

**A reading from Deuteronomy chapter 22 verses 22 through 29.
You can find the reading on page 164 in your pew Bible.**

“If a man is found lying with the wife of another man, both of them shall die, the man who lay with the woman, and the woman. So you shall purge the evil from Israel.

“If there is a betrothed virgin, and a man meets her in the city and lies with her, then you shall bring them both out to the gate of that city, and you shall stone them to death with stones, the young woman because she did not cry for help though she was in the city, and the man because he violated his neighbor's wife. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

“But if in the open country a man meets a young woman who is betrothed, and the man seizes her and lies with her, then only the man who lay with her shall die. But you shall do nothing to the young woman; she has committed no offense punishable by death. For this case is like that of a man attacking and murdering his neighbor, because he met her in the open country, and though the betrothed young woman cried for help there was no one to rescue her.

“If a man meets a virgin who is not betrothed, and seizes her and lies with her, and they are found, then the man who lay with her shall give to the father of the young woman fifty shekels of silver, and she shall be his wife, because he has violated her. He may not divorce her all his days.

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

Please join me in praying Psalm 111.

Leader: Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**People: Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.**

Leader: Full of splendor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

**People: He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

Leader: He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.

**People: He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.**

Leader: The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy;

**People: they are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

Leader: He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name!

**People: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!**

**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.

but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?" This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus stood up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more."

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.