15-20**; *Psalm 119:33-40; Ezekiel 33:7-9; Romans 13:1-10*
When we start with reconciling we avoid many a complication.
- 10 -- **Matthew 18:21-35**; *Psalm 103:1-13; Genesis 50:15-21; Romans 14:7-9*
Forgivers are people who realize God has forgiven them.
- 17 -- **Matthew 20:1-16**; *Psalm 27:1-9; Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:3-5,19-27*
Grace is no hourly wage: in a day or a lifetime it is always a gift.
- 24 -- **Matthew 21:28-32**; *Psalm 25:1-10; Ezekiel 18:25-32; Philippians 2:1-11*
Dilemma: why do those with inadequate theology often do right?

OCTOBER

- 1 -- **Matthew 21:33-43**; *Psalm 80:7-15; Isaiah 5:1-7; Philippians 4:1-13,19-20*
Are we predatory tenants, resenting Lordship, grace, the Incarnation?
- 8 -- **Matthew 22:1-14**; *Psalm 23; Isaiah 25:6-9; Philippians 4:10-13,19-20*
The Kingdom invites us all: some refuse, some aren't ready.
- 15 -- **Matthew 22:15-21**; *Psalm 96; Isaiah 45:1-7; I Thessalonians 1:1-5a*
The gospel upholds taxation -- and also ingenious debate.
- 22 -- **Matthew 22:34-46**; *Psalm 1; Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18; I Thessalonians 1:5b-10*
The demand is not "serve God" but "love God", and others we meet.
- 29 -- **Matthew 25:1-13**; *Psalm 63:1-8; Zephaniah 1:14-16; I Thessalonians 4:13-18*
Keep looking ahead, for our personal fuel crisis could be final.