***Introit (Psalm 99)***

P: Praise the Lord our God and worship on His holy mountain.

C: Because the Lord our God is holy.

P: The Lord reigns, let the nations fear.

**C: The Lord sits on His throne between bright burning angels. Let the earth shake.**

P: The Lord is great in Jerusalem.

**C: He is exalted above the nations.**

P: Let the people praise Your great and wonderful name.

**C: He is holy!**

P: The King is mighty. He loves fair judgment.

**C: In Israel, You did what is good and right.**

P: Praise the Lord our God and worship in front of His throne.

**C: He is holy!**

**All: Glory give to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, the same as it was in the beginning, is now, and will continue forever. Amen.**

***Prayer for God’s Word***

P: Lord God, on the mountain Jesus changed and became bright and shining. MOSES and ELIJAH talked with Jesus, and that showed we can trust Your word. When You spoke from the cloud, You showed how Your grace will make us Your children. Keep us in Your mercy and make us inherit Your kingdom and Jesus as our King. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Jesus lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (copy) Amen.

*There are two different Old Testament readings to choose from, one from Exodus 34 and one from 2 Kings 2. Pick one.*

*The first Old Testament reading.*

The Old Testament lesson is from Exodus chapter 34.

 MOSES came down Mount SINAI and he had the two stone tablets with the commandments. MOSES’ face was shining because he was speaking with God, but he didn’t know his face was shining. AARON and the people of ISRAEL saw MOSES and they were afraid of MOSES because his face was shining.

 MOSES called them to come, and AARON and the leaders came, and MOSES talked with them. Then the people of ISRAEL came near. MOSES told them everything the Lord told him on Mount SINAI. MOSES finished speaking to the people. Then he used a cloth to cover his face.

 When MOSES went to speak with the Lord, he took off the cloth. Then MOSES came out and told the people what the Lord said. The people of ISRAEL saw MOSES’ face shining. Then MOSES used a cloth to cover his face until he went again to speak with God.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

*The second Old Testament reading.*

The Old Testament lesson is from 2 Kings, chapter 2.

 The Lord was ready to take ELIJAH to heaven in a wind. ELIJAH and ELISHA were going to the city named GILGAL. ELIJAH told ELISHA, “Stay here, because the Lord is sending me to the city named BETHEL.”

 But ELISHA said, “While the Lord lives and while you live, I will not leave you.”

 Now both went to BETHEL. And the prophet sons in BETHEL asked ELISHA, “Do you know today the Lord will take ELIJAH from here?”

 ELISHA said, “Yes, I know that; be-quiet.”

 ELIJAH told him, “ELISHA, stay here, because the Lord is sending me to the city named JERICHO.”

 But ELISHA said, “While the Lord lives and while you live, I will not leave you.”

 Now both went to JERICHO. And the prophet sons in JERICHO asked ELISHA, “Do you know today the Lord will take ELIJAH from here?”

 And ELISHA said, “Yes, I know that; be-quiet.”

 Then ELIJAH told him, “ELISHA, stay here, because the Lord is sending me to the river JORDAN.”

 But ELISHA said, “While the Lord lives and while you live, I will not leave you.”

 Now both went to the river JORDAN. Fifty prophet sons also went with them. ELIJAH and ELISHA stood near the river, but the fifty men stood away. Then ELIJAH took-off his coat, rolled-it-up, and hit the water, and the water separated until both walked on dry land. Happened both finished crossing, ELIJAH asked, “What do you want before I leave?”

 ELISHA said, “I want to inherit double Spirit from you.”

 And ELIJAH said, “You asked for a hard thing; but if you see me go up away from you, then you will get what you ask. But if you don’t see me, then you get nothing.”

 While both walked and talked, see a chariot with fire and horses with fire separated the two men. And ELIJAH went in a powerful wind up to heaven.

 ELISHA saw that and shouted, “My father, my father! The chariots and horses of Israel!” Then he saw ELIJAH no more. Then he tore his clothes in half.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks give to God.

*There are two New Testament lessons to choose from, a shorter reading from 2 Corinthians 3-4, and a longer reading from 2 Corinthians 3-4. Pick one.*

*The shorter reading.*

The New Testament lesson is from 2 Corinthians chapters 3 and 4.

 Because we have hope, we are very brave. We are not the same-as MOSES. His face was shining. But he covered his face, then the Jews will not see the shining fade-away (dissolve).

 God in mercy gave us this service, and now we don’t become disappointed. We throw-away all secret and shameful deeds. We don’t lie, and we don’t change God’s Word. In front-of God, we announce the clear truth to everyone.

 If our gospel is hidden, it is hidden from unbelievers who are dying. The god of this world made them blind. They can’t see the light, the gospel that shows Christ’s glory. When we see Christ, we see God Himself.

 We don’t preach about ourselves. We preach that Jesus Christ is Lord, and we are your servants for Jesus. God said, “From darkness, light will shine.” He shined in our hearts and gave us light, knowing His glory in Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

*The longer reading.*

The New Testament lesson is from 2 Corinthians chapters 3 and 4.

 Because we have hope, we are very brave. We are not the same-as MOSES. His face was shining. But he covered his face, then the Jews will not see the shining fade-away (dissolve). Their minds were cold stone. Still today when they read the Old Testament, their minds are closed. Only Christ takes-away the covering, He opens our minds.

 Yes, still today happens the Jews read the Laws of MOSES, their hearts are closed. But if anyone believes in the Lord, the covering is taken-away, He opens their hearts.

 The Lord is the Spirit, and the place the Spirit of the Lord lives, there is freedom. Then all of us see the Lord’s glory and our faces show His glory. He changes us showing more glory the same-as Him. The Lord, the Spirit, does that work.

 God in mercy gave us this service, and now we don’t become disappointed. We throw-away all secret and shameful deeds. We don’t lie, and we don’t change God’s Word. In front-of God, we announce the clear truth to everyone.

 If our gospel is hidden, it is hidden from unbelievers who are dying. The god of this world made them blind. They can’t see the light, the gospel that shows Christ’s glory. When we see Christ, we see God Himself.

 We don’t preach about ourselves. We preach that Jesus Christ is Lord, and we are your servants for Jesus. God said, “From darkness, light will shine.” He shined in our hearts and gave us light, knowing His glory in Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Mark chapter 9.

C: (copy) Glory to You, O Lord.

 Six days later Jesus brought PETER, JAMES and JOHN. The four-of-them went up a high mountain. Jesus’ body changed in-front-of their eyes, and His clothing became white shining. No person on earth can wash His clothes that white. Then ELIJAH and MOSES appeared and talked with Jesus.

 PETER said to Jesus, “Teacher, it is good we are here. We will make three tents, one for You, one for MOSES, and one for ELIJAH.” PETER didn’t know what to say. All three disciples were afraid.

 A cloud came and covered that place and a voice spoke, “This is My Son, I love Him. You attend to Him.”

 Quickly, the three disciples looked around, but they saw only Jesus. They all left the mountain. Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone the things that happened until after the Son of Man rose alive from the dead.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (copy) Praise to You, O Christ.