

YEAR 2, PROPER 21, WEDNESDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

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

Plei'ades

PLEE-uh-deez

Ra'hab

RAY-hab

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Book of Job

Job answered his friends: “Truly I know that it is so: But how can a man be just before God? If one wished to contend with him, one could not answer him once in a thousand times. He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength—who has hardened himself against him, and succeeded?—he who removes mountains, and they know it not, when he overturns them in his anger; who shakes the earth out of its place, and its pillars tremble; who commands the sun, and it does not rise; who seals up the stars; who alone stretched out the heavens, and trampled the waves of the sea; who made the Bear and Orion, the Plei'ades and the chambers of the south; who does great things beyond understanding, and marvelous things without number. Lo, he passes by me, and I see him not; he moves on,

but I do not perceive him. Behold, he snatches away; who can hinder him? Who will say to him, ‘What doest thou?’ God will not turn back his anger; beneath him bowed the helpers of Ra’hab. How then can I answer him, choosing my words with him? Though I am innocent, I cannot answer him; I must appeal for mercy to my accuser. If I summoned him and he answered me, I would not believe that he was listening to my voice.”

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 88:10–15

At Said Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 88, verses 10 through 15, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 712.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 88 as found in the service bulletin.

10 My sight has failed me because of trouble; *
LORD, I have called upon you daily;
I have stretched out my hands to you.

- 11 Do you work wonders for the dead? *
will those who have died stand up and give you
thanks?
- 12 Will your loving-kindness be declared in the
grave? *
your faithfulness in the land of destruction?
- 13 Will your wonders be known in the dark? *
or your righteousness in the country where all is
forgotten?
- 14 But as for me, O LORD, I cry to you for help; *
in the morning my prayer comes before you.
- 15 LORD, why have you rejected me? *
why have you hidden your face from me?

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader Give me understanding, O Lord, *
and I shall keep your law with all my
heart.

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.

As they were going along the road, a man said to Jesus, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." But he said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” Jesus said to him, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.