

**A reading from Jonah chapter 4 verses 1 through 11. You can find the reading on page 775 in your pew Bible.**

But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. And he prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster. Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Do you do well to be angry?"

Jonah went out of the city and sat to the east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, till he should see what would become of the city. Now the LORD God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the plant. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint. And he asked that he might die and said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Do you do well to be angry for the plant?" And he said, "Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die." And the LORD said, "You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?"

**The Word of the Lord.**

***Thanks be to God.***

Please join me in praying Psalm 138.

Leader: I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing your praise;

**People: I bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love  
and your faithfulness,**

Leader: for you have exalted above all things  
your name and your word.

**People: On the day I called, you answered me;  
my strength of soul you increased.**

Leader: All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth,

**People: and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,  
for great is the glory of the LORD.**

Leader: For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly,  
but the haughty he knows from afar.

**People: Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve my life;**

Leader: you stretch out your hand against the wrath  
of my enemies,  
and your right hand delivers me.

**People: The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy  
Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.  
*Amen.***

**Leader: Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.**

*(allow them time to stand)*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Mark.**

***People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophoenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

**Leader: The Gospel of the Lord**

***People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.***