

YEAR 1, EPIPHANY 2, WEDNESDAY: MASS

For use with the First Lesson

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

Melchiz'edek

mel-KIZ-uh-dek

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

For this Melchiz'edek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him; and to him Abraham apportioned a tenth part of everything. He is first, by translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then he is also king of Salem, that is, king of peace. He is without father or mother or genealogy, and has neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest for ever. This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchiz'edek, who has become a priest, not according to a legal requirement concerning bodily descent but by the power of an indestructible life. For it is witnessed of him, “Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchiz'edek.”

The Reader concludes

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 110

The Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 110 found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 753.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 110 found in the service bulletin.

- 1 The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, *
until I make your enemies your footstool.”

- 2 The LORD will send the scepter of your power out of Zion, *
saying, “Rule over your enemies round about you.

- 3 Princely state has been yours from the day of your birth; *
in the beauty of holiness have I begotten you,
like dew from the womb of the morning.”

- 4 The LORD has sworn and he will not recant: *
“You are a priest for ever after the order of
Melchiz'edek.”
- 5 The Lord who is at your right hand
will smite kings in the day of his wrath; *
he will rule over the nations.
- 6 He will heap high the corpses; *
he will smash heads over the wide earth.
- 7 He will drink from the brook beside the road; *
therefore he will lift high his head.

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader Show me your ways, O Lord; *
lead me in your truth and teach me.

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.

Again Jesus entered the synagogues, and a man was there who had a withered hand. And they watched him, to see whether he would heal him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come here." And he said to them, "Is it lawful on the sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. The Pharisees went out, and immediately held counsel with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.