

**YEAR 1, PROPER 8, WEDNESDAY:  
EVENING PRAYER**

**For use with the First Lesson**

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

Ba'lak	BAY-lack
Ba'laam	BAY-luhm
Ba'moth-ba'al	BAH-moth-BAY-uhl
Ar'am	Ar-uhm

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

**A Reading from Numbers**

And on the morrow Ba'lak took Ba'laam and brought him up to Ba'moth-ba'al; and from there he saw the nearest of the people. And Ba'laam said to Ba'lak, “Build for me here seven altars, and provide for me here seven bulls and seven rams.” Ba'lak did as Ba'laam had said; and Ba'lak and Ba'laam offered on each altar a bull and a ram. And Ba'laam said to Ba'lak, “Stand beside your burnt offering, and I will go; perhaps the LORD will come to meet me; and whatever he shows me I will tell you.” And he went to a bare height. And God met Ba'laam; and Ba'laam said to him, “I have prepared the seven altars, and I have

offered upon each altar a bull and a ram.” And the LORD put a word in Ba’laam’s mouth, and said, “Return to Ba’lak, and thus you shall speak.” And he returned to him, and lo, he and all the princes of Moab were standing beside his burnt offering. And Ba’laam took up his discourse, and said, “From Ar’am Ba’lak has brought me, the king of Moab from the eastern mountains: ‘Come, curse Jacob for me, and come, denounce Israel!’ How can I curse whom God has not cursed? How can I denounce whom the LORD has not denounced? For from the top of the mountains I see him, from the hills I behold him; lo, a people dwelling alone, and not reckoning itself among the nations! Who can count the dust of Jacob, or number the fourth part of Israel? Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my end be like his!” And Ba’lak said to Ba’laam, “What have you done to me? I took you to curse my enemies, and behold, you have done nothing but bless them.” And he answered, “Must I not take heed to speak what the LORD puts in my mouth?”

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.

## For use with the Second Lesson

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

Jude'a  
Galile'an

juu-DEE-uh  
gal-i-LEE-uhn

*The Second Lesson. The Reader begins*

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

Then the whole company of them arose, and brought Jesus before Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, “We found this man perverting our nation, and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ a king.” And Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” And he answered him, “You have said so.” And Pilate said to the chief priests and the multitudes, “I find no crime in this man.” But they were urgent, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Jude'a, from Galilee even to this place.” When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galile'an. And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done

by him. So he questioned him at some length; but he made no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then, arraying him in gorgeous apparel, he sent him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.