

January 23, 2022

## A reading from Nehemiah

## All Services

<sup>1</sup>All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup>Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup>He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. <sup>5</sup>And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup>Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. <sup>8</sup>So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

<sup>9</sup>And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

**The word of the Lord.**

January 23, 2022

READING: Psalm 19

Early Service Only

**“We will read the Psalm responsively.”**

**L: <sup>1</sup>The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.**

C: <sup>2</sup>Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

**L: <sup>3</sup>There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;**

C <sup>4</sup>yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

**L: <sup>5</sup>which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.**

C: <sup>6</sup>Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.

**L: <sup>7</sup>The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;**

C: <sup>8</sup>the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

**L: <sup>9</sup>the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.**

C: <sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

**L: <sup>11</sup>Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.**

C: <sup>12</sup>But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

**L: <sup>13</sup>Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.**

C: <sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.