

## YEAR 1, PROPER 5, WEDNESDAY: MASS

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from the**

### **Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God, who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not in a written code but in the Spirit; for the written code kills, but the Spirit gives life. Now if the dispensation of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such splendor that the Israelites could not look at Moses' face because of its brightness, fading as this was, will not the dispensation of the Spirit be attended with greater splendor? For if there was splendor in the dispensation of condemnation, the dispensation of righteousness must far exceed it in splendor. Indeed, in this case, what once had splendor has come to have no splendor at all, because of the splendor that surpasses it. For if

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2 CORINTHIANS 3:4–11; PSALM 99; MATTHEW 5:17–20\*

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what faded away came with splendor, what is  
permanent must have much more splendor.

*The Reader concludes*                      The Word of the Lord.

## **Psalm 99**

*At Said Mass the Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 99, found in the red  
Prayer Book beginning on page 728.

*(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)*

*At Sung Mass the Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 99 as found in the  
service bulletin.

1    The LORD is King;  
      let the people tremble; \*  
      he is enthroned upon the cherubim;  
      let the earth shake.

2    The LORD is great in Zion; \*  
      he is high above all peoples.

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- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and  
awesome; \*  
he is the Holy One.
- 4 “O mighty King, lover of justice,  
you have established equity; \*  
you have executed justice and righteousness in  
Jacob.”
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God  
and fall down before his footstool; \*  
he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,  
and Samuel among those who call upon his  
Name, \*  
they called upon the LORD, and he answered  
them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; \*  
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he  
gave them.

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8 “O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; \*  
you were a God who forgave them,  
yet punished them for their evil deeds.”

9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God  
and worship him upon his holy hill; \*  
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

### **The Gospel Acclamation**

*The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

*Reader* Alleluia.

*People* Alleluia.

*Reader* The commandments of the Lord are  
sure; \*

they stand fast for ever and 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  
Matthew.

*People*

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, “Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

*The Minister says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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