

A reading from Romans chapter 6 verses 15 through 19. You can find this reading on page 943 of your pew Bible.

What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please join me in praying Psalm 67.

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,

**People: that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!

**People: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!

**People: The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, shall bless us.**

**All: God shall bless us;
let all the ends of the earth fear 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 for ever. *Amen.***

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father.”

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