

Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**R.** (John 6:68c) Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The law of the LORD is perfect,  
refreshing the soul;  
the decree of the LORD is trustworthy,  
giving wisdom to the simple.

**R.** Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart;  
the command of the LORD is clear,  
enlightening the eye.

**R.** Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The fear of the LORD is pure,  
enduring forever;  
the ordinances of the LORD are true,  
all of them just.

**R.** Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

They are more precious than gold,  
than a heap of purest gold;  
sweeter also than syrup  
or honey from the comb.

**R.** Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

**SEVENTH READING**

I shall sprinkle clean water upon you and I shall give you a new heart.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel 36:16–17a, 18–28

**T**he word of the LORD came to me, saying:  
Son of man, when the house of Israel lived in their land,  
they defiled it by their conduct and deeds.  
Therefore I poured out my fury upon them  
because of the blood that they poured out on the ground,  
and because they defiled it with idols.

I scattered them among the nations,  
dispersing them over foreign lands;  
according to their conduct and deeds I judged them.  
But when they came among the nations wherever they came,  
they served to profane my holy name,  
because it was said of them: “These are the people of the  
LORD,  
yet they had to leave their land.”  
So I have relented because of my holy name  
which the house of Israel profaned  
among the nations where they came.  
Therefore say to the house of Israel: Thus says the Lord GOD:  
Not for your sakes do I act, house of Israel,  
but for the sake of my holy name,  
which you profaned among the nations to which you came.  
I will prove the holiness of my great name, profaned among  
the nations,  
in whose midst you have profaned it.  
Thus the nations shall know that I am the LORD, says the Lord  
GOD,  
when in their sight I prove my holiness through you.  
For I will take you away from among the nations,  
gather you from all the foreign lands,  
and bring you back to your own land.  
I will sprinkle clean water upon you  
to cleanse you from all your impurities,  
and from all your idols I will cleanse you.  
I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you,  
taking from your bodies your stony hearts  
and giving you natural hearts.  
I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my  
statutes,  
careful to observe my decrees.  
You shall live in the land I gave your fathers;  
you shall be my people, and I will be your God.  
The word of the Lord.