

YEAR 2, PROPER 16, MONDAY: EVENING PRAYER

For use with the First Lesson

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

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|-------------|-------------------------|
| Ab'ishag | AB-i-shag |
| Shu'nammite | SHUU-nuh-might |
| Adoni'jah | ad-oh-NIGH-juh |
| Zerui'ah | zer-ruu-IGH-uh |
| Abi'athar | uh-BIGH-uh-thahr |
| Za'dok | ZAY-dahk |
| Benai'ah | buh-NIGH-uh |
| Jehoi'ada | ji-HOY-uh-duh |
| Shim'e-i, | SHIM-e-igh |
| Re'i | REE-igh |
| En-ro'gel | en-ROH-guhl |
| obeisance | oh-BAY-sens/oh-BEE-sens |

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the First Book of the Kings

Now King David was old and advanced in years; and although they covered him with clothes, he could not get warm. Therefore his servants said to him, “Let a young maiden be sought for my lord the king, and let

YEAR 2, PROPER 16, MONDAY: EVENING PRAYER
1 KINGS 1:1–31*; ACTS 9:19B–31

WE INCLUDE 1 KINGS 1:1–4 TO HEAR THE BEGINNING OF DAVID’S RELATIONSHIP WITH ABISHAG.

her wait upon the king, and be his nurse; let her lie in your bosom, that my lord the king may be warm.” So they sought for a beautiful maiden throughout all the territory of Israel, and found Ab'ishag the Shu'nammite, and brought her to the king. The maiden was very beautiful; and she became the king's nurse and ministered to him; but the king knew her not. Now Adoni'jah the son of Hag'gith exalted himself, saying, “I will be king”; and he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him. His father had never at any time displeased him by asking, “Why have you done thus and so?” He was also a very handsome man; and he was born next after Ab'salom. He conferred with Jo'ab the son of Zeru'iah and with Abi'athar the priest; and they followed Adoni'jah and helped him. But Za'dok the priest, and Benai'ah the son of Jehoi'ada, and Nathan the prophet, and Shim'e-i, and Re'i, and David's mighty men were not with Adoni'jah. Adoni'jah sacrificed sheep, oxen, and fatlings by the Serpent's Stone, which is beside En-ro'gel, and he invited all his brothers, the king's sons, and all the royal officials of Judah, but he did not invite Nathan the prophet or Benai'ah or the mighty men or Solomon his brother. Then Nathan said to Bathshe'ba

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the mother of Solomon, “Have you not heard that Adoni'jah the son of Hag'gith has become king and David our lord does not know it? Now therefore come, let me give you counsel, that you may save your own life and the life of your son Solomon. Go in at once to King David, and say to him, ‘Did you not, my lord the king, swear to your maidservant, saying, “Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne”? Why then is Adoni'jah king?’ Then while you are still speaking with the king, I also will come in after you and confirm your words.” So Bathshe'ba went to the king into his chamber (now the king was very old, and Ab'ishag the Shu'nammite was ministering to the king). Bathshe'ba bowed and did obeisance to the king, and the king said, “What do you desire?” She said to him, “My lord, you swore to your maidservant by the LORD your God, saying, ‘Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne.’ And now, behold, Adoni'jah is king, although you, my lord the king, do not know it. He has sacrificed oxen, fatlings, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the sons of the king, Abi'athar the priest, and Jo'ab the commander of the army; but Solomon your servant he has not invited. And now, my lord the king, the eyes of all Israel are upon you, to

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tell them who shall sit on the throne of my lord the king after him. Otherwise it will come to pass, when my lord the king sleeps with his fathers, that I and my son Solomon will be counted offenders.” While she was still speaking with the king, Nathan the prophet came in. And they told the king, “Here is Nathan the prophet.” And when he came in before the king, he bowed before the king, with his face to the ground. And Nathan said, “My lord the king, have you said, ‘Adoni’jah shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne’? For he has gone down this day, and has sacrificed oxen, fatlings, and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the king’s sons, Jo’ab the commander of the army, and Abi’athar the priest; and behold, they are eating and drinking before him, and saying, ‘Long live King Adoni’jah!’ But me, your servant, and Za’dok the priest, and Benai’ah the son of Jehoi’ada, and your servant Solomon, he has not invited. Has this thing been brought about by my lord the king and you have not told your servants who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?” Then King David answered, “Call Bathshe’ba to me.” So she came into the king’s presence, and stood before the king. And the king swore, saying, “As the LORD lives, who has redeemed my soul out of every adversity, as I swore to

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you by the LORD, the God of Israel, saying, ‘Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne in my stead’; even so will I do this day.” Then Bathshe'ba bowed with her face to the ground, and did obeisance to the king, and said, “May my lord King David live for ever!”

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

For use with the Second Lesson

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

Caesare'a

ses-uh-REE-uh

Jude'a

juu-DEE-uh

The Second Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

For several days Saul was with the disciples at Damascus. And in the synagogues immediately he proclaimed Jesus, saying, “He is the Son of God.” And all who heard him were amazed, and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called on this name? And he has come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief

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priests.” But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ. When many days had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him, but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night, to kill him; but his disciples took him by night and let him down over the wall, lowering him in a basket. And when he had come to Jerusalem he attempted to join the disciples; and they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus. So he went in and out among them at Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord. And he spoke and disputed against the Hellenists; but they were seeking to kill him. And when the brethren knew it, they brought him down to Caesare'a, and sent him off to Tarsus. So the church throughout all Jude'a and Galilee and Sama'ria had peace and was built up; and walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit it was multiplied.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

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