

## **Church of Jerusalem Newsletter** for the First Week of April 2020

### ***This Week's Didache Reading***

First Week (April 1) Chapter 1, "The Two Ways and the First Commandment"

### ***Fasts for the Month of April***

We abstain from dairy products on all Wednesdays and from meat products on all Fridays. For the month of April these days include the following: 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29

### ***New Moon***

This month's New Moon is observed on April 24. Members of the Church are obligated to observe the New Moon. On each New Moon we read the 28th chapter of the book of Numbers.

### ***Commemorations***

- ◆ Mary of Egypt, Venerable (April 1)
- ◆ James the Righteous (first Tuesdays, Thursdays)
- ◆ Matthew (first Tuesday)
- ◆ Resurrection Day (April 12, 2020)

### ***Divine Liturgy***

From Sunday through Friday, priests celebrate the Divine Liturgy (Mass) using the text in the 9th chapter of the Didache. On Saturdays the Liturgy of St. James is used. If there is no priest in your area, the Liturgy in the Didache is used on Sabbath instead and may be administered by an appointed lay-minister or a senior elder. You can send prayer requests to the communications email account.

### ***Daily Church Life***

#### ***April 1***

- ◆ Psalm 143; Jeremiah 32:1-9, 36-41; Matthew 22:23-33
- ◆ This week's Didache reading is from the first chapter.

#### ***April 2***

- ◆ Psalm 31:9-16; 1 Samuel 16:11-13; Philippians 1:1-11

#### ***April 3***

- ◆ We are reading from Psalm 31:9-16; Job 13:13-19; Philippians 1:21-30
- ◆ Please pray for the end of coronavirus (COVID-19) around the world.
- ◆ Pray for the sick and suffering of those who are suffering from coronavirus and other illnesses.
- ◆ Pray for government leaders to make proper choices in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### ***April 4***

- ◆ Leviticus 6:1-8:36; Jeremiah 7:21-8:3; 9:22-9:23; Mark 10:32-34
- ◆ Sabbath ends after sundown.

### ***A Reading from Psalm 31:9-16***

<sup>9</sup> Have mercy upon me, O Jehovah [or Yahweh], for I am in distress:

Mine eye wasteth away with grief [or anger], yea, my soul and my body.

<sup>10</sup> For my life is spent with sorrow,

And my years with sighing:

My strength faileth because of poverty,

And my bones are wasted away because of mine enemies.

<sup>11</sup> I am become a reproach, unto my neighbors exceedingly,  
And a fear to mine acquaintance:  
They that did see me without fled from me.

<sup>12</sup> I am completely forgotten as a dead man:  
I am like a broken vessel.

<sup>13</sup> For I have heard the defaming of many,  
Terror on every side:  
While they took counsel together against me,  
They devised to take away my life.

<sup>14</sup> But I trusted in thee, O Jehovah:  
I said, Thou art my God, O Jehovah.

<sup>15</sup> My times are in thy hand:  
Deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.

<sup>16</sup> Make thy face to shine upon thy servant:  
Deliver me with thy mercy.

(ASV with corrections made with the Aramaic Pshitta)