

YEAR 2, PROPER 10, TUESDAY: EVENING PRAYER

A note to be read to the congregation before reading the First Lesson:

To prophesy in this lesson means to dance ecstatically and to be out of one's head, to be turned into another person.

For use with the First Lesson

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

Mi'chal

MIGH-kuhl

Ra'mah

RAY-muh

Nai'oth

NIGH-ahth

Se'cu

SEE-kuu

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the First Book of Samuel

And Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David. But Jonathan, Saul's son, delighted much in David. And Jonathan told David, "Saul my father seeks to kill you; therefore

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1 SAMUEL 19:1–24*; ROMANS 11:13–24

WE INCLUDE 1 SAMUEL 19:19–24 TO HEAR SAUL'S ECSTATIC BEHAVIOR.

take heed to yourself in the morning, stay in a secret place and hide yourself; and I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak to my father about you; and if I learn anything I will tell you.” And Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father, and said to him, “Let not the king sin against his servant David; because he has not sinned against you, and because his deeds have been of good service to you; for he took his life in his hand and he slew the Philistine, and the LORD wrought a great victory for all Israel. You saw it, and rejoiced; why then will you sin against innocent blood by killing David without cause?” And Saul hearkened to the voice of Jonathan; Saul swore, “As the LORD lives, he shall not be put to death.” And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan showed him all these things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as before. And there was war again; and David went out and fought with the Philistines, and made a great slaughter among them, so that they fled before him. Then an evil spirit from the LORD came upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand; and David was playing the lyre. And Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear; but he eluded Saul, so that he struck the spear into the wall. And

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David fled, and escaped. That night Saul sent messengers to David's house to watch him, that he might kill him in the morning. But Mi'chal, David's wife, told him, "If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed." So Mi'chal let David down through the window; and he fled away and escaped. Mi'chal took an image and laid it on the bed and put a pillow of goats' hair at its head, and covered it with the clothes. And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, "He is sick." Then Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying, "Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him." And when the messengers came in, behold, the image was in the bed, with the pillow of goats' hair at its head. Saul said to Mi'chal, "Why have you deceived me thus, and let my enemy go, so that he has escaped?" And Mi'chal answered Saul, "He said to me, 'Let me go; why should I kill you?' " Now David fled and escaped, and he came to Samuel at Ra'mah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and dwelt at Nai'oth. And it was told Saul, "Behold, David is at Nai'oth in Ra'mah." Then Saul sent messengers to take David; and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as head over them, the Spirit of God came upon the

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messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. When it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they also prophesied. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they also prophesied. Then he himself went to Ra'mah, and came to the great well that is in Se'cu; and he asked, "Where are Samuel and David?" And one said, "Behold, they are at Nai'oth in Ra'mah." And he went from there to Nai'oth in Ra'mah; and the Spirit of God came upon him also, and as he went he prophesied, until he came to Nai'oth in Ra'mah. And he too stripped off his clothes, and he too prophesied before Samuel, and lay naked all that day and all that night. Hence it is said, "Is Saul also among the prophets?"

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

The Second Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry in order to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? If the dough offered as

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first fruits is holy, so is the whole lump; and if the root is holy, so are the branches. But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, a wild olive shoot, were grafted in their place to share the richness of the olive tree, do not boast over the branches. If you do boast, remember it is not you that support the root, but the root that supports you. You will say, “Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.” That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast only through faith. So do not become proud, but stand in awe. For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you. Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God’s kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness; otherwise you too will be cut off. And even the others, if they do not persist in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. For if you have been cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these natural branches be grafted back into their own olive tree.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.