

YEAR B, EPIPHANY 6, SUNDAY: MASS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Second Book of the Kings

Na'aman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little maid from the land of Israel, and she waited on Na'aman's wife. She said to her mistress, "Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Sama'ria! He would cure him of his leprosy." So Na'aman went in and told his lord, "Thus and so spoke the maiden from the land of Israel." And the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So he went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten festal garments. And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you Na'aman my servant, that you may cure him of his leprosy." And when the king of Israel read the letter, he rent his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Only

consider, and see how he is seeking a quarrel with me.” But when Eli'sha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, “Why have you rent your clothes? Let him come now to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel.” So Na'aman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the door of Eli'sha's house. And Eli'sha sent a messenger to him, saying, “Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean.” But Na'aman was angry, and went away, saying, “Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place, and cure the leper. Are not Aba'na and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?” So he turned and went away in a rage. But his servants came near and said to him, “My father, if the prophet had commanded you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much rather, then, when he says to you, ‘Wash, and be clean?’” So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood

before him; and he said, “Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel.”

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 42:1–7

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 42, verses 1 through 7, found in the red Prayer Book on page 643.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

- 1 As the deer longs for the water-brooks, *
 so longs my soul for you, O God.
- 2 My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living
 God; *
 when shall I come to appear before the presence
 of God?
- 3 My tears have been my food day and night, *
 while all day long they say to me,
 “Where now is your God?”
- 4 I pour out my soul when I think on these things; *
 how I went with the multitude and led them into
 the house of God,
- 5 With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, *

among those who keep holy-day.

6 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
and why are you so disquieted within me?

7 Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my
God.

The Second Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the

First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. Well, I do not run aimlessly, I do not box as one beating the air; but I pommel my body and subdue it, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

The Reader says

Please stand for the Gospel.

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader The commandments of the Lord are
sure; *

they stand fast for ever and ever.

People Alleluia.

The Reader returns to his or her seat.

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 Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

A leper came to Jesus beseeching him, and kneeling
said to him, "If you will, you can make me clean."

Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand and
touched him, and said to him, "I will; be clean." And
immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made
clean. And he sternly charged him, and sent him away

at once, and said to him, “See that you say nothing to any one; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, for a proof to the people.” But he went out and began to talk freely about it, and to spread the news, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter a town, but was out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.