

**MARCH 23, GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR,
BISHOP AND MISSIONARY OF ARMENIA, C. 332:
MASS**

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Paul, standing in the middle of the Areopagus, said:
“Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along, and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all men life and breath and everything. And he made from one every nation of men to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their habitation, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel after him and find him. Yet he is not far from each one of us, for ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your poets have said, ‘For we are indeed his offspring.’ Being then God’s offspring, we ought not

to think that the Deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, a representation by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all men everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all men by raising him from the dead.”

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 33: 6–11

At Said Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 33, verses 6 through 11, found in the red Prayer Book on page 626.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 33 as found in the service bulletin.

6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens
made,*
by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts.

- 7 He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a
water-skin *
and stores up the depths of the sea.
- 8 Let all the earth fear the LORD; *
let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of
him.
- 9 For he spoke, and it came to pass; *
he commanded, and it stood fast.
- 10 The LORD brings the will of the nations to
naught; *
he thwarts the designs of the peoples.
- 11 But the LORD'S will stands fast for ever, *
and the designs of his heart from age to age.

In Lent:

There is no verse before the Gospel. The Reader says
Please stand for the Gospel.

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
Matthew.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you. You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trodden under foot by men. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.