

April 7, 2019

A reading from Romans chapter 10 verses 1 through 4. You can find this reading on page 946 of your pew Bible.

Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please join me in praying Psalm 22.

Leader: But you, O Lord, do not be far off!
O you my help, come quickly to my aid!

**People: Deliver my soul from the sword,
my precious life from the power of the dog!**

Leader: Save me from the mouth of the lion!
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

**People: I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:**

Leader: You who fear the Lord, praise him!

**People: All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!**

Leader: For he has not despised or abhorred
the affliction of the afflicted,

**People: and he has not hidden his face from him,
but has heard, when he cried to him.**

**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.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.