

YEAR 1, PROPER 14, SUNDAY, MORNING PRAYER

For use with the First Lesson

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

Ta'mar

TAY-mar

Jon'adab

JAHN-uh-dab

Shim'e-ah

SHIM-i-uh

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Second Book of Samuel

Now Ab'salom, David's son, had a beautiful sister, whose name was Ta'mar; and after a time Am'non, David's son, loved her. And Am'non was so tormented that he made himself ill because of his sister Ta'mar; for she was a virgin, and it seemed impossible to Am'non to do anything to her. But Am'non had a friend, whose name was Jon'adab, the son of Shim'e-ah, David's brother; and Jon'adab was a very crafty man. And he said to him, "O son of the king, why are you so haggard morning after morning? Will you not tell me?" Am'non said to him, "I love Ta'mar, my brother Ab'salom's sister." Jon'adab said to him, "Lie down on your bed, and pretend to be ill; and when your father comes to see you, say to him, 'Let my sister

Ta'mar come and give me bread to eat, and prepare the food in my sight, that I may see it, and eat it from her hand.' ” So Am'non lay down, and pretended to be ill; and when the king came to see him, Am'non said to the king, “Pray let my sister Ta'mar come and make a couple of cakes in my sight, that I may eat from her hand.” Then David sent home to Ta'mar, saying, “Go to your brother Am'non's house, and prepare food for him.” So Ta'mar went to her brother Am'non's house, where he was lying down. And she took dough, and kneaded it, and made cakes in his sight, and baked the cakes. And she took the pan and emptied it out before him, but he refused to eat. And Am'non said, “Send out every one from me.” So every one went out from him. Then Am'non said to Ta'mar, “Bring the food into the chamber, that I may eat from your hand.” And Ta'mar took the cakes she had made, and brought them into the chamber to Am'non her brother. But when she brought them near him to eat, he took hold of her, and said to her, “Come, lie with me, my sister.” She answered him, “No, my brother, do not force me; for such a thing is not done in Israel; do not do this wanton folly. As for me, where could I carry my shame? And as for you, you would be as one of the wanton fools in Israel. Now therefore, I pray you, speak to the king; for he will not withhold me from

you.” But he would not listen to her; and being stronger than she, he forced her, and lay with her. Then Am'non hated her with very great hatred; so that the hatred with which he hated her was greater than the love with which he had loved her. And Am'non said to her, “Arise, be gone.” But she said to him, “No, my brother; for this wrong in sending me away is greater than the other which you did to me.” But he would not listen to her. He called the young man who served him and said, “Put this woman out of my presence, and bolt the door after her.” Now she was wearing a long robe with sleeves; for thus were the virgin daughters of the king clad of old. So his servant put her out, and bolted the door after her. And Ta'mar put ashes on her head, and rent the long robe which she wore; and she laid her hand on her head, and went away, crying aloud as she went. And her brother Ab'salom said to her, “Has Am'non your brother been with you? Now hold your peace, my sister; he is your brother; do not take this to heart.” So Ta'mar dwelt, a desolate woman, in her brother Ab'salom's house. When King David heard of all these things, he was very angry. But Ab'salom spoke to Am'non neither

good nor bad; for Ab'salom hated Am'non, because he had forced his sister Ta'mar.

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

The Second Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, “The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me.” For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God’s truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will praise thee

among the Gentiles, and sing to thy name”; and again it is said, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; and again, “Praise the Lord, all Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; and further Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, he who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles hope.” May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.