

August 12, 2018

**A reading from Romans chapter 5 verses 3 through 5. You can find this reading on page 942 of your pew Bible.**

Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

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

**Please join me in praying Psalm 1.**

Leader: Blessed is the man  
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,

**People: nor stands in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;**

Leader: but his delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and on his law he meditates day and night.

**People: He is like a tree  
planted by streams of water**

Leader: that yields its fruit in its season,  
and its leaf does not wither.  
In all that he does, he prospers.

**People: The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

Leader: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

**People: for the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

**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 Mark.**

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

And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

**Leader: The Gospel of the Lord**

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