

A reading from Acts chapter 18 verses 24 through 28. You can find this reading on page 927 of your pew Bible.

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them, and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks.

When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. And when they opposed and reviled him, he shook out his garments and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles." And he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. His house was next door to the synagogue. Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized. And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, "Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people." And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please join me in praying Psalm 112.

Leader: Praise the Lord!
Blessed is the man who fears the Lord,
who greatly delights in his commandments!

**People: His offspring will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Leader: Wealth and riches are in his house,
and his righteousness endures forever.

**People: Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;
he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

Leader: It is well with the man who deals generously and lends;
who conducts his affairs with justice.

**People: For the righteous will never be moved;
he will be remembered forever.**

Leader: He is not afraid of bad news;
his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord.

**People: His heart is steady; he will not be afraid,
until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.**

Leader: He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;

**People: His righteousness endures forever;
his horn is exalted in honor.**

**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 for ever. Amen.**

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

“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.

**Leader: The Gospel of the Lord
*People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.***