

## EASTER 5, THURSDAY: MASS

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

The apostles and the elders were gathered together in Jerusalem to consider the question of whether a man not circumcised according to the law of Moses could be saved. After there had been much debate, Peter rose and said to them, “Brethren, you know that in the early days God made choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. And God who knows the heart bore witness to them, giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us; and he made no distinction between us and them, but cleansed their hearts by faith. Now therefore why do you make trial of God by putting a yoke upon the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? But we believe that we shall be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.” And all the assembly kept silence; and they listened to Barnabas and Paul as they related what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles. After they finished

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ACTS 15:6–21\*; PSALM 96:1–8\*; JOHN 10:27; JOHN 15:9–11

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speaking, James replied, “Brethren, listen to me. Simeon has related how God first visited the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name. And with this the words of the prophets agree, as it is written, ‘After this I will return, and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will set it up, that the rest of men may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who are called by my name, says the Lord, who has made these things known from of old.’ Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, but should write to them to abstain from the pollutions of idols and from unchastity and from what is strangled and from blood. For from early generations Moses has had in every city those who preach him, for he is read every Sabbath in the synagogues.”

*The Reader concludes*    The Word of the Lord.

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## **Psalm 96: 1–8**

*The Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 96, verses 1 through 8, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 725.

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

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song; \*  
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
  
- 2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; \*  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from  
day to day.
  
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations \*  
and his wonders among all peoples.
  
- 4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; \*  
he is more to be feared than all gods.
  
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but  
idols; \*  
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.

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- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his  
presence! \*  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the  
peoples; \*  
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; \*  
bring offerings and come into his courts.

## **The Gospel Acclamation**

*The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

*Reader* Alleluia.

*People* Alleluia.

*Reader* My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord, \*  
and I know them, and they follow me.

*People* Alleluia.

*The Reader returns to his or her seat.*

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## 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 John.

*People*

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At the supper before the passover Jesus said, “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.”

*The Minister says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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