

## LENT 4, WEDNESDAY: MASS

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from the Book of Isaiah**

Thus says the LORD: “In a time of favor I have answered you, in a day of salvation I have helped you; I have kept you and given you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages; saying to the prisoners, ‘Come forth,’ to those who are in darkness, ‘Appear.’ They shall feed along the ways, on all bare heights shall be their pasture; they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall smite them, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be raised up. Lo, these shall come from afar, and lo, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene.” Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the LORD has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his afflicted. But Zion said, “The LORD has forsaken me, my Lord has forgotten me.” “Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should have

no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.”

*The Reader concludes*                      The Word of the Lord.

## **Psalm 145:8–19**

*At Said Mass the Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 145, verses 8 through 19, found in the red Prayer Book on page 802.

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

*At Sung Mass the Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 145, as found in the service bulletin.

8    The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, \*  
      slow to anger and of great kindness.

9    The LORD is loving to everyone \*  
      and his compassion is over all his works.

10   All your works praise you, O LORD, \*  
      and your faithful servants bless you.

11   They make known the glory of your kingdom \*  
      and speak of your power;

- 12 That the peoples may know of your power \*  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; \*  
your dominion endures throughout all ages.
- 14 The LORD is faithful in all his words \*  
and merciful in all his deeds.
- 15 The LORD upholds all those who fall; \*  
he lifts up those who are bowed down.
- 16 The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, \*  
and you give them their food in due season.
- 17 You open wide your hand \*  
and satisfy the needs of every living creature.
- 18 The LORD is righteous in all his ways \*  
and loving in all his works.
19. The LORD is near to those who call upon him, \*  
to all who call upon him faithfully.

*In Lent there is no verse before the Gospel. The Reader says  
Please stand for the Gospel.*

*The Reader then 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.

Jesus said to the Jews, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever he does, that the Son does likewise. For the Father loves the Son, and shows him all that he himself is doing; and greater works than these will he show him, that you may marvel. For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. The Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me, has eternal life; he does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. Truly, truly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God,

and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself, and has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of man. Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come forth, those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment.”

*The Minister says*            The Gospel of the Lord.