

## LENT 2, WEDNESDAY: MASS

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah**

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD:

“Arise, and go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. And the vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to do. Then the word of the LORD came to me: “O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter has done? says the LORD. Behold, like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will repent of the evil that I intended to do to it. And if at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, and if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will repent of the good which I had intended to do to it.

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JEREMIAH 18:1–12\*; PSALM 31:9–16; JOHN 8:12 (NRSV); MATTHEW 20:17–28

*THE ENTIRE PASSAGE OF THE ALLEGORY OF THE POTTER IS READ AND THE BEGINNING OF JEREMIAH’S LAMENT IS OMITTED.*

Now, therefore, say to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: ‘Thus says the LORD, Behold, I am shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Return, every one from his evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.’ But they say, ‘That is in vain! We will follow our own plans, and will every one act according to the stubbornness of his evil heart.’ ”

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.

### **Psalm 31:9–16**

*At Said Mass the Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 31, verses 9 through 16, found in the red Prayer Book on page 623.

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

*At Sung Mass the Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 31 as found in the service bulletin.

9 Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;\*  
my eye is consumed with sorrow,  
and also my throat and my belly.

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- 10 For my life is wasted with grief,  
and my years with sighing; \*  
my strength fails me because of affliction,  
and my bones are consumed.
- 11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and  
even to my neighbors,  
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; \*  
when they see me in the street they avoid me.
- 12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \*  
I am as useless as a broken pot.
- 13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;  
fear is all around; \*  
they put their heads together against me;  
they plot to take my life.
- 14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. \*  
I have said, “You are my God.
- 15 My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.

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16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me.”

## **Verse before the Gospel**

*The Reader reads the appointed verse before the Gospel.*

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world; \*  
whoever follows me will have the light of life.”

*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  
Matthew.

*People*

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way he said to them, “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes,

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and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles to be mocked and scourged and crucified, and he will be raised on the third day.” Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him, with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. And he said to her, “What do you want?” She said to him, “Command that these two sons of mine may sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.” But Jesus answered, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?” They said to him, “We are able.” He said to them, “You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.” And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave; even as the Son of man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

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*The Minister says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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