

## ADVENT 3, MONDAY: MASS

### For use with the First Lesson

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

Ba'laam

BAY-luhm

Be'or

BEE-or

A'gag

AY-gag

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from Numbers**

And Ba'laam lifted up his eyes, and saw Israel encamping tribe by tribe. And the Spirit of God came upon him, and he took up his discourse, and said, “The oracle of Ba'laam the son of Be'or, the oracle of the man whose eye is opened, the oracle of him who hears the words of God, who sees the vision of the Almighty, falling down, but having his eyes uncovered: how fair are your tents, O Jacob, your encampments, O Israel! Like valleys that stretch afar, like gardens beside a river, like aloes that the LORD has planted, like cedar trees beside the waters. Water shall flow from his buckets, and his seed shall be in many waters, his king shall be higher than A'gag, and his kingdom shall be exalted.” And he took up his discourse, and

said, “The oracle of Ba'laam the son of Be'or, the oracle of the man whose eye is opened, the oracle of him who hears the words of God, and knows the knowledge of the Most High, who sees the vision of the Almighty, falling down, but having his eyes uncovered: I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not nigh: a star shall come forth out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel.”

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.

### **Psalm 25:3–8**

*The Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 25, verses 3 through 8, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 614.

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

- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, \*  
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.

- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my  
transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.

### **The Gospel Acclamation**

*The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

*Reader* Alleluia.

*People* Alleluia.

*Reader* The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; \*  
he has anointed me to preach good news  
to the poor.

*People* Alleluia.

*The Reader returns to his or her seat.*

*Please turn the page for the Gospel Lesson.*

## 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.

And when Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you a question; and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, whence was it? From heaven or from men?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘From men,’ we are afraid of the multitude; for all hold that John was a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

*The Minister says*

The Gospel of the Lord.