

August 17, 2014

**A reading from Hebrews chapter 10 verses 19 through 25. You can find the reading on page 1,007 in your pew Bible.**

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

**The Word of the Lord.**

***Thanks be to God.***

Please join me in praying Psalm 126.

Leader: When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dream.

**People: Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**

Leader: then they said among the nations,  
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

**People: The LORD has done great things for us;  
we are glad.**

Leader: Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like streams in the Negeb!

**People: Those who sow in tears  
shall reap with shouts of joy!**

Leader: He who goes out weeping,  
bearing the seed for sowing,

**People: shall come home with shouts of joy,  
bringing his sheaves with him.**

**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 Matthew.**

***People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

**Leader: The Gospel of the Lord**

***People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

**Leader: You may be seated.**