

YEAR 1, PROPER 29, FRIDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

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

Belshaz'zar

bel-SHAZ-ur

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Book of Daniel

In the first year of Belshaz'zar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, and told the sum of the matter. Daniel said, “I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea. And four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another. The first was like a lion and had eagles’ wings. Then as I looked its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand upon two feet like a man; and the mind of a man was given to it. And behold, another beast, a second one, like a bear. It was raised up on one side; it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth; and it was told, ‘Arise, devour much flesh.’ After this I looked, and lo, another, like a leopard, with four wings of a bird on its back; and the

beast had four heads; and dominion was given to it. After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, terrible and dreadful and exceedingly strong; and it had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns. I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots; and behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things. As I looked, thrones were placed and one that was ancient of days took his seat; his raiment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire issued and came forth from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. I looked then because of the sound of the great words which the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire. As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there

came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.”

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 97:1–6

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 97, verses 1 through 6, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 726.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

- 1 The LORD is King;
 let the earth rejoice; *
 let the multitude of the isles be glad.

- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
 righteousness and justice are the foundations of
 his throne.

The Psalm continues on the following page.

- 3 A fire goes before him *
and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of
the LORD, *
at the presence of the LORD of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.

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

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Minister

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

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

And Jesus told his disciples a parable in the hearing of all the people, “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees; as soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away till all has taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.”

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.