

We can respond to the reading of Scripture in more than one way when laypeople lead Sunday worship.

Your congregation can offer a sermon from any of the following approved sources:

- **Sermons that Work** provides sermons to read in worship. These are prepared by Episcopal clergy for every Sunday of the church year, and an archive allows you to browse through through sermons from past years of the Lectionary cycle. When reading a sermon in worship, its important that the reader has prepared by carefully reading the text in advance. And its important that readers give credit to the person who originally crafted the sermon.
<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sermons-that-work>
- If you have the ability to show videos, **A Sermon for Every Sunday** provides video of sermons by well-known preachers. Texts of the same sermons are also available.
<https://asermonforeverysunday.com>
- Another way of listening to a sermon is with audio of a preacher reading a sermon for the lessons of the day. These sermons are posted by **Day 1**.
<http://day1.org>

Another option is to engage the congregation in a structured reflection and discussion in response to the Scripture readings

- 1) Provide the congregation with
 - The Scripture text
 - A brief commentary on the reading you chosen to focus on. These are available from the Episcopal Church for every Sunday of the year at <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/bible-study>
 - A few reflection questions provided by that same resource.
- 2) Encourage the congregation to break into small groups for biblical, theological, and practical reflection using the questions as a starting place. You'll have to explore to find out the right amount time for these conversations, but begin by offering 10-15 minutes. Keep in mind that without Eucharist, the service can accommodate being generous with time so that everyone can participate, and still be within the familiar length of the weekly service.

3) Last, consider having the leader facilitate some sharing out from the small group reflections.

It's important for this discussion by led by someone with skill and confidence as a facilitator—someone, for example, with experience as an Education for Ministry mentor, or as a classroom teacher. This might not be the same person who is leading worship. Their role is to ensure that communication is respectful and to help those who share to focus on reflection rather than commentary.