

## YEAR 1, PROPER 8, MONDAY: EVENING PRAYER

### For use with the First Lesson

Adapted from *The Vocabulary of the Church* (1960):

Ba'lak	BAY-lack
Am'orites	AM-uh-rights
Ba'laam	BAY-luhm
Be'or	BEE-or
Pe'thor	PEE-thor
A'maw	AY-mah

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from Numbers**

Then the people of Israel set out, and encamped in the plains of Moab beyond the Jordan at Jericho. And Ba'lak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Am'orites. And Moab was in great dread of the people, because they were many; Moab was overcome with fear of the people of Israel. And Moab said to the elders of Mid'ian, "This horde will now lick up all that is round about us, as the ox licks up the grass of the field." So Ba'lak the son of Zippor, who was king of Moab at that time, sent messengers to Ba'laam the son of Be'or at Pe'thor, which is near the River, in the land

of A'maw to call him, saying, "Behold, a people has come out of Egypt; they cover the face of the earth, and they are dwelling opposite me. Come now, curse this people for me, since they are too mighty for me; perhaps I shall be able to defeat them and drive them from the land; for I know that he whom you bless is blessed, and he whom you curse is cursed." So the elders of Moab and the elders of Mid'ian departed with the fees for divination in their hand; and they came to Ba'laam, and gave him Ba'lak's message. And he said to them, "Lodge here this night, and I will bring back word to you, as the LORD speaks to me"; so the princes of Moab stayed with Ba'laam. And God came to Ba'laam and said, "Who are these men with you?" And Ba'laam said to God, "Ba'lak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, has sent to me, saying, 'Behold, a people has come out of Egypt, and it covers the face of the earth; now come, curse them for me; perhaps I shall be able to fight against them and drive them out.' " God said to Ba'laam, "You shall not go with them; you shall not curse the people, for they are blessed." So Ba'laam rose in the morning, and said to the princes of Ba'lak, "Go to your own land; for the LORD has refused to let me go with you." So the princes of Moab rose and went to Ba'lak, and said, "Ba'laam refuses to come with us." Once again Ba'lak

sent princes, more in number and more honorable than they. And they came to Ba'laam and said to him, "Thus says Ba'lak the son of Zippor: 'Let nothing hinder you from coming to me; for I will surely do you great honor, and whatever you say to me I will do; come, curse this people for me.' " But Ba'laam answered and said to the servants of Ba'lak, "Though Ba'lak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, I could not go beyond the command of the LORD my God, to do less or more. Pray, now, tarry here this night also, that I may know what more the LORD will say to me." And God came to Ba'laam at night and said to him, "If the men have come to call you, rise, go with them; but only what I bid you, that shall you do." So Ba'laam rose in the morning, and saddled his ass, and went with the princes of Moab.

*The Reader concludes*                      The Word of the Lord.

*The Second Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke**

Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your

hour, and the power of darkness.” Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house. Peter followed at a distance; and when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a maid, seeing him as he sat in the light and gazing at him, said, “This man also was with him.” But he denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.” And a little later some one else saw him and said, “You also are one of them.” But Peter said, “Man, I am not.” And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, “Certainly this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.” But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are saying.” And immediately, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.