

## YEAR B, LENT 4, SUNDAY: MASS

### For use with the First Lesson

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

Zedeki'ah	zed-uh-KIGH-uh
Nebuchadnezzar	ne-buh-kuhd-NEZ-ur
Chalde'ans	kal-DEE-uhns

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

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

Zedeki'ah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD his God. He did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet, who spoke from the mouth of the LORD. He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God; he stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the LORD, the God of Israel. All the leading priests and the people were exceedingly unfaithful, following all the abominations of the nations; and they polluted the house of the LORD which he had hallowed in Jerusalem. The LORD,

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2 CHRONICLES 36:11–23\*; PSALM 122; EPHESIANS 2:4–10; JOHN 6:51 (NRSV); JOHN 6:4–15

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the God of their fathers, sent persistently to them by his messengers, because he had compassion on his people and on his dwelling place; but they kept mocking the messengers of God, despising his words, and scoffing at his prophets, till the wrath of the LORD rose against his people, till there was no remedy. Therefore he brought up against them the king of the Chalde'ans, who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion on young man or virgin, old man or aged; he gave them all into his hand. And all the vessels of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king and of his princes, all these he brought to Babylon. And they burned the house of God, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem, and burned all its palaces with fire, and destroyed all its precious vessels. He took into exile in Babylon those who had escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and to his sons until the establishment of the kingdom of Persia, to fulfil the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its sabbaths. All the days that it lay desolate it kept sabbath, to fulfil seventy years. Now in the first year of Cyrus king of

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Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and also put it in writing: “Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, ‘The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever is among you of all his people, may the LORD his God be with him. Let him go up.’”

*The Reader concludes*                      The Word of the Lord.

## **Psalm 122**

*The Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 122, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 779.

*(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)*

- 1    I was glad when they said to me, \*  
      “Let us go to the house of the LORD.”
  
- 2    Now our feet are standing \*  
      within your gates, O Jerusalem.

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- 3 Jerusalem is built as a city \*  
that is at unity with itself;
- 4 To which the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the LORD, \*  
the assembly of Israel,  
to praise the Name of the LORD.
- 5 For there are the thrones of judgment, \*  
the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: \*  
“May they prosper who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your walls \*  
and quietness within your towers.
- 8 For my brethren and companions’ sake, \*  
I pray for your prosperity.
- 9 Because of the house of the LORD our God, \*  
I will seek to do you good.”

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*The Second Lesson. The Reader begins*

**A Reading from the**

**Letter of Paul to the Ephesians**

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God—not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.

*Please turn the page and read the Verse before the Gospel.*

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## Verse before the Gospel

*The Reader reads the appointed verse before the Gospel.*

One does not live by bread alone, \*  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of  
God.

*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 John.

*People*

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a multitude was coming to him, Jesus said to Philip, “How are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?” This he said to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. Philip answered him, “Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother,

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said to him, “There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what are they among so many?” Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was much grass in the place; so the men sat down, in number about five thousand. Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, that nothing may be lost.” So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten. When the people saw the sign which he had done, they said, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world!” Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

*The Minister says*            The Gospel of the Lord.

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