

YEAR C, EASTER 3, THURSDAY: MASS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

But there was a man named Simon who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the nation of Sama'ria, saying that he himself was somebody great. They all gave heed to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is that power of God which is called Great." And they gave heed to him, because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed. Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Sama'ria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit; for it had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then

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they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, saying, "Give me also this power, that any one on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." But Peter said to him, "Your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. Repent therefore of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity." And Simon answered, "Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me." Now when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

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Psalm 65:1–5

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 65, verses 1 through 5, found in the red Prayer Book on page 672.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

- 1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; *
 to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.
- 2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, *
 because of their transgressions.
- 3 Our sins are stronger than we are, *
 but you will blot them out.
- 4 Happy are they whom you choose
 and draw to your courts to dwell there! *
 they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house,
 by the holiness of your temple.

Please turn the page to continue the psalm.

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5 Awesome things will you show us in your
 righteousness,
 O God of our salvation, *
 O Hope of all the ends of the earth
 and of the seas that are far away.

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader I am the living bread which came down
 from heaven; *
 if any one eats of this bread, he will live
 for ever.

People Alleluia.

The Reader returns to his or her seat.

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The Holy Gospel

The Minister says

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Minister

✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to John.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, “I am the bread which came down from heaven.” They said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven?’” Jesus answered them, “Do not murmur among yourselves. No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Every one who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that any one has seen the Father except him who is from God; he has seen the Father. Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that a man may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he

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will live for ever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.

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