

## LENT 5, THURSDAY: MASS

### For use with the First Lesson

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

A'bram

AY-bruhm

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from Genesis**

When A'bram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to A'bram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.” Then A'bram fell on his face; and God said to him, “Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be A'bram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come forth from you. And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your

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GENESIS 17:1–14\*; PSALM 105:4–11; PSALM 95:7; JOHN 8:43–59\*

*WE INCLUDE GENESIS 17:9–14 TO HEAR THAT TO KEEP THIS COVENANT IS TO PRACTICE CIRCUMCISION.*

*WE INCLUDE JOHN 8:43–50 TO HEAR JESUS' WORDS ABOUT THE UNBELIEVING JUDEANS BEING THE CHILDREN OF THE DEVIL.*

descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you. And I will give to you, and to your descendants after you, the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.” And God said to Abraham, “As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations. This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your descendants after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. He that is eight days old among you shall be circumcised; every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house, or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring, both he that is born in your house and he that is bought with your money, shall be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant. Any uncircumcised male who is not

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circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.”

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.

## **Psalm 105:4–11**

*The Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 105, verses 4 through 11, found in the red Prayer Book on page 738.

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

- 4 Search for the LORD and his strength; \*  
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*  
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 7 He is the LORD our God; \*  
his judgments prevail in all the world.

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- 8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, \*  
the promise he made for a thousand generations:
- 9 The covenant he made with Abraham, \*  
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
- 10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, \*  
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
- 11 Saying, “To you will I give the land of Canaan \*  
to be your allotted inheritance.”

### **Verse before the Gospel**

*The Reader reads the appointed verse.*

We are the people of God’s pasture and the sheep  
of God’s hand. \*

Oh, that today you would hearken to God’s  
voice!”

*The Reader then 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 John.

*People*

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the Jews, “Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies. But, because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. Which of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? He who is of God hears the words of God; the reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.” The Jews answered him, “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” Jesus answered, “I have not a demon; but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it and he will be the

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judge. Truly, truly, I say to you, if any one keeps my word, he will never see death.” The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon. Abraham died, as did the prophets; and you say, ‘If any one keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you claim to be?” Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing; it is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say that he is your God. But you have not known him; I know him. If I said, I do not know him, I should be a liar like you; but I do know him and I keep his word. Your father Abraham rejoiced that he was to see my day; he saw it and was glad.” The Jews then said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” So they took up stones to throw at him; but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple.

*The Minister says*            The Gospel of the Lord.

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