

A reading from Proverbs chapter 3 beginning at verse 1. [3:1-6]

- 1 My child, do not forget my teaching,
but let your heart keep my commandments;
- 2 for length of days and years of life
and abundant welfare they will give you.
- 3 Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you;
bind them round your neck,
write them on the tablet of your heart.
- 4 So you will find favour and good repute
in the sight of God and of people.
- 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
- 6 In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19 beginning at verse 1. [19.1-6]

1. The heavens declare the glory of God:
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork;
2. **One day tells it to another:
and night to night communicates knowledge.**
3. There is no speech or language:
nor are their voices heard;
4. **Yet their sound has gone out through all the world:
and their words to the ends of the earth.**
5. There he has pitched a tent for the sun:
which comes out as a bridegroom from his chamber,
and rejoices like a strong man to run his course.
6. **Its rising is at one end of the heavens,
and its circuit to their farthest bound:
and nothing is hidden from its heat.**

**Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen**

A reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians chapter 4 beginning at verse 1. [4.1-14]

1 I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
2with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,
3making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
4There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
5one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
6one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

7 But each of us was given grace
according to the measure of Christ's gift.

8Therefore it is said,
'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people.'

9(When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean
but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10He who descended is the same one
who ascended far above all the heavens,
so that he might fill all things.)

11The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles,
some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,
12to equip the saints for the work of ministry,
for building up the body of Christ,
13until all of us come to the unity of the faith
and of the knowledge of the Son of God,
to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

14We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro
and blown about by every wind of doctrine,
by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 9 beginning at verse 9 [9.9-13]

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

9 As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth;
and he said to him,
'Follow me.'
And he got up and followed him.

10 And as he sat at dinner in the house,
many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples.

11When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples,
'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?'

12But when he heard this, he said,
'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.

13Go and learn what this means,
"I desire mercy, not sacrifice."

For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

