

## YEAR C, EASTER 4, SUNDAY: MASS

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

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

Now there was at Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity.<sup>37</sup> In those days she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room.<sup>38</sup> Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him, “Please come to us without delay.”<sup>39</sup> So Peter rose and went with them. And when he had come, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping, and showing tunics and other garments which Dorcas made while she was with them.<sup>40</sup> But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, rise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.<sup>41</sup> And he gave her his hand and lifted her up. Then calling the saints and widows he presented her alive.<sup>42</sup> And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.<sup>43</sup> And he stayed in Joppa for many days with one Simon, a tanner.

*The Reader concludes*    The Word of the Lord.

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### Psalm 23

*The Said Mass Reader says:*

Please join me in reading Psalm 23, found in the red Prayer Book beginning on page 612.

*The Reader repeats the above information several times.*

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.
  
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.
  
- 3 He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his  
Name's sake.
  
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of  
death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

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- <sup>5</sup> You spread a table before me in the presence of  
those  
who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.
- <sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all  
the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

*The Second Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from the Revelation to John**

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no man could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, <sup>10</sup> and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits upon the throne, and to the Lamb!” <sup>11</sup> And all the angels stood round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and

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thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.”<sup>13</sup> Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and whence have they come?”<sup>14</sup> I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”<sup>15</sup> Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night within his temple; and he who sits upon the throne will shelter them with his presence.<sup>16</sup> They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.<sup>17</sup> For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

*The Reader concludes* The Word of the Lord.

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### Verse before the Gospel

*All stand as the reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

*Reader* Alleluia.

*People* Alleluia.

*Reader* I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; \*  
I know my sheep and my sheep know me.

*People* Alleluia.

### 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.

It was the feast of the Dedication at Jerusalem; <sup>23</sup> it was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup> So the Jews gathered round him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.” <sup>25</sup> Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name, they bear witness to me; <sup>26</sup> but you do not believe, because you

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do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; <sup>28</sup> and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> I and the Father are one.”

*The Minister says*            The Gospel of the Lord.