

**A reading from Jeremiah chapter 2 verses 1 through 5. You can find this reading on page 627 of your pew Bible.**

The word of the Lord came to me, saying, “Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem, Thus says the Lord,

“I remember the devotion of your youth,  
your love as a bride,  
how you followed me in the wilderness,  
in a land not sown.

Israel was holy to the Lord,  
the firstfruits of his harvest.

All who ate of it incurred guilt;  
disaster came upon them,  
declares the Lord.”

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the clans of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord:

“What wrong did your fathers find in me  
that they went far from me,  
and went after worthlessness, and became worthless?

**The Word of the Lord.**

***Thanks be to God.***

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**Leader: Please join me in praying Psalm 103.**

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name!

**People: Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits,**

Leader: who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,

**People: who redeems your life from the pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

Leader: who satisfies you with good  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**People: As for man, his days are like grass;  
he flourishes like a flower of the field;**

Leader: for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,  
and its place knows it no more.

**People: But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to  
everlasting on those who fear him,  
and his righteousness to children's children,**

Leader: to those who keep his covenant  
and remember to do his commandments.

**People: The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,  
and his kingdom rules over 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 forever. Amen.**

**Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.**

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

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

**Leader: The Gospel of the Lord**

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