

YEAR 2, PROPER 14, FRIDAY: EVENING PRAYER

For use with the First Lesson

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

It'ta-i	IT-tay-igh
Git'tite	GIT-tight (hard “G”)
Abi'athar	uh-BIGH-uh-thahr
Za'dok	ZAY-dahk
Ahim'a-az	uh-HIM-ay-az
Ahith'ophel	uh-HITH-o-fel
Hu'shai	HUU-shigh

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Second Book of Samuel

Then King David said to It'ta-i the Git'tite, “Why do you also go with us? Go back, and stay with the king; for you are a foreigner, and also an exile from your home. You came only yesterday, and shall I today make you wander about with us, seeing I go I know not where? Go back, and take your brethren with you; and may the LORD show steadfast love and faithfulness to you.” But It'ta-i answered the king, “As the LORD lives, and as my lord the king lives, wherever my lord the king shall be, whether for death or for life,

there also will your servant be.” And David said to It'ta-i, “Go then, pass on.” So It'ta-i the Git'tite passed on, with all his men and all the little ones who were with him. And all the country wept aloud as all the people passed by, and the king crossed the brook Kidron, and all the people passed on toward the wilderness. And Abi'athar came up, and lo, Za'dok came also, with all the Levites, bearing the ark of the covenant of God; and they set down the ark of God, until the people had all passed out of the city. Then the king said to Za'dok, “Carry the ark of God back into the city. If I find favor in the eyes of the LORD, he will bring me back and let me see both it and his habitation; but if he says, ‘I have no pleasure in you,’ behold, here I am, let him do to me what seems good to him.” The king also said to Za'dok the priest, “Look, go back to the city in peace, you and Abi'athar, with your two sons, Ahim'a-az your son, and Jonathan the son of Abi'athar. See, I will wait at the fords of the wilderness, until word comes from you to inform me.” So Za'dok and Abi'athar carried the ark of God back to Jerusalem; and they remained there. But David went up the ascent of the Mount of Olives, weeping as he went, barefoot and with his head covered; and all the people who were with him covered their heads, and they went up, weeping as they went. And it was told

David, “Ahith'ophel is among the conspirators with Ab'salom.” And David said, “O LORD, I pray thee, turn the counsel of Ahith'ophel into foolishness.”

When David came to the summit, where God was worshiped, behold, Hu'shai the Archite came to meet him with his coat rent and earth upon his head. David said to him, “If you go on with me, you will be a burden to me. But if you return to the city, and say to Ab'salom, ‘I will be your servant, O king; as I have been your father’s servant in time past, so now I will be your servant,’ then you will defeat for me the counsel of Ahith'ophel. Are not Za'dok and Abi'athar the priests with you there? So whatever you hear from the king’s house, tell it to Za'dok and Abi'athar the priests. Behold, their two sons are with them there, Ahim'a-az, Za'dok’s son, and Jonathan, Abi'athar’s son; and by them you shall send to me everything you hear.” So Hu'shai, David’s friend, came into the city, just as Ab'salom was entering Jerusalem.

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

The Second Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Stephen said to the high priest and to the council:

“But as the time of the promise drew near, which God

had granted to Abraham, the people grew and multiplied in Egypt till there arose over Egypt another king who had not known Joseph. He dealt craftily with our race and forced our fathers to expose their infants, that they might not be kept alive. At this time Moses was born, and was beautiful before God. And he was brought up for three months in his father's house; and when he was exposed, Pharaoh's daughter adopted him and brought him up as her own son. And Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was mighty in his words and deeds. When he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the sons of Israel. And seeing one of them being wronged, he defended the oppressed man and avenged him by striking the Egyptian. He supposed that his brethren understood that God was giving them deliverance by his hand, but they did not understand. And on the following day he appeared to them as they were quarreling and would have reconciled them, saying, 'Men, you are brethren, why do you wrong each other?' But the man who was wronging his neighbor thrust him aside, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us? Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?' At this

retort Moses fled, and became an exile in the land of Mid'ian, where he became the father of two sons.”

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.