

YEAR 2, PROPER 11, THURSDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

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

Ba'al

BAY-uhl

Ke'dar

KEE-dar

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah

The word of the LORD came to me, saying, “Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem, Thus says the LORD, I remember the devotion of your youth, your love as a bride, how you followed me in the wilderness, in a land not sown. Israel was holy to the LORD, the first fruits of his harvest. All who ate of it became guilty; evil came upon them, says the LORD. And I brought you into a plentiful land to enjoy its fruits and its good things. But when you came in you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, ‘Where is the LORD?’ Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Ba'al, and went after things that do not profit. Therefore I still contend with you, says the

LORD, and with your children's children I will contend. For cross to the coasts of Cyprus and see, or send to Ke'dar and examine with care; see if there has been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for that which does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the LORD, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns, that can hold no water."

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 36:5–10

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 36, verses 5 through 10, found in the red Prayer Book on page 632.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

- 5 Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, *
 and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- 6 Your righteousness is like the strong mountains,
 your justice like the great deep; *
 you save both man and beast, O LORD.

- 7 How priceless is your love, O God! *
your people take refuge under the shadow of
your wings.
- 8 They feast upon the abundance of your house; *
you give them drink from the river of your
delights.
- 9 For with you is the well of life, *
and in your light we see light.
- 10 Continue your loving-kindness to those who
know you, *
and your favor to those who are true of heart.

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion.

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
Matthew.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Then the disciples came and said to Jesus, “Why do you speak to them in parables?” And he answered them, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to him who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah which says: ‘You shall indeed hear but never understand, and you shall indeed see but never perceive. For this people’s heart has grown dull, and their ears are heavy of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should perceive with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and turn for me to heal them.’ But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. Truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous men

longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.”

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.