

**A reading from Jeremiah chapter 17 verses 7 through 10. You can find this reading on page 645 of your pew Bible.**

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord,  
whose trust is the Lord.

He is like a tree planted by water,  
that sends out its roots by the stream,  
and does not fear when heat comes,  
for its leaves remain green,  
and is not anxious in the year of drought,  
for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

The heart is deceitful above all things,  
and desperately sick;  
who can understand it?

“I the Lord search the heart  
and test the mind,  
to give every man according to his ways,  
according to the fruit of his deeds.”

**The Word of the Lord.**

***Thanks be to God.***

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**Please join me in praying Psalm 52.**

Leader: Why do you boast of evil, O mighty man?  
The steadfast love of God endures all the day.

People: **Your tongue plots destruction,  
like a sharp razor, you worker of deceit.**

Leader: You love evil more than good,  
and lying more than speaking what is right.

**People: You love all words that devour,  
O deceitful tongue.**

Leader: But God will break you down forever;

**People: he will snatch and tear you from your tent;  
he will uproot you from the land of the living.**

Leader: The righteous shall see and fear,  
and shall laugh at him, saying,

**People: "See the man who would not make  
God his refuge,**

Leader: but trusted in the abundance of his riches  
and sought refuge in his own destruction!"

**People: But I am like a green olive tree  
in the house of God.**

Leader: I trust in the steadfast love of God  
forever and ever.

**People: I will thank you forever,  
because you have done it.**

**All: I will wait for your name, for it is good,  
in the presence of the godly.**

**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 Mark.**

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

And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." Peter began to say to him, "See, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

**Leader: The Gospel of the Lord**

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