

A reading from Jonah chapter 3 verse 1 through 10. You can find the reading on page 775 in your pew Bible, but I will be reading from the New American Standard version of the Scriptures.

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh the great city and proclaim to it the proclamation which I am going to tell you." So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three days' walk. Then Jonah began to go through the city one day's walk; and he cried out and said, "Yet forty days and Nineveh will be overthrown."

Then the people of Nineveh believed in God; and they called a fast and put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least of them. When the word reached the king of Nineveh, he arose from his throne, laid aside his robe from him, covered himself with sackcloth and sat on the ashes. He issued a proclamation and it said, "In Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let man, beast, herd, or flock taste a thing. Do not let them eat or drink water. But both man and beast must be covered with sackcloth; and let men call on God earnestly that each may turn from his wicked way and from the violence which is in his hands. Who knows, God may turn and relent and withdraw His burning anger so that we will not perish."

When God saw their deeds, that they turned from their wicked way, then God relented concerning the calamity which He had declared He would bring upon them. And He did not do it.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please join me in praying Psalm 86.

Leader: Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.

**People: Preserve my life, for I am godly;
save your servant, who trusts in you—you are my God.**

Leader: Be gracious to me, O Lord,
for to you do I cry all the day.

**People: Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.**

Leader: For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

**People: Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;
listen to my plea for grace.**

Leader: In the day of my trouble I call upon you,
for you answer me.

**People: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,
nor are there any works like yours.**

Leader: All the nations you have made shall come
and worship before you, O Lord,
and shall glorify your name.

**People: For you are great and do wondrous things;
you alone are God.**

Leader: Teach me your way, O LORD,
that I may walk in your truth;

People: unite my heart to fear your name.

Leader: I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
and I will glorify your name forever.

**People: For great is your steadfast love toward me;
you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.**

**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 Syrophenician 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.