



ST. FRANCIS
IN THE FIELDS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Please read the lesson from the lectern.

THE LESSON

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

5:00 PM

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Reader says: **A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah**

O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him." But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

Reader: **The Word of the Lord.**

People: Thanks be to God.

Pause, then read the Psalm.

Reader says: Psalm 69, verses 8 through 20, will be read responsively by whole verse.

Reader Surely, for your sake have I suffered reproach, and shame has covered my face.

People I have become a stranger to my own kindred, an alien to my mother's children.

Reader Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

People I humbled myself with fasting, but that was turned to my reproach.

Reader I put on sack-cloth also, and became a byword among them.

People Those who sit at the gate murmur against me, and the drunkards make songs about me.

Reader But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set,
O Lord:

People "In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

Reader Save me from the mire; do not let me sink; let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.

People Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swallow me up; do not let the Pit shut its mouth upon me.

Reader Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind; in your great compassion, turn to me.

People Hide not your face from your servant; be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

Reader Draw near to me and redeem me; because of my enemies deliver me."