YEAR 1, PROPER 29, THURSDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

Adapted from The Vocabulary of the Church (1960):

Medes MEEDS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins **A Reading from the Book of Daniel**

Certain men came by agreement and found Daniel making petition and supplication before his God. Then they came near and said before the king, concerning the interdict, "O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that any man who makes petition to any god or man within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?" The king answered, "The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked." Then they answered before the king, "That Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no heed to you, O king, or the interdict you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day." Then the king, when he heard these words, was much distressed, and set his mind to deliver Daniel; and he labored till the sun

went down to rescue him. Then these men came by agreement to the king, and said to the king, "Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance which the king establishes can be changed." Then the king commanded, and Daniel was brought and cast into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you!" And a stone was brought and laid upon the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. Then the king went to his palace, and spent the night fasting; no diversions were brought to him, and sleep fled from him. Then, at break of day, the king arose and went in haste to the den of lions. When he came near to the den where Daniel was, he cried out in a tone of anguish and said to Daniel, "O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?" Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live for ever! My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong." Then the king was exceedingly glad, and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den.

So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of hurt was found upon him, because he had trusted in his God.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 99:1–5

The Reader says Please join me in reading Psalm 99, verses 1 through 5, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 728. (The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

- 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; * his is high above all peoples.
- Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
 he is the Holy One.

- 4 "O mighty King, love 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.

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.	
Reader	Alleluia.
People	Alleluia.
Reader	Blessed is the kingdom of our father
	David that is coming; *
	blessed is he who comes in the name of
	the Lord.
People	Alleluia.

The Reader returns to his or her seat.

The Holy Gospel

The Minister says People Minister The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
✤ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

People

Jesus said to his disciples in the hearing of all the people, "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it; for these are days of vengeance, to fulfil all that is written. Alas for those who are with child and for those who give suck in those days! For great distress shall be upon the earth and wrath upon this people; they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led captive among all nations; and Jerusalem will be trodden down by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and upon the earth distress of nations in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, men fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power

and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.