

**Worship at St. Nicholas, Sutton  
for Thursday 4 March 2021  
Collect & readings**

Almighty God,  
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,  
that they may return to the way of righteousness:  
grant to all those who are admitted  
    into the fellowship of Christ's religion,  
that they may reject those things  
    that are contrary to their profession,  
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**Jeremiah 17.5-10**

*Judah's Sin and Punishment*

<sup>5</sup> Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals  
    and make mere flesh their strength,  
    whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> They shall be like a shrub in the desert,  
    and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
    in an uninhabited salt land.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,  
    whose trust is the LORD.

<sup>8</sup> They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
    sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,  
    and its leaves shall stay green;  
in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
    and it does not cease to bear fruit.

<sup>9</sup> The heart is devious above all else;  
    it is perverse—  
    who can understand it?

<sup>10</sup> I the LORD test the mind  
    and search the heart,  
to give to all according to their ways,  
    according to the fruit of their doings.

**Luke 16.19-end***The Rich Man and Lazarus*

19 'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup>who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. <sup>22</sup>The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham.\* The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup>In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.\* <sup>24</sup>He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." <sup>25</sup>But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup>Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." <sup>27</sup>He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house— <sup>28</sup>for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." <sup>29</sup>Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." <sup>30</sup>He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." <sup>31</sup>He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." '