

YEAR 2, PROPER 25, SATURDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

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

praetorium

pri-TOR-ee-uhm

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the

Letter of Paul to the Philippians

I want you to know, brethren, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ; and most of the brethren have been made confident in the Lord because of my imprisonment, and are much more bold to speak the word of God without fear. Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel; the former proclaim Christ out of partisanship, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. What then? Only that in every

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PHILIPPIANS 1:12–30*; PSALM 42:1–7; LUKE 14:1, 7–11

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way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I shall rejoice. For I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, as it is my eager expectation and hope that I shall not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If it is to be life in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again. Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you stand firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear omen to them of their destruction, but of your

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salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict which you saw and now hear to be mine.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 42:1–7

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 42, verses 1 through 7, found in the red Prayer Book on page 643.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

- 1 As the deer longs for the water-brooks, *
 so longs my soul for you, O God.

- 2 My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living
 God: *
 when shall I come to appear before the presence
 of God?

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- 3 My tears have been my food day and night, *
while all day long they say to me,
“Where now is your God?”
- 4 I pour out my soul when I think on these things; *
how I went with the multitude and led them into
the house of God,
- 5 With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, *
among those who keep holy-day.
- 6 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
and why are you so disquieted within me?
- 7 Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my
God.

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The Gospel 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 Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

One sabbath when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler who belonged to the Pharisees, they were watching him. Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he marked how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, “When you are invited by any one to a marriage feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest a more eminent man than you be invited by him; and he who invited you both will

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come and say to you, ‘Give place to this man,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, go up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For every one who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.

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