

**A reading from Genesis chapter 29 verses 21 through 30. You can find the reading on page 23 in your pew Bible.**

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and he went in to her. (Laban gave his female servant Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her servant.) And in the morning, behold, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "It is not so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week. Then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife. (Laban gave his female servant Bilhah to his daughter Rachel to be her servant.) So Jacob went in to Rachel also, and he loved Rachel more than Leah, and served Laban for another seven years.

**The Word of the Lord.**

***Thanks be to God.***

Please join me in praying Psalm 34.

Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**People: My soul makes its boast in the LORD;  
let the humble hear and be glad.**

Leader: Oh, magnify the LORD with me,  
and let us exalt his name together!

**People: I sought the LORD, and he answered me  
and delivered me from all my fears.**

Leader: Those who look to him are radiant,  
and their faces shall never be ashamed.

**People: This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him  
and saved him out of all his troubles.**

Leader: The angel of the LORD encamps  
around those who fear him, and delivers them.

**People: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!  
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!**

Leader: Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints,  
for those who fear him have no lack!

**People: The young lions suffer want and hunger;  
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**

**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 they came to Jericho. And as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart. Get up; he is calling you." And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. And Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Rabbi, let me recover my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.

**Leader: The Gospel of the Lord**

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