

*FIRST READING*

**Jeremiah 1:4-8**

**Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.**

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah:

The word of the Lord came to me thus: Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you. "Oh Lord, God!" I said "I know not how to speak: I am too young."

But the Lord answered me; say not, "I'm too young." To whomever I send you, you shall go: whatever I command you, you shall speak. Have no fear before them, because I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.

Then the Lord extended his hand and touched my mouth saying "See, I place my words in your mouth!" This day I set you over nations and over kingdoms, to root up and tear down, to destroy and to demolish, to build and to plant.

This is the Word of the Lord