

**July 2020**  
**Summer Sermon Series:**  
**Hot Times in the Bible**  
**“Surviving the Hottest of Summers”**  
**July 26, 2020**

**First Reading** ~ *Jeremiah 17:5-8*

YHWH says:

“Cursed are the strong who depend on human ways  
and make mere muscle their strength,  
and whose hearts turn away from YHWH.  
They shall be like a shrub in the desert  
with no hope in the future.  
They shall live in the parched places of the desert,  
an uninhabited land of salt.

Blessed are those who believe, trust, and rely on YHWH.  
They shall be like a tree planted by the waters,  
sending out roots toward the stream,  
never a worry through the hottest of summers;  
its leaves shall stay green,  
remaining serene and calm, not anxious through droughts,  
and never ceasing to bear fruit.

**Second Reading** ~ *adapted from Christian Larson*

To be so calm that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.  
To give so much time to the improvement of yourself  
that you have no time to criticize others.  
To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear.  
To think well of yourself and to proclaim this to the world,  
not in loud words, but in great deeds.  
To live as such in faith  
so long as you are true  
to the best that is in you.