

## **Lectionary guidelines – Summer term**

Unlike Terms 1 and 2 there is no overall Queen's lectionary for Term 3.

In general, students (and staff leading on Mondays) are invited to select appropriate readings themselves, but are encouraged to liaise with others who are leading worship that week to try to ensure some coherence to the pattern over a whole week and to avoid the duplication of readings. See below for some tips on how to make good choices.

### **What if I don't know where to start?**

If you prefer to work from a lectionary, then we suggest you use the daily Bible reading scheme of the **International Bible Reading Association (IBRA)** as a 'default' lectionary for this term. There is information about this organisation at the bottom of this sheet. You can access the Bible reading scheme via the IBRA website:  
[www.christianeducation.org.uk/ibra.htm](http://www.christianeducation.org.uk/ibra.htm)

In the IBRA scheme, most days are only provided with one reading. Please use your 'lectionary-creating' skills and *choose a second reading*, which should complement the IBRA reading. As a general rule, it is good to work for a balance of Old and New Testament each day. Please note that each week has a theme and a 'text' – you may want to use the text as a thread to link worship throughout that week.

### **Tuesday evenings**

The default setting for Tuesday evening's service will be to use the readings set by the ecumenical *Revised Common Lectionary* for the *previous* Sunday. Preachers and presiders are invited to choose one or two readings from the readings listed in the RCL. You can find the RCL readings in the back of *The Methodist Worship Book*, or download the RCL from the website of the Consultation on Common Texts (<http://www.commontexts.org/rcl/index.html>). We are currently in Year A of the *Revised Common Lectionary*. If you have any problems finding the readings, please contact Mark Earey.

### **MM residential weekends (for Track 2 Ministerial students)**

On most weekends, students in the worship leading team are already invited to choose appropriate readings for the Saturday Evening Prayer service, and staff for the Sunday lunchtime service of Word and Table. For this term, we are extending that invitation to the other services over the weekend.

If you prefer to work from a lectionary, then we suggest the Church of England's daily lectionary is probably the best to work from, as it allows for more than one service each day. The easiest way to find this is in the annual lectionary booklet. There is a copy of this in the chapel vestry. If you have any questions or problems, ask Mark Earey.

### **Some tips for choosing Scripture readings for worship**

- Resist the temptation to choose one of your favourite passages, or well-known passages, or passages that you happen to have a good sermon on already.
- Remember that for weekday worship in this context you are choosing readings for a short midday act of worship, not for the main weekly act of worship of a congregation. This is, therefore, *not* the same as devising a sermon series or teaching programme.

- If you are choosing more than one reading (and in general we would encourage more than one reading), try to get a balance of Old and New Testament each day.
- Don't forget to consider using a psalm, either as one of the readings or in addition to the readings.
- Try to take account of any 'seasonal' aspects of the week in question. For instance, if we are in Eastertide, readings which fit the mood of that season might be appropriate. Around Pentecost, readings which reflect on the work of the Holy Spirit might be helpful, etc.

### **About the IBRA**

IBRA, a part of Christian Education, is an international organisation working to encourage regular Bible reading around the world, by publishing Bible reading schemes and notes and by funding organisations in developing countries through our International Appeal. Each year, IBRA produces a scheme of daily Bible readings. This is linked to the readings in the *Revised Common Lectionary*, which is used by many churches, and forms the basis for all IBRA's annual publications of Bible reading notes, house group materials and notes for speakers.