

Thematic Old Testament Narratives for the One Year Lectionary

Sunday	Topic	One Year Lectionary OT Narratives (in bold) and some further suggestions	Johann Gerhard's <i>Postille</i> Old Testament Introduction
First S in Advent	Jesus, the Coming King	Promise to Abram, Gen 17 (Kings will come out of you)	Solomon's Coronation, 1 Kgs 1
Second S in Advent	Watchfulness	Sodom and Gomorrah	10 Plagues, Ex 7-11
Third S in Advent	Forerunners of Christ	Imperfect Forerunners of Christ, Abraham in Genesis 20:1-17	Prophet like Moses, Dt 18
Fourth S in Advent	Rejoice	Isaac's Birth, Gen 21	Aaron as Moses' Mouthpiece (like John for Jesus), Ex 4:14-16
Christmas Eve		Prophecy to Ahaz	Angel of the Lord in the Burning Bush (Incarnation), Ex 3
Christmas Day		Isaac's Prayer for Barren Rebekah is Answered, Prophecy of Younger Son – Gen 25	Cherubim Forbid Entrance to Paradise (Reverse of Angels on Christmas), Gen 3:24 The ark enters the camp of Israel with a mighty shout, 1 Sam 4:5
First S after Christmas	Presentation of Christ	The Birth of Moses – Ex 1-2	Prophecy of the Child's Future, Jdg 13 / In the Presence of the God-Man, Gen 28:17 / Hannah's Prophesying Foreshadowed by Miriam, Deborah, Hulda, Prophetess in Isa 8:3
Second S after Christmas	God's Protection	Jacob Arrives in Egypt Hebrew Midwives, Ex 1 Angels Encamped around Elisha, 2 Kgs 6	Those Who Sought Your Life Are Dead, Ex 4:19
Epiphany of Our Lord	Jesus, Savior of Gentiles	Queen of Sheba Visits Solomon, 1 Kgs 10	Pillar of Fire (Jesus as Light of the World), Ex 13:21,22
First S after Epiphany	Youth and Education	Hannah & Samuel, 1 Sam 1-3	The Prophecy about Samson, Jdg 13:24,25
Second S after Epiphany	Marriage and Family	The Lord Reveals His Gracious Name to Moses The First Marriage, Gen 2 Jacob Works for Rachel, Gen 29 Joseph and Potiphar's Wife, 39	Elijah's Miracle of Making the Water of Jericho Healthy Again, 2 Kgs 2:19-22
Third S after Epiphany	Missions: Light of the World	Naaman Cured of Leprosy	The Continually Burning Fire in the Tabernacle, Lev 6, Ex 30 (the faith God gives to his believers)
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	Trust	You Must Only Be Still, Victory at the Red Sea	The Lord Miraculously Divides the Waters and Enables His People to Walk on Dry Ground, Ex 14:21,22
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany	Church Militant / Election	7,000 preserved, 1 Kgs 19 Obadiah Hides the Prophets of the Lord, 1 Kgs 18 Jeremiah Thrown in Cistern, Jer 38	
Transfiguration		Moses Speaks with the Lord	Moses' Face Shines After Speaking with God, Ex 34:29ff <i>Transfiguration is Trinity 27 in Gerhard's Postille</i>

Pre-Lent (70 days / Septuagesima)	Justified by Grace / Sola Gratia	You Need Only Be Still, Ex 14 Water from the Rock, Ex 17	Man placed in the garden to work, Gen 2:15
Pre-Lent (60 days / Sexagesima)	Word of God / Sola Scriptura	Saul Inquires of the Witch, 1 Sam 28 Elijah and the Still, Small Voice, 1 Kgs 19 Josiah Finds the Book of the Law – 2 Kgs 22–23 Jehoiakim Destroys the Scroll, Jer 36	Isaac blessed despite the enemy stopping up his wells, Gen 26:12,18
Pre-Lent (50 days / Quinquagesima)	Mercy of God / Sola Fide	Elisha Strikes Enemies Blind, Shows Mercy, 2 Kgs 6	Jacob's ladder, Gen 28:12,13
Ash Wednesday	Repentance	Temple Dedication and the Lord Appears to Solomon, 2 Chr 7 Nineveh Repents - Jonah	
First S in Lent (Invocavit)	Temptation	Fall Into Sin	David and Goliath, 1 Sam 17
Second S in Lent (Reminiscere)	Persistent Faith	Jacob Wrestles with God	Jacob wrestles with God, Gen 32
Third S in Lent (Oculi)	Triumph over Satan	Jeremiah Speaks the Word Ehud Defeats Eglon, Jdg 3 Deborah, Barak, and Jabin defeat Sisera, Jdg 5	Samson Defeats a Lion on his way to retrieve his bride, Jdg 14
Fourth S in Lent (Laetare)	Jesus, Bread of Life	Manna and Quail – Ex 16	Elisha feeds 100 with 20 loaves, 2 Kgs 4:42
Fifth S in Lent (Judica)	Jesus, Our High Priest	Abraham Offers Isaac Melchizedek, Gen 15	Jeremiah, opposed and hated by all, Jer 15:10
Palm S	Jesus, Our King	Solomon's Coronation – 1 Kgs 1	Passover lamb, Ex 12
or Passion S			
Holy Thursday	Lord's Supper	Passover	
Good Friday	Jesus, Our Redeemer	Day of Atonement, Lev 16 David and Goliath, 1 Sam 17	
Holy Saturday / Easter Vigil	Resurrection	OT Readings	
Resurrection Dawn	Resurrection	The Lepers Discover and Share that the Enemy is Gone – 2 Kgs 7	Jonah in the Fish
Resurrection Day	Resurrection	Three Men in the Fiery Furnace, Dan 3 / Jonah	Gideon's victory over the Midianites, Jdg 7:12-15
Second S of Easter (Quasimodo Geniti)	Faith	The Call of Abram	God creates man in his image and breathes his Spirit into him, Gen 2
Third S of Easter (Misericordia Domini)	Jesus, Our Good Shepherd	Joshua Succeeds Moses – Num 27	Shepherds in OT, Abel, Jacob, Jacob's sons, Moses, David, Amos, etc....
Fourth S of Easter (Jubilate)	Cross and Comfort	Job David Flees Absalom and Returns, 2 Sam 15–19 Sennacherib's Army Destroyed – Isa 37 / 2 Kgs 18	Bitter waters made sweet, Ex 15:22,23
Fifth S of Easter (Cantate)	Sing! Worship	David Brings Ark to Jerusalem, 2 Sam 6	God's Spirit fighting against the spirit of men and the flood, Gen 6:3ff

		Jehoshaphat's Choir and the Lord's Victory, 2 Chron 20 Esther – God's Hidden Guidance, Deliverance, and the Celebration	
Sixth S of Easter (Rogate)	Prayer	The Bronze Serpent Hezekiah's Prayer for Healing, 2 Kgs 20 / Joshua's Prayer for the Sun to Stand Still, Jos 10	Prayer in Need and Water from the Rock, Num 20 (Note: Gerhard believes Moses' sin was doubting God's promise to bring water)
Ascension of Our Lord	Exaltation of Christ	Elijah Is Taken to Heaven Promise of the Messianic Descendant and His Eternal Kingdom, 1 Sam 7	Crush Satan's Head Underfoot, Gen 3:15 / Enoch Gen 5:24 / Elijah's Ascent, 2 Kgs 2:11 / Joseph Brought Up from Prison, Gen 41:41 / Son of Man, Dn 7
Seventh S of Easter (Exaudi)	Promised Comforter	Adam and Eve Samuel Anoints David, 1 Sam 16	God Gives the Spirit to Bezalel and Oholiab, Ex 31:3
Pentecost	Holy Spirit	Tower of Babel Valley of Dry Bones	Years of Jubilee, Lev 25 Special Incense, Ex 30 Still, Small Voice 1 Kgs 19
Holy Trinity	Trinity	Call of Isaiah	Creation of the World by Father, Word, and Spirit, Gen 1
Trinity 1	Heavenly Riches	Esau Sells His Birthright, Gen 25 Naboth's Vineyard, 1 Kgs 21	"Rich" Haman and "Poor" Esther
Trinity 2	Invitation	Twelve Spies and Israel's Rejection of the Promised Land, Num 13–14 Rahab Brought Into the Kingdom of God, Jos 6 Naaman's Servant Girl, 2 Kgs 5	Esau Sells His Birthright, Gen 25
Trinity 3	Evangelism: Lost Sheep	Hosea's Love for a Prostitute, Hos 3 Jehoiachin's New Clothes, 2 Kgs 25 Manasseh Repents, 2 Chron 33	The Troubled Gather Around David in Exile, 1 Sam 22:2
Trinity 4	Christian Unity & Peace	Abraham and Lot Part Ways, Gen 13 Moses' Burden is Shared and He is Not Jealous, Num 11 David & Jonathan, 1 Sam 18	Ark of the Covenant and Its Contents, Including the Law, Ex 16:33,34, 25:10–22 (Jesus Not Only Preaches Grace, but Admonishes Us to Works of Mercy)
Trinity 5	Discipleship: Following Christ	Call of Jeremiah	Christ Over the Seas and Islands (i.e. people all over the world), Ps 89:25
Trinity 6	Sin & Righteousness	The Ten Commandments The Golden Calf, Ex 32	The Messenger of the Covenant Will Come to His Temple, Mal 3
Trinity 7	Providence	Joseph Feeds Egypt, Gen 41 God Provides for Elijah, 1 Kgs 17 Elisha and the Endless Jar of Oil, 2 Kgs 4	Israelites Not Content with Manna, Num 11
Trinity 8	Beware of False Prophets	Pharaoh's Magicians, Ex 7 Elijah and Prophets of Baal, 1 Kgs 18 Micaiah vs False Prophets, 1 Kgs 22	Building the Wall with Sword in Hand, Neh 4:7,8
Trinity 9	Stewardship	Offerings for the Tabernacle/Temple from Willing Hearts, Ex 35/1 Chr 29 Solomon Requests Wisdom, Not Riches, 1 Kgs 3	Humans Made in the Image of God (in order to be good stewards of God's creation), Gen 1
Trinity 10	Renewed Obedience	Jeremiah Prophecies Against Temple	The Intermarriage of Believers and Unbelievers and the Growing Wickedness of Humanity, Gen 6

		Twelve Spies and 40 Years Wandering, Num 13–14	
Trinity 11	Humility: Pharisee & Publican	Nebuchadnezzar Humbled and Restored, Dan 4 Ezra and Nehemiah Confront the Unfaithfulness of the Returned Exiles, Ezr 9–10 / Neh 9, 13	Cain and Abel, Gen 4
Trinity 12	Healing	Miriam Healed, Num 12 Naaman Healed, 2 Kgs 5	Balaam's Donkey Speaks Miraculously, Just as the Mute Man Speaks Miraculously, Num 22:28
Trinity 13	Charity: Good Samaritan	Abraham Hosts the Three Guests and Prays for Sodom Ruth's Kindness to Naomi, Boaz's Kindness to Ruth, Ru 2 David's Kindness to Mephibosheth, 2 Sam 9	Eve's Longing for the Messiah, Gen 4:1
Trinity 14	Thanksgiving	Noah Offers Sacrifices after the Flood, Gen 8 Israelites Rejoice after Exodus, Ex 15 Israelites Grumble about Manna, Num 11	The Lord Heals Us So We Can Praise Him, Isa 35:4-6
Trinity 15	Contentment: Lilies of the Field	Widow at Zarephath Provided Flour and Oil An Axhead Floats, 2 Kgs 6 Achan's Greed, Jos 7 Gehazi's Greed, 2 Kgs 5	
Trinity 16	Death and Burial	Widow at Zarephath's Son Brought Back to Life Abraham Buried, Gen 25 Jacob's Death and Last Words, Gen 49 Dead Man Raised When He Touches Elisha's Bones, 2 Kgs 13	I Will Rescue You From Death, Hos 13:14
Trinity 17	Christian Freedom	Hezekiah's Delayed Passover Celebration, 2 Chr 30 David Eats Temple Bread, 1 Sam 21	I am the God Who Heals You, Ex 15:22-26
Trinity 18	Law and Gospel	David Repents and Is Forgiven, 2 Sam 12	Jesus is the "Mercy Seat" of the Ark of the Covenant between the Two Cherubim, the "Old and New Testaments", Ex 25:17-22
Trinity 19	Confession & Absolution and/or Ministry	Korah's Rebellion, Num 16 Joshua Succeeds Moses, Num 27 Uzziah's Pride, 2 Chr 26 Ezekiel's Call, Ezk 2	Hezekiah's Prayer in the Face of Death and the Lord's Answer, Isa 38
Trinity 20	Confirmation: Perseverance	Joshua: As For Me and My House, Jos 24 / Samson's Fall and Faithful End, Jdg 13ff / Saul's Fall, 1 Sam 15	
Trinity 21	Spiritual Armor	Abram Rescues Lot, Gen 14 Gibeonites Attacked because of their Connection to God's People and the Sun Stands Still, Jos 10 Gideon, Jdg 6ff	Prov 4:18

		Building the Wall with Sword in Hand, Neh 4	
Trinity 22	Forgive as Forgiven	Joseph Forgives His Brothers, Gen 50	Whoever sins against another person also sins against God, Num 5:5
Trinity 23	Citizenship	David Spares Saul, 1 Sam 24/26 Saul's Men Rescue Jonathan from Saul's Order, 1 Sam 14 Widow's Land Restored, 2 Kgs 8 Daniel's Respectful Request, Dan 1 Daniel Interprets Nebuchadnezzar's Dream, Dan 1-2 / Esther	Miriam and Aaron Speak Against Moses, Moses Constantly Humbled and Afflicted like Jesus, Num 12
Reformation	Reformation	Fall of Jericho, Jos 6 Defeat of Ai after Achan's Sin, Jos 7-8 Daniel in Lion's Den, Dan 6	
All Saints' Day	Saints and Martyrs	Cain and Abel, Gen 4 Zechariah the Priest Martyred, 2 Chr 24	
Trinity 24	Death: A Sleep	Jacob Loses and Regains Joseph, Gen 37, 46 Elisha Raises the Dead, 2 Kgs 4	Elisha Raises the Dead, 2 Kgs 4
Trinity 25	End Times	Noah and the Flood, Gen 6ff	Prophecy of the Destruction of the Temple, Dan 9:26, Jer 7:45
Last Sunday		Athaliah Becomes Queen of Judah, 2 Kgs 11	Vision of the Ancient of Days and the Heavenly Court, Dan 7:9-10