

**YEAR 1, EPIPHANY 3, WEDNESDAY:
EVENING PRAYER**

For use with the First Lesson

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

Sar'ai	SAIR-igh
A'bram	AY-bruhm
Ha'gar	HAY-gar
Beer-la-hai'-roi	beer-la-HIGH-roy
Ka'desh	KAY-desh
Be'red	BAY-red (long “a”)

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from Genesis

Now Sar'ai, A'bram's wife, bore him no children. She had an Egyptian maid whose name was Ha'gar; and Sar'ai said to A'bram, “Behold now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children; go in to my maid; it may be that I shall obtain children by her.” And A'bram hearkened to the voice of Sar'ai. So, after A'bram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, Sar'ai, A'bram's wife, took Ha'gar the Egyptian, her maid, and gave her to A'bram her husband as a wife. And he went in to Ha'gar, and she conceived; and

when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. And Sar'ai said to A'bram, "May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my maid to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the LORD judge between you and me!" But A'bram said to Sar'ai, "Behold, your maid is in your power; do to her as you please." Then Sar'ai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her. The angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on way to Shur. And he said, "Ha'gar, maid of Sar'ai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am fleeing from my mistress Sar'ai." The angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress, and submit to her." The angel of the LORD also said to her, "I will so greatly multiply your descendants that they cannot be numbered for multitude." And the angel of the LORD said to her, "Behold, you are with child, and shall bear a son; you shall call his name Ish'mael; because the LORD has given heed to your affliction. He shall be a wild ass of a man, his hand against every man and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen." So she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "Thou art a God of seeing"; for she

said, “Have I really seen God and remained alive after seeing him?” Therefore the well was called Beer-la'hai-roi; it lies between Ka'desh and Be'red.
The Reader concludes: The Word of the Lord.

For use with the Second Lesson

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

Hero'di-as

huh-ROH-dee-uhs

The Second Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Gospel according to Mark

And the disciples cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them. King Herod heard of it; for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, “John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in him.” But others said, “It is Eli'jah.” And others said, “It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.” But when Herod heard of it he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.” For Herod had sent and seized John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Hero'di-as, his brother Philip's wife; because he had married her. For John said to Herod, “It is not lawful

for you to have your brother's wife." And Hero'di-as had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard him, he was much perplexed; and yet he heard him gladly. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and the leading men of Galilee. For when Hero'di-as' daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will grant it." And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." And she went out, and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the baptizer." And she came in immediately with haste to the king, and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." And the king was exceedingly sorry; but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. And immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard and gave orders to bring his head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her

mother. When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.