

Christ Church Detroit Adult Bible Class ~ 2019-2020

From Sunday, September 15 through the Season after Pentecost we will read

the Book of Exodus

Sept 15	1-4:17	Birth, Youth, and Commissioning of Moses
Sept 22	4:18-7:13	Moses' Leadership
Sept 29	7:14-11	9 Plagues
Oct 6	12:1-14:31	10 th Plague & the Exodus
Oct 13	15:1-17:16	"Song of the Sea" & Wilderness Wanderings
Detroit Marathon October 20		
Oct 27	18:1-19:25	Jethro's Visit & Sinai Covenant
Nov 3	20:1-24:18	"Decalogue" & Book of the Covenant
Nov 10	25:1-31:18	Building the Tabernacle (Part I)
Nov 17	32:1-34:35	Golden Calf & Covenant Renewal
Nov 24	35:1-40:38	Building the Tabernacle (Part II)



The 10 Commandments,

altarpiece at the Church of St Giles-in-the-Fields, London

An ancient Hebrew title for this book, "**The Book of the Departure from Egypt**" – *Exodos Aigyptou*, as translated into Greek – expressed its central theme. The 2nd of the five-book Jewish "**Pentateuch**" [the 5 scrolls attributed to Moses] or "**Torah**" [5 books of the Law given by God which comprise the first part of the Hebrew Bible], it narrates the story of Moses, beginning with his birth, through slavery in Egypt, the Wilderness wanderings after the Hebrew's departure, the giving of the 10 Commandments, and the creation of the community which would become ancient Israel. Nahum Sarna, in his insightful Jewish Publication Society Commentary, challenged us as readers:

"...it must always be remembered that the biblical narrative is a theological exposition – a document of faith, not a historiographical record."

From Advent through Palm Sunday we will explore **the Book of Deuteronomy**

The 5th book of the Pentateuch, its title meaning "second law." Robert Altar in his "Five Books of Moses" (2004), the first section of his brand new translation of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, calls this book "a recapitulation of the law and narrative of the 3 preceding books – Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers – as well as in certain important respects a revision of them." It is Moses's valedictory, and outlines much of our theological understanding, as well as mis-understanding.

From Sunday, Easter 2 through Sunday, June 13 our reading will be **the Wisdom of Solomon**

The very late book – from what in Jewish literature is termed "**Second Temple**" writings -- finds its way into the "Apocrypha" of Bibles favored by Protestant denominations, and in among the Old Testament books in Roman Catholic Bibles. Pretending to be a long poem by the "wise" King Solomon, it was written in Greek sometime after the year 30 BCE and before 41 CE in Alexandria, Egypt. In it "the Divine Wisdom or Justice of the Exodus" is reexamined.

Our schedule will be flexible throughout this year so that at particular times, such as Advent & Lent, we will be able to participate in the forums and book discussions offered by Reverend Emily.

...for questions see Barbara Cushing