***Introit (Psalm 105)***

P: The same-as new-born babies, you want pure spiritual milk. Then you will grow-up in salvation.

**C: If you experienced that the Lord is good.**

P: Give thanks to the Lord. Call-on His name.

**C: Tell the nations what He has done!**

P: Sing for God! Praise Him!

**C: Announce all His wonderful work.**

P: Glory in His holy name.

**C: People who search-for the Lord, rejoice!**

P: Look to the Lord and His strength.

**C: Always look-for His face.**

P: Remember His amazing work.

**C: Remember His wonderful works and His judgments.**

P: He remembers His promise forever.

**C: He remembers His commands for a thousand generations.**

**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: Almighty God, we celebrated our Lord Jesus Christ’s wonderful resurrection. Give us Your grace. Then we can announce and show Jesus is our Lord and God. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Jesus lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (copy) Amen.

The First Lesson is from Acts chapter 5.

PETER and the other apostles answered, “We don’t obey people, we obey God. You crucified and killed Jesus. But God, the same God our fathers worshiped, He raised Jesus from death! God lifted-up Jesus to reign, and God made Jesus our Leader and Savior. Jesus gives repentance and forgiveness to all people in Israel.”

“We saw all these things happen, and we can say these things are true. The Holy Spirit also shows us that these things are true. God gave His Spirit to all people obeying Him.”

When the Jewish leaders heard that, they were very angry. They wanted to kill the apostles. One PHARISEE was named GAMALIEL, and all the people respected him as a law teacher. He stood up and ordered to put the apostles outside.

Then he said to the council, “Men of ISRAEL, think carefully what you want to do with these men. A while ago, THEUDAS boasted he was important. He got 400 men following him. He died and his followers went away. After that, another man, JUDAS from GALILEE, he led some people during the time of the CENSUS (counting). He died, and all his people scattered.”

“In this situation, I tell you avoid these men. Leave them alone. If their work is from men, their work will fail. If their work is from God, you can’t beat them. You will be fighting against God.”

The council accepted his advice. They called the apostles to come in, they whipped the apostles, ordered them not to speak about Jesus, then let them go free.

The apostles left the council. The rejoiced because God said they were worthy to suffer shame for Jesus. Every day in the temple and in houses, the apostles continued teaching and preaching that Jesus is the Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Second Lesson is from First Peter chapter 1.

Bless the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! God showed great mercy. He gave us a new birth and living hope because Jesus Christ rose alive from the dead. That means God gives you an inheritance that will never get destroyed, never become sinful, and never dissolve. That gift waits in heaven for you. God’s power protects you through faith. Then on the last day you will have salvation.

You rejoice for that, no-matter now for a short time we must suffer various tests. Fire tests gold, and gold can get destroyed. Your faith is more valuable than gold. God tests your faith. Then your faith can give praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ comes again.

You never saw Jesus, but you love Him. You don’t see Him now, but you believe in Him. You rejoice much with great joy and glory. Your faith means God is saving your souls.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from John chapter 20.

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

On Sunday evening, the disciples were together. The doors were locked because they were afraid of the Jews. Jesus came and stood with the disciples. He said, “Peace to you!” Then Jesus showed them His hands and side. The disciples saw the Lord and they were full of joy.

Again, Jesus said, “Peace to you! The Father sent Me, now I send you the same.” Jesus breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, his sins are truly forgiven. If you don’t forgive, then his sins aren’t forgiven.”

THOMAS, also named the TWIN, was one of the twelve disciples. But he wasn’t with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, “We saw the Lord!” But THOMAS said, “I must see His hands, the nail marks, and touch there, and I must touch His side, or I will not believe.”

A week later, the disciples were in the house. THOMAS was with them. The doors were locked, didn’t-matter, Jesus came and stood with the disciples. Jesus said, “Peace to you!” Then Jesus told THOMAS, “Touch and see My hands. Your hand touch-My-side. Stop doubting. Believe!”

THOMAS said to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said, “You believe because you see Me? Blessed are those people who haven’t seen Me, but they believe.”

Jesus did many other wonderful works in-front-of the disciples, many things not written in this book. But these things are written so you can believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Then you will believe in Him and have life in His name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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