**READINGS FOR WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER, APRIL 22, 2020**

**(from THE INCLUSIVE BIBLE)**

**PSALM 14**

Only fools say to themselves, “There is no God!”

**They’re all corrupt, they’ve done terrible things, and no one does what is right.**

YHWH looks down from heaven upon the peoples

**to see if anyone understands, if anyone seeks God.**

But they are all lost, they are all equally corrupt;

**not one of them does what is right, not a single one.**

Will they never learn?

**They eat up my people like bread and never give God a thought.**

I see them now, consumed with fear,

**because God is on the side of those who do justice.**

They frustrate the progress of poor people at every turn,

**but YHWH is the refuge of those in need.**

Who will God bring us from Zion?

**Who will be the deliverance of Israel?**

When YHWH makes the faithful prosperous again,

**what joy and celebration will be ours as children of Leah and Rachel and Jacob!**

**JOHN 3:16-21**

Yes, God so loved the world as to give the Only Begotten One, that whoever believes may not die, but have eternal life.

God sent the Only Begotten into the world not to condemn the world, but that through the Only Begotten the world might be saved.

Whoever believes in the Only Begotten avoids judgment, but whoever doesn’t believe is judged already for not believing in the name of the Only Begotten of God.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light came into the world, people showed they preferred darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

Indeed, people who do wrong hate the light and avoid it, for fear their actions will be exposed;

but people who live by the truth come out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what they do is done in God.