

YEAR C, PROPER 15, SUNDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

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

Ba'al

prophecy

BAY-uhl

PRAH-fi-sigh

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah

Thus says the Lord of hosts: “Am I a God at hand, says the LORD, and not a God afar off? Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophecy lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophecy lies, and who prophecy the deceit of their own heart, who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams which they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Ba'al? Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word

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JEREMIAH 23:23–29; PSALM 82; HEBREWS 12:1–7, 11–14*; LUKE 12:49–59*

WE DO NOT INCLUDE THE SUGGESTED LENGTHENING FOR THE SECOND LESSON BECAUSE WE PREFER TO INCLUDE LUKE 12:57–59 WITH THE APPOINTED GOSPEL.

Speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer which breaks the rock in pieces?”

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 82

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 82, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 705.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

- 1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven; *
he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:
- 2 “How long will you judge unjustly, *
and show favor to the wicked?
- 3 Save the weak and the orphan; *
defend the humble and needy;
- 4 Rescue the weak and the poor; *
deliver them from the power of the wicked.

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- 5 They do not know, neither do they understand;
they go about in darkness; *
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- 6 Now I say to you, ‘You are gods, *
and all of you children of the Most High;
- 7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, *
and fall like any prince.’ ”
- 8 Arise, O God, and rule the earth, *
for you shall take all nations for your own.

The Second Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from

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sinner such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation which addresses you as sons?—"My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor lose courage when you are punished by him. For the Lord disciplines him whom he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant; later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. Strive for peace with all men, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

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The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader Show me your ways, O Lord; *
lead me in your truth and teach me.

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.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how I am constrained until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division; for henceforth in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against

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three; they will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against her mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.” He also said to the multitudes, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming’; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat’; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky; but why do you not know how to interpret the present time? And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? As you go with your accuser before the magistrate, make an effort to settle with him on the way, lest he drag you to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer put you in prison. I tell you, you will never get out till you have paid the very last copper.”

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.

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