



Of the Land and Seasons

revised version

Supplemental Content

*A Quarterly Observance of Prayer and Holy Communion
Drawn from Life on the Farm and Orchard*



AUGSBURG FORTRESS

Of the Land and Seasons, revised version

Supplemental Content

Suggested Scripture Readings

The Leader/Accompaniment Edition suggests scripture readings and psalms suitable for each of the seasonal, quarterly observances proposed for the use of this liturgy: winter, spring, summer, and fall. The full texts of these readings and psalms are provided as part of this supplemental content. Those who purchase *Of the Land and Seasons* for use in a worshiping assembly may reproduce these texts as needed for local, non-sale use in conjunction with this liturgy, provided this copyright notice is included in the reproduction:

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Worship planners may also explore the three-year lectionary, especially in Advent and the time after Pentecost, for other appropriate readings that may be used with this liturgy.

Choral Harmony Settings

Choral harmony settings of two of the liturgical hymns are included in this supplemental content: the Kyrie (“We pray for peace, O Lord”) and the post-communion song (“O Lord of the blossom”). Those who purchase *Of the Land and Seasons* for use in a worshiping assembly may reproduce these choral harmony settings as needed for local, non-sale use with their choirs in conjunction with this liturgy, provided the credits and copyright notice at the bottom of the first page of each musical item are included in the reproduction.

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Available Editions

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Winter

First Reading

Deuteronomy 5:32–6:9

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Deuteronomy.

You must therefore be careful to do as the LORD your God has commanded you; you shall not turn to the right or to the left. ³³You must follow exactly the path that the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live, and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you are to possess.

^{6:1}Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the LORD your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, ²so that you and your children and your children’s children may fear the LORD your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. ³Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. ⁶Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ⁷Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. ⁸Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, ⁹and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord. **OR** Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 119:25-40

Refrain: Give me life according to your word. (v. 25)

²⁵My soul cleaves | to the dust;

give me life according | to your word.

²⁶I have recounted my ways, and you | answered me;

instruct me | in your statutes.

²⁷Make me understand the way of | your commandments,

that I may meditate on your | marvelous works.

²⁸My soul melts a- | way from sorrow;

sustain me according | to your word.

²⁹Take from me the | way of lying;

let me find grace | through your teaching.

³⁰I have chosen the | way of faithfulness;

I have set your judg- | ments before me. *Refrain*

³¹I hold fast to | your decrees;

O LORD, do not put | me to shame.

³²I will run the way of | your commandments,

for you increase my | heart's capacity.

³³Teach me, O LORD, the way | of your statutes,

and I shall keep it | to the end.

³⁴Give me understanding, and I shall | keep your teaching;

I shall keep it with | all my heart. *Refrain*

³⁵Lead me in the path of | your commandments,

for that is | my desire.

³⁶Incline my heart to | your decrees

and not to | unjust gain.

³⁷Turn my eyes from be- | holding falsehood;

give me life | in your way.

³⁸Fulfill your promise | to your servant,

which is for | those who fear you.

³⁹Turn away the reproach | that I dread,

because your judg- | ments are good.

⁴⁰Behold, I long for | your commandments;

by your righteousness en- | liven me. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Hebrews 12:3-15

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Hebrews.

Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart. ⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as children—

“My child, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
or lose heart when you are punished by him;
⁶for the Lord disciplines those whom he loves,
and chastises every child whom he accepts.”

⁷Endure trials for the sake of discipline. God is treating you as children; for what child is there whom a parent does not discipline? ⁸If you do not have that discipline in which all children share, then you are illegitimate and not his children. ⁹Moreover, we had human parents to discipline us, and we respected them. Should we not be even more willing to be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share his holiness. ¹¹Now, discipline always seems painful rather than pleasant at the time, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

¹²Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

¹⁴Pursue peace with everyone, and the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springs up and causes trouble, and through it many become defiled.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord. **OR** Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

John 15:1-11

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus says: I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. ⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

The gospel may be concluded:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Spring

First Reading

Genesis 2:4b-9

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Genesis.

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; ⁶but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— ⁷then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. ⁸And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord. **OR** Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 104:1, 24-33

Refrain: Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. (v. 30)

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul; O LORD my God, you are **l**very great!

You are clothed with majes- **l**ty and splendor.

²⁴How manifold are your **l**works, O LORD!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full **l**of your creatures.

²⁵Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number,
living things both small and great.

²⁶There go the ships to and fro,
and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

²⁷All of them look to you
to give them their food in due season.

²⁸You give it to them; they gather it;
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things. *Refrain*

²⁹When you hide your face, they are terrified;
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

³⁰You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;
and so you renew the face of the earth.

³¹May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
O LORD, rejoice in all your works.

³²You look at the earth and it trembles;
you touch the mountains and they smoke.

³³I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will praise my God while I have my being. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-25

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Romans.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord. **OR** Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Luke 8:4-15

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴When a great crowd gathered and people from town after town came to him, [Jesus] said in a parable: ⁵A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell on the path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. ⁶Some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture. ⁷Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. ⁸Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold.” As he said this, he called out, “Let anyone with ears to hear listen!”

⁹Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant. ¹⁰He said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to others I speak in parables, so that

‘looking they may not perceive,
and listening they may not understand.’

¹¹Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. ¹²The ones on the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³The ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe only for a while and in a time of testing fall away. ¹⁴As for what fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear; but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. ¹⁵But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance.”

The gospel may be concluded:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Summer

First Reading

Deuteronomy 11:10-15

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Deuteronomy.

The land that you are about to enter to occupy is not like the land of Egypt, from which you have come, where you sow your seed and irrigate by foot like a vegetable garden. ¹¹But the land that you are crossing over to occupy is a land of hills and valleys, watered by rain from the sky, ¹²a land that the LORD your God looks after. The eyes of the LORD your God are always on it, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.

¹³If you will only heed his every commandment that I am commanding you today—loving the LORD your God, and serving him with all your heart and with all your soul— ¹⁴then he will give the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the later rain, and you will gather in your grain, your wine, and your oil; ¹⁵and he will give grass in your fields for your livestock, and you will eat your fill.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord. **OR** Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 23

Refrain: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (*v. 1*)

¹The LORD **|** is my shepherd;

I shall not **|** be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.

³You restore my | soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me. *Refrain*

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Romans 8:35-39

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Romans.

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord. **OR** Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Luke 17:1-10

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, “Occasions for stumbling are bound to come, but woe to anyone by whom they come! ²It would be better for you if a millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea than for you to cause one of these little ones to stumble. ³Be on your guard! If another disciple sins, you must rebuke the offender, and if there is repentance, you must forgive. ⁴And if the same person sins against you seven times a day, and turns back to you seven times and says, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive.”

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you. ⁷Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table?’ ⁸Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink?’ ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

The gospel may be concluded:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Fall

First Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Deuteronomy.

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the LORD your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord. **OR** Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 67

Refrain: Let all the peoples praise you, O God. (v. 3)

- ¹May God be merciful to | us and bless us;
 may the light of God's face | shine upon us.
- ²Let your way be known | upon earth,
 your saving health a- | mong all nations.
- ³Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
 let all the | peoples praise you.
- ⁴Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,
 for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- | tions on earth. *Refrain*
- ⁵Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
 let all the | peoples praise you.
- ⁶The earth has brought | forth its increase;
 God, our own | God, has blessed us.
- ⁷May God | give us blessing,
 and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe. *Refrain*

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Second Corinthians.

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ⁹As it is written,

“He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;
 his righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through

us; ¹²for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, ¹⁴while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. ¹⁵Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord. **OR** Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Luke 12:13-21

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ ¹⁸Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

The gospel may be concluded:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Kyrie

Choral Harmony Setting

This Kyrie may be sung in dialogue between a cantor or small group of singers and the assembly. If done with a cantor, the choir may sing in four-part harmony throughout, humming through the cantor's petitions.

Slowly (♩ = 76)

Cantor or choir

D D A7 G D A

We pray for peace, O Lord, make plow-shares of our swords, make

D G D A D Bm A7 D

plow-shares of our swords: hear us when we cry to you.

Assembly

D A7 D G D A

Lord, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, Lord, have

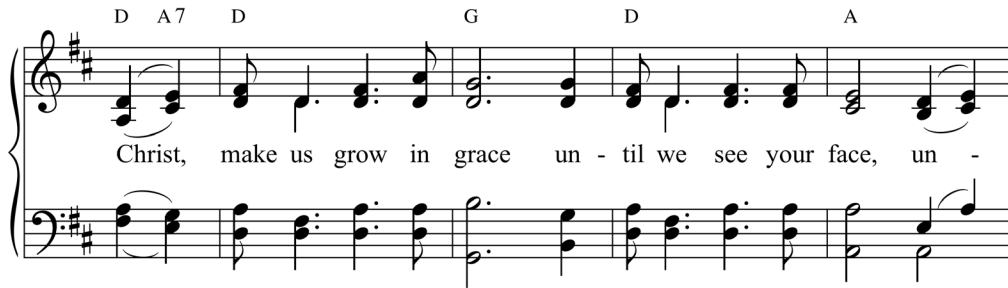
D G D A D Bm A7 D

mer-cy on us: hear us when we cry to you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer
Music: MY FATHER, HOW LONG, African American spiritual
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Cantor or choir

D A7 D G D A



Christ, make us grow in grace un - til we see your face, un -

D G D A D Bm A7 D



til we see your face: hear us when we cry to you.


Assembly

D A7 D G D A



Christ, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, Christ have

D G D A D Bm A7 D



mer-cy on us: hear us when we cry to you.

Cantor or choir

D A7 D G D A

De - fend your church, O Lord, and root it in your word, and

D G D A D Bm A7 D

root it in your word: hear us when we cry to you.

Assembly

D A7 D G D A

Lord, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, Lord, have

D G D A D Bm A7 D

mer-cy on us: hear our *rit.* cry. A - men.

Post-Communion Song: O Lord of the Blossom

Choral Harmony Setting

$\text{♩} = 140$

1 O Lord of the blos-som, O God of the seed, O
2 O Lord of the har-vest, O God of the feast, where

gra-cious pro-vi-der for all hu-man need, you have
sor-rows are van-quished and joys are in-creased, where the

nour-ished our faith at your ta-ble of grace, and nur-tured new
tree of life grows in your or-chards a-bove, we'll join in the

life in the light of your face. O Lord of the grain-field, O
cho-rus in praise of your love. Sing praise to the Fa-ther, sing

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer
Music: MY HOME, North American traditional
Text and arr. © 1990, 2013 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Em A

God of the vine, you've fed us your pres - ence in
praise to the Son, sing praise to the Spir - it. Praise

D D7 G

bread and in wine. In com - mun - ion you've blest to us
God, Three in One! You have made us one peo - ple you've

D G D C G

ar - bor and plow, and shown us the gos - pel, your word for us
fed by the hand, O Lord of the heav - ens, O God of the

D *Optional keyboard interlude* A *Optional coda* G D

now.
land.