

**A reading from the book of 1 Thessalonians chapter 4
verses 1 - 12.**

Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, for that indeed is what you are doing to all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more, and to aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we instructed you, so that you may walk properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please join me in praying Psalm 16.

Leader: Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes;
and I will keep it to the end.

**People: Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.**

Leader: Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.

**People: Incline my heart to your testimonies,
and not to selfish gain!**

Leader: Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things;
and give me life in your ways.

**People: Confirm to your servant your promise,
that you may be feared.**

Leader: Turn away the reproach that I dread,
for your rules are good.

**People: Behold, I long for your precepts;
in your righteousness give me life!**

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Leader: Let your steadfast love come to me, O LORD,
your salvation according to your promise;

**People: then shall I have an answer for him who taunts me,
for I trust in your word.
And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth,
for my hope is in your rules.**

**All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Leader: Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

(allow them time to stand)

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.**

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.” Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?” Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

“These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Leader: You may be seated.