

Christ Church Detroit Adult Bible Class 2024-2025

We begin our year of reading with the Gospel of Mark which we have heard most Sundays during this liturgical year in the *Liturgy of the Word* during our worship services. Inciteful contemporary commentators will help us through this journey.

1	Sept 8	Mark 1	Preparing the Way of the Lord
2	Sept 15	Mark 2	Healing & forgiveness of sin
3	Sept 22	Mark 3	The new community ~ disciples are added
4	Sept 29	Mark 4	Teaching the mystery of the kingdom of God in parables
5	Oct 6	Mark 5 & 6	Exorcisms & healings ~ Execution of John the Baptist
6	Oct 13	Mark 7	Traditions of the elders vs the commandment of God

Detroit Free Press Marathon, Sunday, October 20 ~ no class

7	Oct 27	Mark 8	Cost of following Jesus
8	Nov 3	Mark 9 & 10	Transfiguration ~ egalitarian economic relationships
9	Nov 10	Mark 11 & 12	Confronting Jerusalem's rulers and ruling institutions
10	Nov 17	Mark 13 & 14	The "little apocalypse" ~ Jesus' death as martyr-messiah
11	Nov 24	Mark 15 & 16	Condemnation, crucifixion, empty tomb . . . the end!

Saint Mark, Ashmolean Gallery, Oxford, England

12	Dec 1	Advent 1	Malachi 1-2	God's faithfulness
13	Dec 8	Advent 2	Malachi 3-4	Call to repentance

[Dec 17 - 31 ~ Christmas Break]

Epiphany (January 6) & Lent (March 5) thru Palm Sunday...

About this Old Testament prophetic book we are told that "it is among the most fascinating and puzzling writings in the Bible . . . expressing thought through a variety of literary forms—signs, visions, allegories, denunciations, and legal arguments, sometimes using bizarre or extreme imagery to elaborate its almost excessive point" . . . which is God's sovereignty and holiness.

...the events before the fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonians [597 BCE]

14	Jan 12	Ezekiel 1-3	Part 1: The Call of Ezekiel
15	Jan 19	Ezekiel 4-7	Part 2: Prophecies of doom
16	Jan 26	Ezekiel 8-11	The Temple visions ~ the departure of the Lord's glory
17	Feb 2	Ezekiel 12-14	Two symbolic actions ~ the inevitability of God's judgment
18	Feb 9	Ezekiel 15-17	Analogies & allegories
19	Feb 16	Ezekiel 18-20	Being accountable ~ Israel's pattern of rebellion
20	Feb 23	Ezekiel 21-24	The sword of Nebuchadrezzar
...prophecies against foreign nations, forming a bridge between the initial message of doom & ultimate message of hope			
21	Mar 2	Ezekiel 25-28	Part 3: Oracles against Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia, Tyre, Sidon
22	Mar 9	Ezekiel 29-32	Prophecies against Egypt
...prophecies of restoration, dating from the time after Jerusalem's fall to Babylonia			
23	Mar 16	Ezekiel 33-35	Part 4: Prophecies of Israel's restoration ~ the Shepherd of Israel
24	Mar 23	Ezekiel 36-39	God's honor causes restoration ~ the valley of the dry bones
25	Mar 30	Ezekiel 40-42	Blueprint for the new Temple
26	Apr 6	Ezekiel 43-45	Return of the glory of the Lord
27	Apr 13	Ezekiel 46-48	The sacred river & a new holy land

[April 20, Easter Sunday ~ no class]

The "Great 50 days of Easter" thru Pentecost Sunday...

This story, found in what Protestants call the "Apocrypha" of the Old Testament, Catholics include among the histories, and Jews refer to as "Second-Temple writings," narrates the tumultuous years of 175-143 BCE when Judas Maccabeus and his brothers revolted against Hellenistic rule in Judea during the time of the Greek Selucid Antiochus IV Epiphanies who ruled Syria and Persia. This takes place 150 years after the Macedonian Alexander the Great had conquered this territory, including Judea.

28	Apr 27	1 Maccabees 1-2	Antiochus invades Egypt & Palestine
29	May 4	1 Maccabees 3-4	Judas Maccabeus takes command

"Good Shepherd" Sunday ~ no class

30	May 18	1 Maccabees 5-6	Rededication of the Jerusalem Temple ~ accession of Antiochus V
31	May 25	1 Maccabees 7-9	Demetrius I becomes king ~ treaty with Rome ~ death of Judas
32	June 1	1 Maccabees 10-11	Jonathan appointed as high priest ~ invasion of Ptolemy VI of Egypt
33	June 8	1 Maccabees 12-13	Alliances with the Romans & Spartans
34	June 15	1 Maccabees 14-16	Jewish War with Antiochus VII

