

**A reading from 1 Corinthians chapter 1 verses 18 through 25.
You can find this reading on page 952 of your pew Bible.**

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

**The Word of the Lord.
*Thanks be to God.***

Please join me in praying Psalm 130.

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!
O Lord, hear my voice!

**People: Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

Leader: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?

**People: But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.**

Leader: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

**People: my soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.**

Leader: O Israel, hope in the Lord!
For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.

**People: And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.**

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.