

INDEX TO THE METHODIST LECTIONARY
as in *The Methodist Worship Book* 1999
prepared by Dudley Coates, and revised 2023

The Principal Service Lectionary is derived from the ecumenical Revised Common Lectionary (RCL). Further information can be found in the introduction to the section 'Calendar, Collects and Lectionary' in *The Methodist Worship Book* (Methodist Publishing House, Peterborough, 1999). A full explanation of RCL can be found in *The Revised Common Lectionary* (Canterbury Press, Norwich, 1992). The Second Service Lectionary is derived from the Second Service Lectionary created by the Church of England on similar principles to those which underlie the Revised Common Lectionary and published in *The Christian Year: Calendar, Lectionary and Collects* (Church House Publishing, 1997).

In the final column (Service), the following abbreviations are used:

- P = Principal Service
- 2nd = Second Service
- C = continuous readings (Old Testament and Psalms)
- R = related readings (Old Testament and Psalms)
- * = a reading used as a canticle in place of a psalm

Some of the Old Testament and Psalm readings for the Principal Service in Ordinary Time also indicate whether a reading is in the 'Continuous' set of readings (C) or the 'Related' set of readings (R).

There is no entry in the final column for those weekdays and special occasions for which only one set of readings is provided.

Users of resource material from other traditions may find it helpful to know that some traditions (including the Church of England) use an alternative system for numbering Sundays. RCL provides both for the 'Ordinary Time' system used in *The Methodist Worship Book* and for an alternative system under which the first five Sundays of Ordinary Time are designated as Sundays after Epiphany and the remaining Sundays are given 'Proper' numbers. Under this system, the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time becomes 'Proper 1' and so on (with the 34th Sunday becoming 'Proper 29').

In this listing, all the references are simplified so that, for example, Easter 4 means the Fourth Sunday of Easter and Ordinary 11 the eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time. Ordinary numbers are used for the Sundays in Ordinary Time, rather than the dates between which they fall. The subject listing has been created by Dudley Coates and does not form part of either RCL or the Church of England's Second Service lectionary. While every effort has been made to ensure that this list is correct, in a task of this kind, it is impossible to ensure perfection. If you notice any errors, please email them to stfplus@methodistchurch.org.uk.