The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from Ecclesiasticus

While I was still young, before I went on my travels, I sought wisdom openly in my prayer. Before the temple I asked for her, and I will search for her to the last. From blossom to ripening grape my heart delighted in her; my foot entered upon the straight path; from my youth I followed her steps. I inclined my ear a little and received her, and I found for myself much instruction. I made progress therein; to him who gives me wisdom I will give glory. For I resolved to live according to wisdom, and I was zealous for the good; and I shall never be put to shame. My soul grappled with wisdom, and in my conduct I was strict; I spread out my hands to the heavens, and lamented...
my ignorance of her. I directed my soul to her, and through purification I found her. I gained understanding with her from the first, therefore I will not be forsaken. My heart was stirred to seek her, therefore I have gained a good possession. The Lord gave me a tongue as my reward, and I will praise him with it.

The Reader concludes  The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 119:97–104

At Said Mass the Reader says
Please join me in reading Psalm 119, verses 97 through 104, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 771.
(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says
Please join me in reading Psalm 119 as found in the service bulletin.

97  Oh, how I love your law! *
    all the day long it is in my mind.
98 Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies, *  
   and it is always with me.

99 I have more understanding than all my teachers, *  
   for your decrees are my study.

100 I am wiser than the elders, *  
    because I observe your commandments.

101 I restrain my feet from every evil way, *  
    that I may keep your word.

102 I do not shrink from your judgments, *  
    because you yourself have taught me.

103 How sweet are your words to my taste! *  
    they are sweeter than honey to my mouth.

104 Through your commandments I gain  
    understanding; *  
    therefore I hate every lying way.

_The Reader says_

Please stand for the Gospel.
The Gospel Acclamation
*The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

Reader Alleluia.
People Alleluia.
Reader Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, * for they shall be satisfied.
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 Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “All things have been delivered to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you
will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

*The Minister says*  
The Gospel of the Lord.