***Introit (Psalm 130)***

P: I wish You will tear-open heaven and come down!

**C: The mountains will shake in-front-of You.**

P: I wait for the Lord. My soul waits.

**C: I have hope in His word.**

P: My soul waits for the Lord more than soldiers watch for morning.

**C: More than soldiers watch for morning.**

P: Israel, have hope in the Lord! The Lord shows faithful love.

**C: The Lord gives much salvation.**

P: He will save Israel

**C: From all their sins.**

**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 Jesus, show Your power and come. Help us with Your wonderful strength and grace. Then our sins will not burden us. Your grace and mercy will quickly take-away our sins. Jesus lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (copy) Amen.

The Old Testament lesson is from Isaiah chapter 7.

The Lord spoke again to King AHAZ. “Ask the Lord your God to show you proof, ask anything from deep in the world of the dead or from high in heaven.”

King AHAZ answered, “I will not ask for proof. I will not test the Lord.”

Then ISAIAH said, “Family of DAVID, listen! Truly it is bad enough for you to test people. You will also test God? Then the Lord Himself will show you proof. A virgin will become pregnant and give-birth to a Son, and will name Him IMMANUEL.”

“When the boy is older, he will eat CURDS and HONEY. You are afraid of the country with two kings. While the boy is still young, that country will get destroyed. But the Lord will bring a terrible time on you, your family and your nation, the worst time in many years. The Lord will bring the king of ASSYRIA to destroy you.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from Romans chapter 1.

I am PAUL, a servant belonging to Jesus Christ. God called me to preach His good news about Jesus. Long-ago, God promised that good news through His prophets in the Bible.

That good news is about His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is true Man, He was-born from the family of DAVID. And Jesus is true holy God. The Holy Spirit shows Jesus is the Son of God through the power of His rising from the dead.

Through Jesus, God gave us grace and made us apostles. God wants people in all nations to believe and obey. And that means you, because God called you to belong to Jesus Christ.

I write this letter to all Christians in the city named ROME. God loves you, and God called you as His holy people. Grace for you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Matthew chapter 1.

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

This is how Jesus Christ was-born. Jesus’ mother, MARY, was-engaged to JOSEPH. But before they married and slept together, JOSEPH learned that MARY became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. JOSEPH was a good man and didn’t-want to show shame on MARY. JOSEPH decided to divorce MARY secretly.

But while JOSEPH was-thinking about all these things, an angel from the Lord appeared in a dream. The angel said, “JOSEPH, from DAVID’s family, don’t be-afraid to accept MARY as your wife, because her baby is from the Holy Spirit. When the baby is-born, you will name the baby ‘Jesus’, because He will save His people from their sins.”

All this happened same-as the Lord said long ago through the prophet: “The virgin will become pregnant and give-birth to a Son. They will name Him IMMANUEL, that means ‘God with us.’”

JOSEPH awoke and did same-as the angel from the Lord commanded him. JOSEPH married MARY, but JOSEPH didn’t sleep with MARY as husband and wife until after the baby was-born. And JOSEPH named the baby “Jesus.”

This is the gospel of the Lord.

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