

## YEAR B, PROPER 4, SUNDAY: MASS

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from Deuteronomy**

The LORD said these words to all Israel: “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain: for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

Observe the sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, or your

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DEUTERONOMY 5:1–21; PSALM 81:1–10; 2 CORINTHIANS 4:5–12; MARK 2:23–3:6\*

*WE INCLUDE MARK 3:1–6 TO HEAR THE BEGINNING OF THE PLOT TO “DESTROY JESUS.”*

manservant, or your maidservant, or your ox, or your ass, or any of your cattle, or the sojourner who is within your gates, that your manservant and your maidservant may rest as well as you. You shall remember that you were a servant in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out thence with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day. Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God commanded you; that your days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with you, in the land which the LORD your God gives you. You shall not kill. Neither shall you commit adultery. Neither shall you steal. Neither shall you bear false witness against your neighbor. Neither shall you covet your neighbor's wife; and you shall not desire your neighbor's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's."

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.

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## **Psalm 81:1–10**

*The Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 81, verses 1 through 10, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 704.

*(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)*

1. Sing with joy to God our strength \*  
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.
2. Raise a song and sound the timbrel, \*  
the merry harp, and the lyre.
3. Blow the ram's-horn at the new moon, \*  
and at the full moon, the day of our feast.
4. For this is a statute for Israel, \*  
a law of the God of Jacob.
5. He laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph, \*  
when he came out of the land of Egypt.
6. I heard an unfamiliar voice saying, \*  
“I eased his shoulder from the burden;  
his hands were set free from bearing the load.”

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7. You called on me in trouble, and I saved you; \*  
I answered you from the secret place of thunder  
and tested you at the waters of Meribah.
8. Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you: \*  
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!
9. There shall be no strange god among you; \*  
you shall not worship a foreign god.
10. I am the LORD your God,  
who brought you out of the land of Egypt and  
said, \*  
“Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.”

*The Second Lesson. The Reader begins*

## **A Reading from the**

### **Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels,

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to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

*The Reader concludes*                      The Word of the Lord.

## **The Gospel Acclamation**

*The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

*Reader*                      Alleluia.

*People*                      Alleluia.

*Reader*                      Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; \*  
  proclaim the good news of his salvation  
  from day to day.

*People*                      Alleluia.

*The Reader returns to his or her seat.*

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## 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 Mark.

*People*

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

On a sabbath Jesus and his disciples were going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. And the Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?” And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him: how he entered the house of God, when Abi'athar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?” And he said to them, “The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath; so the Son of man is lord even of the sabbath.” Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. And they watched him, to see whether he would heal him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. And he said to the man who had the withered hand, “Come here.” And he said to them, “Is it lawful on the

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sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?” But they were silent. And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. The Pharisees went out, and immediately held counsel with the Hero'di-ans against him, how to destroy him.  
*The Minister says*            The Gospel of the Lord.

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