

**YEAR 1, LENT 1, SUNDAY:  
EVENSONG & BENEDICTION**

**For use with the First Lesson**

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

Dari'us	duh-RIGH-uhs
Ahasu-e'rus	uh-haz-yuu-EE-ruhs
Mede	MEED
Chalde'ans	kal-DEE-uhns

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

**A Reading from the Book of Daniel**

In the first year of Dari'us the son of Ahasu-e'rus, by birth a Mede, who became king over the realm of the Chalde'ans—in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, perceived in the books the number of years which, according to the word of the LORD to Jeremiah the prophet, must pass before the end of the desolations of Jerusalem, namely, seventy years. Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and supplications with fasting and sackcloth and ashes. I prayed to the LORD my God and made confession, saying, “O Lord, the great and terrible God, who

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keepest covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from thy commandments and ordinances; we have not listened to thy servants the prophets, who spoke in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land. To thee, O Lord, belongs righteousness, but to us confusion of face, as at this day, to the men of Judah, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to all Israel, those that are near and those that are far away, in all the lands to which thou hast driven them, because of the treachery which they have committed against thee. To us, O Lord, belongs confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee. To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness; because we have rebelled against him, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God by following his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets.”

*The Reader concludes*    The Word of the Lord.

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*The Second Lesson. The Reader begins*

**A Reading from the Gospel according to Mark**

Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to Jesus, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" And Jesus said to them, "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. The days will come, when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day. No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; if he does, the patch tears away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; if he does, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but new wine is for fresh skins."

*The Reader concludes*    The Word of the Lord.

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*At Eucharistic Benediction. The Reader begins*

**A Reading from the**

**Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God, who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not in a written code but in the Spirit; for the written code kills, but the Spirit gives life.

*No concluding versicle is added after the reading at Benediction.*

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