

LENT 5, FRIDAY: MASS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah

O LORD, thou hast deceived me, and I was deceived; thou art stronger than I, and thou hast prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all the day; every one mocks me. For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, “Violence and destruction!” For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, “I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name,” there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. For I hear many whispering. Terror is on every side! “Denounce him! Let us denounce him!” say all my familiar friends, watching for my fall. “Perhaps he will be deceived, then we can overcome him, and take our revenge on him.” But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. O LORD of hosts, who triest the righteous, who seest the heart and the mind, let me see thy vengeance upon them, for to thee have I committed

my cause. Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 18: 1–7

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 18, verses 1 through 7, found in the red Prayer Book on page 602.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

- 1 I love you, O LORD my strength, *
O LORD my stronghold, my crag, and my haven.
- 2 My God, my rock in whom I put my trust, *
my shield, the horn of my salvation, and my
refuge;
you are worthy of praise.
- 3 I will call upon the LORD, *
and so shall I be saved from my enemies.
- 4 The breakers of death rolled over me, *
and the torrents of oblivion made me afraid.

- 5 The cords of hell entangled me, *
and the snares of death were set for me.
- 6 I called upon the LORD in my distress *
and cried out to my God for help.
- 7 He heard my voice from his heavenly dwelling; *
my cry of anguish came to his ears.

Verse before the Gospel

The Reader reads the appointed verse.

It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh is of no
avail; *
the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and
and life.

The Reader then returns to his or her seat.

Please turn the page to the Gospel Lesson.

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.

The Jews took up stones again to stone Jesus. Jesus answered them, “I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of these do you stone me?”

The Jews answered him, “It is not for a good work that we stone you but for blasphemy; because you, being a man, make yourself God.” Jesus answered them, “Is it not written in your law, ‘I said, you are gods’? If he called them gods to whom the word of God came (and scripture cannot be broken), do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’? If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me; but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.” Again they tried to arrest him, but he escaped from their hands. He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John at first baptized, and there he remained. And many came to him; and they said, “John did no sign, but everything

that John said about this man was true.” And many believed in him there.

The Minister says The Gospel of the Lord.