

## YEAR 1, DECEMBER 29: EVENING PRAYER

### For use with the First Lesson

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

Adul'lam

uh-DUHL-uhm

Reph'aim

REF-ay-im

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from the Second Book of Samuel**

And three of the thirty chief men went down, and came about harvest time to David at the cave of Adul'lam, when a band of Philistines was encamped in the valley of Reph'aim. David was then in the stronghold; and the garrison of the Philistines was then at Bethlehem. And David said longingly, “O that some one would give me water to drink from the well of Bethlehem which is by the gate!” Then the three mighty men broke through the camp of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem which was by the gate, and took and brought it to David. But he would not drink of it; he poured it out to the LORD, and said, “Far be it from me, O LORD, that I should do this. Shall I drink the blood of the men who

went at the risk of their lives?” Therefore he would not drink it. These things did the three mighty men.

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.

*The Second Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from the Gospel according to John**

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, “If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.’ ” Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, some of the people said, “This is really the prophet.” Others said, “This is the Christ.” But some said, “Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?” So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, “Why did you not bring him?” The officers answered, “No man ever spoke like this man!” The Pharisees answered them,

“Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed.” Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, “Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?” They replied, “Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee.”

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.