If you have ever read lessons at a worship service, you know how intimidating it can be. Whether you are an experienced reader or new to the ministry, it is vital to know how to understand and deliver scripture. That’s why we are hosting WordFest! – a day of study, learning and reflection to encourage and empower Lay Leaders in our parishes (Lay Preachers, Lay Readers, Bible study leaders, etc.) to gain a better understanding of the lectionary readings and the connection between them. WordFest! is comprised of two sessions, entirely on Zoom:

Morning session: Discovery
We begin by exploring specific passages about Jesus as the Good Shepherd. The Rev. Peter Rodgers will be joined by two scholars who will help us with our exploration: Dr. Lindy Williams of Fuller Theological Seminary (an expert on Ezekiel) and The Rev. Daniel London, Rector of Christ Church, Eureka (an expert on the Gospel of John). They will be helping us to see how our own close reading of the passages, and their relationship to each other, can help us to a deepened appreciation of the grand story of the Bible, the story of God and his people.

Afternoon session: Delivery
After a short lunch break, we will be joined by three experienced readers – Elizabeth Keneally, Don Taylor, and Jay Leach, who serve as vergers at Trinity Cathedral. Through discussions and small group exercises, they will share effective strategies to build confidence in preparing for and reading the scriptures in both live and online settings.