

COMPOSITE OLD TESTAMENT PAREMŒA READINGS
Revised Liturgical English
Based on *The Old Testament According to the Seventy* by Michael Asser

COMPOSITE 1: The Reading from Genesis. (Gen. 17:1-7, 9, 11, 10, 12, 14)

^{17:1}And the Lord appeared to Abram and said unto him, “I am thy God. Be thou well pleasing before Me, and be thou blameless. ²And I will establish My covenant between Me and thee, and I will multiply thee exceedingly.” ³And Abram fell on his face, and God spoke with him, saying: ⁴“And I, behold: My covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of a multitude of nations. ⁵Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham, for I have made thee a father of many nations. ⁶And I will increase thee very exceedingly, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. ⁷And I will establish My covenant between Me and thee and thy

seed after thee to their generations for an everlasting covenant; and I will be a God to them.” ⁹And God said unto Abraham, “Thou also shalt keep My covenant, thou and thy seed after thee for their generations: ¹¹ye shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin, and it shall be for a token of a covenant betwixt Me and you. ¹⁰And this is the covenant which thou shalt keep, between Me and you and betwixt thy seed after thee unto their generations. ¹²And the newborn babe of eight days shall be circumcised among you, every man-child throughout your generations. ¹⁴and the uncircumcised man child which shall not be circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin on the eighth day, that soul shall be cut off from his kindred, for he hath broken My covenant.”

COMPOSITE 2: The Reading from Proverbs. (Condensed from Chapters 10, 3, 8)

^{10:7} **T**he memory of the just is blessed, and ⁶the blessing of the Lord is upon the head of the righteous. ^{3:13}Blessed is the man that hath found wisdom, and the man that knoweth discernment. ¹⁴For it is better to traffick in her than in treasures of gold and silver. ¹⁵She is more precious than precious stones; and nothing that is precious is equal to her worth. ¹⁶For length of days and years of life are in her right hand, and in her left hand are riches

and glory; out of her mouth proceedeth righteousness, and on her tongue she carrieth law and mercy. ^{8:32}Now therefore hearken unto me, O my son, for I will speak of solemn things. Blessed are they that keep my ways; ³⁵For mine outgoings are the outgoings of life, and in them is prepared the favor of the Lord. ^{8:4} “Therefore, O men, do I exhort you, and I lift up my voice unto the sons of men. ¹² For I, Wisdom, have dwelt with counsel

and have called upon understanding.
¹⁴Counsel is mine and safety; prudence is mine, strength also is mine. ¹⁷I love them that love me, and those that seek me shall find grace.^{8:5}O ye simple, understand subtlety, and ye that are untaught, take heart. ⁶Hearken unto me, for I will speak of solemn things and bring forth that which is right out of my lips. ⁷For my throat shall speak truth, and false lips are

an abomination in my sight. ⁸All the words of my mouth are with righteousness; there is nothing contrary or perverse in them. ⁹They are all plain to them that understand and upright to them that find knowledge. I shall instruct you in truth, so that your hope will be in the Lord and you shall be filled with the Spirit.

COMPOSITE 3: The reading from the Wisdom of Solomon. (Condensed from Chapters 4, 5)

^{4:7}**T**he righteous man, though he die early, yet shall he be at rest. ¹⁶Thus the righteous that is dead shall condemn the ungodly which are living, ¹⁷for they shall see the end of the wise, and shall not understand what God in His counsel hath decreed for him, ¹⁹For He shall rend them, and cast them down headlong, that they shall be speechless; and He shall shake them from the foundations, and they shall be utterly laid waste and be in sorrow, and their memorial shall perish. ²⁰And when they cast up the account of their sins they shall come with fear, and their own iniquities shall convict them to their face. ^{5:1-7} Then shall the righteous man stand in great boldness before the face of such as have afflicted him, and made no account of his labors. ²When they see it, they shall be troubled with terrible fear, and shall be

amazed at the strangeness of his salvation, so far beyond all that they looked for. ³And they repenting and groaning for anguish of spirit shall say within themselves, “This was he, whom we held at one time in derision, and a proverb of reproach; ⁴we fools accounted his life madness, and his end to be without honor: ⁵how he is numbered among the children of God, and his lot is among the saints! ⁶Therefore have we erred from the way of truth, and the light of righteousness hath not shined unto us, and the sun of righteousness rose not upon us. ⁷We wearied ourselves in the way of wickedness and destruction: yea, we have gone through deserts, where there lay no way; but the way of the Lord, we have not known.

COMPOSITE 4: The reading from the Wisdom of Solomon. (A paraphrase of Proverbs 10; Wisdom of Solomon 6-9)

Thus saith the Lord Almighty: The mouth of the righteous bringeth forth wisdom; the lips of the righteous drop grace. The mouth of the righteous bringeth forth wisdom, but righteousness delivereth them from death. If a righteous man dies, hope doth not die, for the son of the righteous is born to life, and in his own good things he acquireth the fruit of righteousness. There is always light for the righteous and they obtain grace and glory from the Lord. The tongue of the wise is a good sister-in-law, and in their hearts resteth wisdom. The Lord loveth the hearts of the holy, and acceptable to Him are all the undefiled in the way. The wisdom of the Lord illumineth the faces of the wise. For she takes hold of those desiring her by making herself first known to them. She is easily seen by those who love her. He who rises early to seek her shall have no difficulty, and those keeping vigil for the sake of her shall quickly be without sorrows. For she goeth about seeking those worthy of her, and graciously revealeth herself in the pathways. Against wisdom evil doth not prevail. Therefore I was a lover of her beauty; I loved her and sought her out from my youth. I desired to make her my bride, and even the Master of All loved her. For she is an initiate in the knowledge of God, and a discoverer of His works.

Her labors are virtues, for she teacheth temperance and prudence, justice and courage; no things in life are more necessary for men than these. And if anyone desires much knowledge, she knows the things of old, and beholds things to come; she understands turns of speech and the solution of riddles; she has foreknowledge of signs and wonders and the outcome of times and seasons. She is a mediator of good things for all, for immortality is in her, and glory in the company of her words. Therefore, ^{8:21}I prayed unto the Lord and besought Him and with my whole heart I said, ^{9:1}“O God of my fathers, and Lord of mercy, Who hast made all things with Thy word ²and ordained man through Thy wisdom, that he should have dominion over the creatures which Thou hast made ³and order the world according to equity and righteousness and execute judgment with an upright heart, ⁴give me wisdom. ⁵For I Thy servant and son of Thine handmaid ¹⁰O send her out of Thy holy heavens and from the throne of Thy glory, that being present she may labor with me that I may know what is pleasing unto Thee. And she shall guide me in understanding, and preserve me in her glory. For the thoughts of mortals are miserable, and their intentions likely to fail.

COMPOSITE 5: The reading from the Wisdom of Solomon. (A paraphrase of Wisdom of Solomon 4, 6, 7, 2)

When the righteous is praised, the people rejoice; for his memory is everlasting, since it is known both by the Lord and by men, for his soul was pleasing to the Lord. Therefore love wisdom, O men, and live. Desire her and be instructed, for her beginning is love and the keeping of her laws. Honor wisdom that you may reign forever. I will tell you and not hide the mysteries of God from you. For He is the preceptor of wisdom, the corrector of the wise and the master of all thoughts and deeds. Wisdom will teach with all understanding, for in her is a Spirit, intelligent and holy: the radiance of the everlasting light and the image of the grace of God. She fashions friends of God and prophets. For she is more beautiful than the sun and above all the order of the stars; being compared with light, she is found before it. She delivered from infirmities those pleasing her and guided them on the paths of righteousness. She gave to them understanding to be holy and to preserve them from those who would ensnare them, and she granted them strength in struggles, so that all might understand that the most powerful of all is piety, and that evil might not prevail against wisdom, nor judgment pass away without convicting the wicked. ^{2:1}For the ungodly said, reasoning with themselves, ¹⁰Let us oppress the poor righteous man, let us not spare the widow nor reverence the ancient gray hairs of the aged. ¹¹Let our strength be the law of justice, for that

which is feeble is found to be nothing of worth. ¹²Therefore let us lie in wait for the righteous, because he is not for our turn, and he is clean contrary to our doings; he upbraids us with our sins against the law and ascribes to us sins against our education. ¹³He professes to have the knowledge of God, and he calls himself the child of the Lord. ¹⁴He was made to reprove our thoughts. ¹⁵He is grievous unto us even to behold, for his life is not like other men's; his ways are of another fashion. ¹⁶We are esteemed of him as counterfeits; he abstains from our ways as from filthiness; he pronounces the end of the just to be blessed, and makes his boast that God is his Father. ¹⁷Let us see if his words be true, and let us prove what shall happen in the end of him. ¹⁹Let us examine him with despitefulness and torture, that we may know his meekness, and prove his patience. ²⁰Let us condemn him with a shameful death; for according to his words, he shall be regarded." ²¹Such things they did imagine, and were deceived, for their own wickedness hath blinded them. ²²As for the mysteries of God, they knew them not, neither hoped they for the wages of righteousness," nor did they discern that Thou alone art God, having the power of life and death, who savest in times of affliction and deliverest from every evil; who art compassionate and merciful, granting grace to His venerable ones, and opposing the proud with His arm.

COMPOSITE 6: The Reading from Exodus. (Condensed from Ex. 13, 12; Num. 8; Lev. 12)

^{13:1}**T**he Lord spoke unto Moses in that very day on which He led the children of Israel out from the land of Egypt, saying, ²“Sanctify unto Me every firstborn, the first begotten that opens every womb among the sons of Israel.” ³And Moses said unto the people, “Remember this day in which ye came out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage, for by a strong hand the Lord brought you out from thence, and you shall keep His Law. ¹¹And it shall come to pass when the Lord thy God shall bring thee into the land of the Canaanites, as He swore unto thy fathers, and shall give it thee, ¹²that thou shalt set apart the first-born that opens the womb, the males to the Lord, ¹⁴And if thy son ask thee hereafter, saying, ‘What is this?’ then thou shalt say unto him, ‘With a strong hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. ¹⁵And when Pharaoh hardened his heart that he might not send us away He slew every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of beast. Therefore, I sacrifice every offspring that opens the matrix, the males to the Lord, and every firstborn of my sons will I redeem. ¹⁶And it shall be for a token upon thine hand and immoveable before thine

eyes, for thus hath said the Lord Almighty: ‘Every firstborn of thy sons will ye give Me. ^{LEV. 12:3}And in the eighth day, the woman who bears a male child, she shall circumcise the flesh of his foreskin. ⁴And she shall continue in the blood of her uncleanness three and thirty days; she shall touch no holy thing nor come into the sanctuary until the days of her purification be fulfilled. ⁶And she shall bring a lamb of the first year without blemish for a whole burnt offering and a young pigeon or a turtledove for a sin offering unto the door of the tabernacle of the testimony unto the priest. ⁸And if she be not able to find what is enough for a lamb, then she shall take two turtledoves or two young pigeons, one for a whole burnt offering and one for a sin offering, and the priest shall make an atonement for her and she shall be clean. For these are given Me as a recompense from all the sons of Israel, and I have taken them and sanctified them for Myself, ^{EX 12:12}instead of the firstborn of the Egyptians, in the day in which I passed over and smote the firstborn of Egypt, both man and beast.’ Thus saith God Most High, the Holy One of Israel.”

COMPOSITE 7: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (Condensed from Isaiah 19 [the vision of Egypt])

Is. 19:1 **B**ehold, the Lord sitteth upon a swift cloud, and shall come into Egypt, and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at His

presence, and their heart shall faint within them. “And their ³spirit shall be vexed within them, and I will scatter their

counsel, ⁴And the Egyptians will I give over into the hands of men, of cruel lords”... thus saith the Lord of Sabaoth. ⁵And the Egyptians shall drink the water that is by the sea, but the river shall fail and be dried up. ¹²Where are now thy wise men? And let them declare unto thee and say, “What hath the Lord purposed against Egypt?” ¹⁶But in that day shall the Egyptians be ... in fear and trembling because of the hand of the Lord of Sabaoth which He shall lay upon them. ¹⁹In that day shall there be an altar to the

Lord in the land of the Egyptians and a pillar at the border thereof to the Lord. ²⁰And it shall be for a sign unto the Lord for ever in the land of Egypt; for they shall presently cry unto the Lord because of them that afflict them, and He shall send them a man that shall save them; he shall judge and save them. ²¹And the Lord shall be known to the Egyptians, and the Egyptians shall know the Lord in that day, and they shall offer sacrifices and make their vows to the Lord.

COMPOSITE 8: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (condensed from Isaiah 40, 41, 45, 48, 54)

IS. 40:1 **T**hus saith the Lord: “Comfort ye, comfort ye My people; ²speak, ye priests, to the heart of Jerusalem; comfort her, for her humiliation is accomplished, her iniquity is put away, for she hath received of the Lord’s hand double that of her sins.” ³The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Prepare ye the way of the Lord; make straight the paths of our God. ⁹O thou that bringest glad tidings to Zion, get thee up upon the high mountain; lift up thy voice with strength, thou that bringest glad tidings to Jerusalem; lift it up, be not afraid! ^{41:17}I, the Lord God, the God of Israel, will hear and will not forsake them. ¹⁸But I will open rivers on the mountains and fountains in the midst

of plains; I will make the wilderness pools of water and watercourses of a thirsty land. ^{45:8}Let the heavens rejoice from above, and let the clouds rain righteousness; let the earth bring forth and bloom mercy and likewise bring forth righteousness. ^{48:20}Declare this with a voice of joy and let this be made known, proclaim it to the ends of the earth; say, ‘The Lord hath delivered His servant Jacob.’ ²¹And if they thirst He shall lead them through the desert; He shall bring forth water out of the rock to them. ^{54:1}Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not, for more are the children of the desolate than of her that hath a husband.”

COMPOSITE 9: The reading from the Prophecy of Malachi. (Condensed from Malachi 3, 4)

Thus saith the Lord Almighty: ^{3:1}“Behold, I send My messenger, and he shall prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come into His temple...²but who shall withstand at His appearing? For He cometh in as the fire of a furnace and as the herb of fullers. ³He shall sit to melt and purify as it were silver and as it were gold...⁵And He will draw near to you in judgment, and He will be a swift witness against the witches and against the adulteresses and against them that swear falsely by My name, and against them that keep back the hireling’s wages, and them that oppress the widow and afflict the fatherless, and that wrest the judgment of the stranger and fear not Me,” saith the Lord Almighty. ⁶“For I am the Lord your God, and I am not changed, ⁷but ye, the sons of Jacob, have not refrained from the iniquities of your

fathers. Ye have perverted My statutes and have not kept them. Return unto Me, and I will return unto you,” saith the Lord Almighty ¹²...and all nations shall call you blessed. And they shall understand that I am the Lord who ¹⁸discerneth between the righteous and the wicked on that day, in which I shall act to spare those who love Me. ^{4:6}“Remember ye the law of My servant Moses accordingly as I charged him in Horeb for all Israel, even the commandments and ordinances. ^{4:4}And behold, I will send you Elijah the Tishbite before the great and glorious day of the Lord cometh, ⁵who shall turn again the heart of the father to the son and the heart of a man to his neighbor, lest I come and smite the earth grievously,” saith the Lord Almighty, God, the Holy One of Israel.

COMPOSITE 10: The reading from Genesis. (Condensed from Genesis 17, 18, 21)

GEN. ¹⁵And God said unto Abraham, “As for Sarai thy wife, her name shall not be called Sarai: Sarah shall her name be. ¹⁶And I will bless her, and give thee a son of her; yea, I will bless him, and he shall become nations, and kings of nations shall be of him.” ¹⁷And Abraham fell upon his face and laughed and spoke in his heart, saying, “Shall there be a son unto him that is a hundred years old, and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old bear?” ... ¹⁹And

God said unto Abraham, “Yea, behold, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name Isaac, and I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, to be a God to him and to his seed after him. ^{8:11}Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well stricken in days, and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. ¹²And Sarah laughed within herself, saying, “It is not yet come to pass with me until now,

and my Lord is old.”¹³ And the Lord said unto Abraham, “Wherefore is it that Sarah did laugh in herself, saying, ‘Shall I then of a surety bear? But I am waxen old.’¹⁴ Shall anything be impossible with God? At this time to the hour will I return unto thee, and Sarah shall have a son.”^{21:1} And the Lord visited Sarah as He had said, and the Lord did unto Sarah as He had spoken.² And she conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the set time according as the Lord had spoken to him.³ And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bore to

him, Isaac.⁴ And Abraham circumcised Isaac on the eighth day, as God had commanded him.⁵ And Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born unto him.⁶ And Sarah said, “The Lord hath made laughter for me, for whosoever shall hear will rejoice with me.”⁷ And she said, “Who shall say unto Abraham that Sarah giveth a child suck? For I have borne a son in mine old age.”⁸ And the child grew and was weaned, and Abraham made a great feast the day that Isaac, his son, was weaned.

COMPOSITE 11: The reading from Judges. (Condensed from Judges 13)

JUDGES 13:2 In those days there was a man of the tribe of Dan, and his name was Manoah. And his wife was barren and bore not.³ And an angel of the Lord appeared unto the woman and said unto her, “Behold, thou art barren and hast not borne, yet thou shalt conceive a son.⁴ Now therefore beware, and drink not wine, nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing,⁵ for lo, thou art with child and shalt bring forth a son. And no razor shall come on his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite unto God from the womb, and he shall begin to save Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.”⁶ And the woman went in and spoke unto her husband, saying, “A man of God came unto me, and his appearance was as of an angel of God, very terrible. And I asked him not whence he was, neither told he me his name,⁷ and he said unto me, ‘Behold, thou art with child and shalt bring forth a son. And

now drink no wine nor strong drink neither eat any unclean thing, for the child shall be holy to God from the womb to the day of his death.’ ”⁸ And Manoah prayed unto the Lord and said, “I pray Thee, O Lord Adonai, the man of God which thou didst send, let him come now once more unto us and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born.”¹³ And the angel of the Lord said unto Manoah, “Of all things concerning which I spoke unto the woman she shall beware.¹⁴ She shall eat of nothing that cometh of the vine that yieldeth wine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink nor eat anything unclean; all things that I have commanded her she shall observe.”¹⁷ And Manoah said unto the angel of the Lord, “What is thy name, that when thy word cometh to pass we may glorify thee?”¹⁸ And the angel of the Lord said unto him, “Why askest thou after my name, seeing it

is wonderful?” ²¹And the angel appeared

no more to Manoah and to his wife.

COMPOSITE 12: The reading from the Third Book of Kings. (Condensed from 3 Kingdoms [1Kings] 17)

In those days, Elijah the prophet, the Tishbite of Tishbe of Gilead, said unto Ahab, “As the Lord liveth, the God of hosts, the God of Israel, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years but by the word of my mouth.” ²And the word of the Lord came unto Elijah, saying, ³“Get thee hence eastward and hide thyself by the brook of Cherith that is before Jordan. ⁴And it shall be that thou shalt drink water of the brook, and I will command the ravens to feed thee there.” ⁵So Elijah did according unto the word of the Lord, and he sat by the brook of Cherith before Jordan. ⁶And the ravens brought him bread in the morning and flesh in the evening, and he drank water of the brook. ⁷And it came to pass after a while that the brook dried up because there had been no rain upon the earth. ⁸And the word of the Lord came unto Elijah, *saying*, ⁹“Arise and get thee hence to Zarephath of the Sidonian land; behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to maintain thee.” ¹⁰And he arose and went up to Zarephath and came unto the gate of the city, and behold, a widow woman was there gathering of sticks. And Elijah cried after her and said unto her, “Fetch me a little water in a vessel that I may drink.” ¹¹And she went to fetch it, and Elijah cried after her and said, “Bring me a morsel of the bread that is in thine hand.” ¹²And the woman said, “As the Lord thy God liveth I have not a cake but

only a handful of meal in the pitcher and a little oil in a cruse. And behold, I go to gather two sticks, and I shall go in and dress it for me and my children, and we shall eat it and die.” ¹³And Elijah said unto her, “Be of good courage; go in and do according to thy word, but make me thereof a little cake, and thou shalt bring it out to me first, and thou shalt make some for thee and for thy children last. ¹⁴For Thus saith the Lord: ‘The pitcher of meal shall not fail neither shall the cruse of oil be diminished until the day that the Lord giveth rain upon the earth.’” ¹⁵And the woman went and did so and did eat, she and he and her children. ¹⁶And the pitcher of meal failed not, and the cruse of oil was not diminished according to the word of the Lord which He spoke by the hand of Elijah. ¹⁷And it came to pass afterward that the son of the woman the mistress of the house fell sick, and his sickness was very sore until there was no breath left in him. ¹⁸And she said unto Elijah, “What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? Art thou come into me to bring my sins to remembrance and to slay my son?” ¹⁹And Elijah said unto the woman, “Give me thy son.” And he took him out of her bosom and took him up into the chamber wherein he himself abode and laid him upon his own bed. ²⁰And Elijah cried aloud and said, “Alas, O Lord, the witness of the widow with whom I sojourn, Thou hast wrought evil for her in slaying her

son.” ²¹And he breathed upon the child three times and called upon the Lord and said, “O Lord my God, let this child’s soul come into him again.” ²²And it was so; and the child cried out, ²³and he brought him down out of the upper chamber into

the house and gave him to his mother, and Elijah said, “See, thy son liveth.” ²⁴And the woman said unto Elijah, “Behold, I know that thou art a man of God, and the word of the Lord in thy mouth is true.”

COMPOSITE 13 The reading from the **Third Book of Kings**. (Condensed from 3 Kingdoms [I Kings] 18-19)

^{18:1}And the Word of the Lord came to Elijah in the third year, saying, “Go and appear unto Ahab, and I will give rain upon the face of the earth.” ¹⁷And it came to pass when Ahab saw Elijah that Ahab said unto Elijah, “Art thou he that troublest Israel?” ¹⁸And Elijah said, “I trouble not Israel, but it is thou and thy father’s house, in that ye forsake the Lord your God, and thou hast followed Baal. ¹⁹And now send and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel and the prophets of shame four hundred and fifty and the prophets of the grove four hundred, which eat at Jezebel’s table.” ²⁰And Ahab sent unto all Israel and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel. ²¹And Elijah drew nigh unto them all, and Elijah said unto them, “How long will ye limp upon both feet? If the Lord be God, follow Him.” And the people answered him not a word. ²²And Elijah said unto the people, “I am left, the only one prophet of the Lord, and Baal’s prophets are four hundred and fifty men, and the prophets of the grove are four hundred. ²³Let them give us two oxen, and let them choose one for themselves and cut it in pieces and lay it on the wood and put no fire on the wood, and I will

dress the other bullock and put on no fire. ²⁴And call ye loudly on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord my God, and it shall be that the God that answereth by fire He is God.” And all the people answered and said, “The word that thou hast spoken is good.” ²⁵And Elijah said unto the prophets of shame, “Choose you one calf for yourselves and dress it first, for ye are many, and call on the name of your god, but kindle no fire.” ²⁶And they took the calf, and they dressed it and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, “Hear us, O Baal, hear us.” And there was no voice nor was there hearing, and they ran up and down upon the altar which they had made. ²⁷And it was noon, and Elijah the Tishbite mocked them and said, “Call with a loud voice, for he is a god, for he meditateth — or mayhap he giveth an oracle, or haply he is asleep and will awake.” ²⁸And they cried with a loud voice and cut themselves according to their custom with knives and lancets until the blood gushed out upon them. ²⁹And they prophesied until the evening came, and it came to pass as it was at the time of the offering of the sacrifice that Elijah the Tishbite spoke unto the prophets of the abominations,

saying, "Stand by for the while, and I will offer my sacrifice." And they stood aside and departed. ³⁰And Elijah said unto the people, "Come near unto me." And all the people came near unto him. ³¹And Elijah took twelve stones according to the number of the tribes of Israel as the Lord spoke unto him, saying, "Israel shall be thy name." ³²And he built up the stones in the name of the Lord and repaired the altar that had been broken down, and he made a trench about the altar that would hold two measures of seed. ³³And he piled the cleft wood upon that altar which he had made and divided the whole burnt offering and laid it on the wood and laid it in order upon the altar and said, "Fetch me four pitchers of water and pour it on the whole burnt offering and on the wood." And they did so. ³⁴And he said, "Do it the second time." And they did it the second time. And he said, "Do it the third time." And they did it the third time. ³⁵And the water ran round about the altar, and they filled the trench with water. ³⁶And Elijah cried aloud to heaven and said, "Lord God of Abraham and Isaac and Israel, hearken unto me, O Lord; hearken unto me this day by fire and let all this people know that Thou art the Lord, the God of Israel, and I am Thy servant, and for Thy sake have I done these works. ³⁷Hear me, O Lord, hear me, and let this people know that Thou art the Lord God, and that Thou hast turned back the heart of this people." ³⁸Then fire fell from the Lord out of heaven and consumed the whole burnt offerings and the wood and the water that was in the trench, and the fire licked up the stones and the earth. ³⁹And all the people fell on their faces and said, "Verily,

the Lord is God; He is God." ⁴⁰And Elijah said unto the people, "Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape." And they took them, and Elijah bringeth them down to the brook Kishon and slew them there. ⁴¹And Elijah said unto Ahab, "Get thee up, and eat and drink, for there is a sound of the coming of rain." ⁴²And Ahab went up to eat and to drink, and Elijah went up to Carmel and stooped to the ground and put his face between his knees and prayed to the Lord. ⁴³And it came to pass that the heaven grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain, and Ahab wept and went to Jezreel. ⁴⁴And the hand of the Lord was on Elijah, and he girded up his loins and ran before Ahab to Jezreel. ^{19:1}And Ahab told Jezebel his wife all that Elijah had done and withal how he had slain the prophets with the sword. ²And Jezebel sent unto Elijah and said, "If thou art Elijah and I am Jezebel, so let God do to me and more also if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by tomorrow this time." ³And Elijah feared, and he arose and departed for his life, and he cometh to Beersheba to the land of Judah and left his servant there. ⁴And he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a juniper tree. And he requested for his life that he might die and said, "Let it be enough now; O Lord, take away my life from me, for I am not better than my fathers." ⁵And he lay and slept there under a tree, and behold, one touched him and said unto him, "Arise and eat." ⁶And Elijah looked, and behold, there was a cake of meal and a cruse of water, and he arose and did eat and drink and turned and laid him down.

⁷And the angel of the Lord came again the second time and touched him and said unto him, "Arise and eat, because the journey will be too great for thee." ⁸And he arose and did eat and drink and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto mount Horeb. ⁹And he entered there into a cave and rested there, and behold, the Word of the Lord came to him, and He said, "What doest thou here, Elijah?" ¹⁰And Elijah said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord Almighty, for the sons of Israel have forsaken Thee; they have dug down Thine altars and have slain Thy prophets with the sword and I, *even* I only, am left, and they seek my life to take it away." ¹¹And He said, "Thou shalt go forth tomorrow and shalt stand upon the mount before the Lord; behold, the Lord will pass by." And behold, a great and strong wind that rent the mountain and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the

earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire the voice of a gentle breeze. ¹³And it was so when Elijah heard it that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the cave, and behold, there came a voice unto him and said, "What doest thou here, Elijah?" ¹⁴And Elijah said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord Almighty, because the sons of Israel have forsaken Thy covenant and thrown down Thine altars and slain Thy prophets with the sword. And I only am left alone, and they seek my life to take it away." ¹⁵And the Lord said unto him, "Go, return on thy way, and thou shalt come to the way of the wilderness of Damascus, and thou shalt anoint Hazael to be king over Syria, ¹⁶and Jehu, the son of Nimshi, shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha, the son of Shaphat, shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy stead.

COMPOSITE 14: The reading from the Third Book of Kings. (Condensed from 3, 4 Kingdoms [I Kings] 19; [II Kings] 2)

^{3:20}In those days, Elijah departed and found Elisha, the son of Shaphat, and he was plowing with oxen, twelve yoke before him and he with the twelve, and he passed by unto him and cast his mantle upon him. ^{4:1}And it came to pass when the Lord would take up Elijah as it were into heaven by a whirlwind that Elijah and Elisha went from Gilgal. ^{4:2}And Elijah said unto Elisha, "Tarry here, for the Lord hath sent me to Bethel." And Elisha said,

"The Lord liveth and thy soul liveth, if I will leave thee," and they went on and came to Jordan. ⁷And fifty men of the sons of the prophets also stood opposite *him* afar off, and they both stood by the Jordan. ⁸And Elijah took his mantle and wrapped it together and smote the water, and the water was divided on this side and on that, and they both went over on dry land. ⁹And it came to pass when they were gone over that Elijah said unto Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for thee

before I be taken up from thee.” And Elisha said, “Let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.” ¹⁰And Elijah said, “Thou hast asked a hard thing for thyself; if thou see me when I am taken up from thee, then it shall be so unto thee, and if not, it shall not be so.” ¹¹And it came to pass as they walked on they walked and talked, and, behold: a chariot of fire and horses of fire, and they separated them both, and Elijah was taken up in a whirlwind as it were into heaven. ¹²And Elisha saw and cried, “Father, father, the

chariot of Israel and its horsemen!” And he saw him no more, and he took hold of his own clothes and rent them in two pieces. ¹³And Elisha took up the mantle of Elijah that fell from him upon Elisha, and Elisha went back and stood by the bank of Jordan, ¹⁴and he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him and smote the water and said, “Where is the God of Elijah, even He?”

COMPOSITE 15: The reading from Exodus. (Condensed from Exodus 33:11-23, 34:4-6, 8)

¹¹And the Lord spoke unto Moses face to face as if one should speak unto his friend, and he returned again into the camp, but his minister Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle. ¹²And Moses said unto the Lord, “See, Thou sayest unto me, ‘Lead up this people,’ but Thou hast not let me know whom Thou wilt send with me, and Thou hast said unto me, ‘I know thee above all, and thou hast favor in My sight.’ ¹³If then I have found favor in Thy sight, reveal Thyself unto me, that I may evidently see Thee, that I may find favor in Thy sight and that I may know that this nation is Thy people.” ¹⁴And He saith, “I Myself will go before thee, and I will give thee rest.” ¹⁵And he saith unto Him, “If Thou go not up with us Thyself, lead me not up hence. ¹⁶And wherein shall it be surely known that I have found favor with Thee, both I and Thy people, except only if Thou go with us? So shall we be

glorified, both I and Thy people, beyond all the nations as many as are upon the earth.” ¹⁷And the Lord said unto Moses,

“I will do this thing also for thee that thou hast spoken, for thou hast found favor before Me, and I know thee above all others.” ¹⁸And he saith, “Show me Thine own glory.” ¹⁹And he said, “I will pass by before thee in My glory, and I will call by My name, Lord, before thee, and I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.” ²⁰And He said, “Thou shalt not be able to see My face, for there shall no man see My face and live.” ²¹And the Lord said, “Behold: there is a place by Me; thou shalt stand upon the rock, ²²and whensoever My glory passeth by then I will put thee into a cleft of the rock and will cover thee with My hand until I shall have passed by. ²³And I will take away My hand, and thou shalt see My back, but My face shall not

appear unto thee.”^{34:4} And Moses rose up early in the morning and went up unto the mount Sinai as the Lord had appointed him,⁵ and the Lord descended in a cloud and Moses called on the name of the Lord.⁶ And the Lord passed by before his face and he called, “O Lord God,

compassionate and merciful, long-suffering, most merciful, compassionate and true.⁸ And Moses made haste and bowed toward the earth and worshipped the Lord.

COMPOSITE 16: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (Condensed from Isaiah 63:15; 64:5,1-2, 8-9)

^{63:15}Look down from heaven, and behold from Thy holy habitation and Thy glory. Where is Thy zeal and Thy strength, where is the abundance of Thy mercy and compassion, that Thou hast withholden Thyself from us? ¹⁶For Thou art our father; for Abraham knew us not and Israel acknowledged us not, yet do thou, O Lord, our Father, deliver us; Thy name hath been upon us from the beginning. ¹⁷O Lord, why hast Thou made us to err from Thy way and hardened our heart, that we should not fear Thee? Return for Thy servants’ sake for the sake of the tribes of Thine inheritance, ¹⁸that in but a little while we may inherit Thy holy mountain. ¹⁹We are become as at the beginning when Thou didst not bear rule over us, neither was Thy name called

upon us. ^{64:5}For He shall meet them that work righteousness, and they shall remember Thy ways. Behold, Thou wast wroth, and we sinned; therefore have we erred. ^{64:1} If Thou shouldest open the heaven, trembling shall take hold upon the mountains of Thee, and they shall melt ²as wax melts before the fire. And fire shall burn up the enemies, and the name of the Lord shall be manifest among the adversaries; the nations shall be troubled at Thy presence. ⁸And now, O Lord, Thou art our Father, and we are clay; we are all the work of Thine hands. ⁹Be not wroth very sore with us, neither remember our iniquities for ever. And now look Thou upon us, for we are all Thy people.

COMPOSITE 17: The reading from Exodus. (Condensed from Exodus 40)

And the Lord spoke unto Moses, saying, ²“On the first day of the first month shalt thou set up the tabernacle of the testimony. ³And thou shalt put therein the ark of the testimony and cover the ark

with the veil. ⁴And thou shalt bring in the table and set upon it candle stand. ⁵And thou shalt set the altar of gold to burn incense before the ark, and thou shalt put a covering veil upon the door of the

tabernacle of the testimony. ⁷And thou shalt take the anointing oil and anoint the tabernacle and all that is therein, and shalt hallow it and all the furniture thereof; and it shall be holy. ⁸And thou shalt anoint the altar of burnt offerings and it shall be most holy. ¹⁴And Moses did all whatsoever the Lord commanded him, and a cloud covered the tabernacle of the testimony,

and the tabernacle of the testimony was filled with the glory of the Lord. ²⁹And Moses was not able to enter into the tabernacle of the testimony because the cloud overshadowed it, and the tabernacle was filled with the glory of the Lord

COMPOSITE 18: The reading from the Third Book of Kings. (Condensed from 3 Kingdoms [1Kings]: 7, 8)

^{7:49}And it came to pass when Solomon had finished building the house of the Lord ^{8:1} and he assembled all the elders of Israel in Sion to bring back the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David (which is Sion), ³And the priests took up the ark ⁴and the tabernacle of the testimony and the holy vessels that were in the tabernacle of the testimony. ⁶And the priests brought in the ark into the place thereof into the oracle of the house, into the holy of holies, even under the

wings of the cherubīm. ⁷For the cherubīm spread forth their wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubīm covered the ark and the holy things there from above. ⁹There was nothing in the ark save the two tables of stone, the tables of the covenant, which Moses put there in Horeb. ¹⁰And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house. ¹¹And the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the house.

COMPOSITE 19: The reading from the Prophecy of Micah. (Condensed from Micah 4; 6)

Thus saith the Lord: ^{4:2}Out of Zion shall go forth a law and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ³And He shall judge among many peoples and rebuke strong nations afar off, ⁵For all the people shall walk everyone in his own way, but we will walk in the name of the Lord our God forever and ever. ⁶“In that day,” saith the

Lord, “I will gather her that is bruised, and I will receive her that is cast out and them that I have rejected.” ^{6:2}Hear ye, O mountains, the Lord’s complaint, and ye valleys *even* the strong foundations of the earth; for the Lord hath a complaint with His people, and He will enter into judgment with Israel. ³O My people, what

have I done unto you or wherein have I grieved you or wherein have I troubled you? Answer me. ⁴For I brought thee up out of the land of Egypt and redeemed thee out of the house of bondage, and I sent before thee Moses and Aaron and Miriam. ⁵O My people, remember how the adversaries counseled against you. ⁸Hath it not been told thee, O man, what is

good? Or what doth the Lord require of thee but to do justice and love mercy and be ready to walk with the Lord thy God? For the Lord shall be exalted in strength, and shall shepherd His flock in peace, even unto the ends of the earth.

COMPOSITE 20: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (Condensed from Isaiah Chapters 55; 7)

^{55:1} “O ye that thirst, come ye to the water, and all that have no money, go, buy, and drink wine and fat without money or price. ^{7:3}Then said the Lord unto Isaiah, “Go forth to meet Ahaz, thou and Jashub thy son who is left behind, by the pool of the upper way of the fuller’s field. ⁴And thou shalt say unto him, ‘Take heed to be quiet, and fear not, neither let thy soul be fainthearted for these two smoking firebrands, for when the anger of My wrath is passed away, I will heal again. ^{55:2}Wherefore do ye set a value at the price of money, and give your labor for that which will not satisfy? Hearken unto Me, and ye shall eat that which is good, and your soul shall delight itself in good things. ³Give heed with your ears, and follow My ways. Hearken unto Me, and your soul shall live in prosperity, and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David. ⁴Behold, I have made him for a witness among the nations, a prince and commander to the nations. ⁵Nations that know not thee shall call upon thee, and peoples that understand thee not shall flee unto thee for refuge, for the sake of the

Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel; for He hath glorified thee.” ⁶Seek ye the Lord, and when ye find Him, call ye upon Him. And when He draweth nigh to you, ⁷let the ungodly forsake his ways, and the transgressor his counsels; and let him return unto the Lord, and he shall find mercy; for He will abundantly pardon your sins. ⁸“For My counsels are not as your counsels, neither are your ways as My ways,” saith the Lord. ⁹“But as the heaven is far from the earth, so is My way far from your ways, and your thoughts from My mind. ¹⁰For as the rain or snow shall come down from heaven, and shall not return until it have watered the earth, and it bring forth and bud, and give seed to the sower, and bread for food, ¹¹so shall My word be. Whatsoever shall go forth out of My mouth, it shall by no means turn back until all that I have willed is accomplished; and I will prosper thy ways and My commandments. ¹²For ye shall go out with joy, and be taught with gladness; for the mountains and the hills shall leap out as they welcome thee with joy, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands with their branches. ¹³And instead of the

briar shall come up a cypress, and instead of the nettle shall come up a myrtle tree; and the Lord shall be for a name, and for an everlasting sign, and He shall not fail.”

saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel.

COMPOSITE 21: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (Condensed from Isaiah 62:10-13; 63:1-3, 7-9)

Thus saith the Lord: ^{62:10} “Go through My gates, and make a way for my people, and cast the stones out of the way; lift up a standard for the Gentiles.” ¹¹For behold, the Lord hath proclaimed unto the end of the world: “Say ye to the daughter of Sion, ‘Behold, thy salvation cometh, having His own reward and His work before His face.’ ” ¹²And he shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the Lord, and thou shalt be a city sought out, and not forsaken. ^{63:1}Who is this that cometh from Edom *with* red garments from Bozrah, thus fair in his apparel, in might, with strength? “I speak of righteousness and saving judgment.” ²Wherefore are thy garments red and thine apparel as from a trodden winepress? ³“I

am full from treading of the winepress, and of the nations there is not a man with Me.” ⁷I remembered the mercy of the Lord, the praises of the Lord in all things wherein He recompenseth us. The Lord is a good judge unto the house of Israel; He dealeth with us according to His mercy and according to the abundance of His righteousness. ⁸And He said, “Is it not My people? My children surely will not be rebellious.” And He became to them deliverance ⁹out of all their affliction, not an ambassador nor a messenger, but Himself saved them because He loved them and spared them. He Himself redeemed them and took them up and lifted them up all the days of old.

COMPOSITE 22: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (Condensed from Isaiah 62:10-13; 63:1-3, 7-9)

Behold, the days of the Lord come, and the spoils shall be divided in thee. ⁴And His feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east. And the mount of Olives shall cleave asunder, half of it toward the east and toward the west, a very great division; and half of the

mountain shall lean toward the north and half of it toward the south. ⁸And in that day living water shall come forth out of Jerusalem, half of it toward the former sea and half of it toward the latter sea, and in summer and in spring so shall it be. ⁹And the Lord shall be king over all the earth. In that day there shall be one Lord, and

His name one, ¹⁰compassing all the earth and the wilderness from Gabe unto Rimmon south of Jerusalem. And Ramah shall remain in her place. From Benjamin's gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the gate of the corners and unto

the tower of Hananeel unto the king's winepresses, ¹¹they shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more any curse, and Jerusalem shall dwell securely.

COMPOSITE 23: The reading from the Third Book of Kings. (Condensed from 3 Kingdoms [I Kings] 19:3-9, 11-12, 15, 16)

In those days, ^{19:3} Ahab came to Beersheba to the land of Judah and left his servant there. ⁴And he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a juniper tree. And he requested for his life that he might die and said, "Let it be enough now; O Lord, take away my life from me, for I am not better than my fathers." ⁵And he lay and slept there under a tree, and behold, one touched him and said unto him, "Arise and eat." ⁶And Elijah looked, and behold, there was a cake of meal and a cruse of water, and he arose and did eat and drink and turned and laid him down. ⁷And the angel of the Lord came again the second time and touched him and said unto him, "Arise and eat, because the journey will be too great for thee." ⁸And he arose and did eat and drink and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto mount Horeb. ⁹And he entered there into a cave and rested there,

and behold, the Word of the Lord came to him, ¹¹and He said, "Thou shalt go forth tomorrow and shalt stand upon the mount before the Lord; behold, the Lord will pass by." And behold, a great and strong wind that rent the mountain and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire the voice of a gentle breeze. ¹⁵and the Lord said unto him, "Go, return on thy way, and thou shalt come to the way of the wilderness of Damascus, and thou shalt anoint Elisha, the son of Shaphat, to be prophet in thy stead.

COMPOSITE 24: The reading from Leviticus. (Condensed from Leviticus 26)

The Lord spoke to the sons of Israel saying " ³If ye walk in My statutes and keep My commandments and do them,

⁴then I will give you the rain in due season, and the land shall yield her fruits, and the trees of the field shall yield their

fruit. ⁵And your threshing shall overtake the vintage, and your vintage shall overtake your seed time. And ye shall eat your bread to the full and dwell in your land safely, and war shall not go through the land. ⁶And I will give peace in your land, and ye shall sleep, and none shall make you afraid. And I will destroy the evil beasts out of your land, ⁷and ye shall chase your enemies, and they shall fall before you by the sword. ⁸And five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall chase tens of thousands, and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword. ⁹And I will have respect unto you and increase you and multiply you and establish My covenant with you. ¹⁰And ye shall eat the old and bring the old out of the new. ¹¹And I will set My tabernacle among you, and My soul shall not abhor you, ¹²and I will walk among you and will be your God, and ye shall be My people. ¹⁴But if ye will not hearken unto Me nor keep ¹⁵all My commandments and so break My covenant, ¹⁶then will I do thus

unto you: I will bring want upon you and ye shall sow your seeds in vain, and your enemies shall eat the fruit of your labors. ¹⁷And I will set My face against you, and ye shall fail before your enemies, and they that hate you shall pursue you, and ye shall flee when no one doth pursue you. ¹⁹And I will break down the haughtiness of your pride, and I will make your heaven iron and your earth as it were brass. ²⁰And your strength shall be in vain, and your land shall not yield her seed, neither shall the tree of your field yield the fruit thereof. ²²And I will send upon you the wild beasts of the land, and they shall devour you and consume your cattle. And I will make you few in number, ³³and the sword shall come upon you and destroy you, and your land shall be desolate and your gates shall be deserted, for you walked perversely before Me, and I will walk against you in fury,” saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel.

PALM SUNDAY

1. The reading from Genesis. (Condensed from Genesis 49:1-2, 8-12)

^{49:1} **A**nd Jacob called his sons and said unto them, “Gather yourselves together that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days. ²Gather yourselves together and hear me, sons of Jacob; hearken unto Israel, hearken unto your father. ⁸Judah, thy brethren have praised thee, and thine hands shall be upon the back of thine enemies; thy father’s sons shall bow

before thee. ⁹Judah is a lion’s whelp: from the tender plant, my son, thou art gone up; thou hast couched, thou dost sleep as a lion, and as a whelp; who shall rouse him up? ¹⁰A ruler shall not fail from Judah nor a ruler from his thighs until there come the things stored up for him, and he is the expectation of the nations. ¹¹Binding his foal unto the vine and the foal of his ass

unto the branch thereof, he shall wash his robe in wine and his garment in the blood of the grape. ¹²His eyes shall be more

gladdening than wine and his teeth whiter than milk.

2. The reading from Zephaniah. (Zeph. 3:14-19)

Thus saith the Lord: ¹⁴Rejoice, O daughter of Sion; proclaim, O daughter of Jerusalem; rejoice and delight thee with all thine heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. ¹⁵The Lord hath taken away thine iniquities; He hath redeemed thee from the hand of thine enemies; the Lord, even the King of Israel, is in the midst of thee; thou shalt not see evil any more. ¹⁶At that time the Lord shall say to Jerusalem, Be of good courage, O Sion; let not thine hands be slack. ¹⁷The Lord thy God is in

the midst of thee; the Mighty One shall save thee; He shall bring joy upon thee and renew thee with His love, and He shall rejoice over thee with delight as in a day of feasting. ¹⁸And I will gather thine afflicted ones. Alas, who hath taken up a reproach against her? ¹⁹“Behold, I will work in thee for thy sake at that time,” saith the Lord, “and I will save her that was oppressed and receive her that was rejected, and I will make them a praise and honored in all the earth.”

3. The reading from Zechariah. (Zech. 9:9-15)

Thus saith the Lord:⁹“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; proclaim it aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, the King cometh unto thee, just and having salvation; He is meek and riding upon an ass and upon a young foal. ¹⁰And He shall cut off the chariots from Ephraim and the horse from Jerusalem, and the bow of war shall be cut off. *And there shall be* abundance and peace out of the nations, and He shall have dominion over the waters unto the sea and the rivers unto the ends of the earth. ¹¹And Thou by the blood of Thy covenant hast sent forth Thy prisoners out of the pit that hath no water.

¹²Ye shall dwell in strong holds, ye prisoners of the congregation, and for one day of thy captivity will I render double unto thee. ¹³For I have bent thee for Me as a bow, O Judah; I have filled Ephraim, and I will raise up thy children, O Sion, against the children of the Greeks and handle them as the sword of a warrior. ¹⁴And the Lord shall be over them, and His arrow shall go forth as lightning, and the Lord Almighty shall blow with the trumpet and shall proceed with the tumult of His threatening. ¹⁵The Lord Almighty shall defend them, and they shall devour their enemy and overwhelm them with

sling-stones. They will drink them down as wine, and they shall fill the bowls as at the altar.

HOLY FRIDAY

1. The reading from Job. (Job 42:12-17 [LXX ending])

^{42:12} **A**nd the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than the former; and his livestock were fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand she-asses of the pastures. And there were born to him seven sons and three daughters. And he called the first Jemíma, the second Cassia, and the third Amáltheia's Horn. And there

were not found under heaven any like in magnificence to Job's daughters. And their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers. Job lived after his affliction a hundred and seventy years; all the years he lived were two-hundred and forty-eight. And Job saw his sons and his sons' sons, even unto the fourth generation. And Job died an old man, full of days.