***Introit (Psalm 100)***

P: I will sing about faithful love and right judgment.

**C: I will make music for You, Lord.**

P: All the earth, shout joy to the Lord!

**C: Gladly serve the Lord. Come to Him with singing.**

P: Know that the Lord is God.

**C: He made us. We are His people, the sheep in His field.**

P: Enter His gates with giving thanks. Enter His house with praise.

**C: Thank God and praise His name!**

P: Because the Lord is good. His faithful love continues forever.

**C: His faithfulness continues through every generation.**

**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: King of glory, Lord Almighty, You are high above heaven in victory. We pray, don’t leave us alone. You promised God the Father will send the Holy Spirit. Now send us comfort, send Your Spirit of truth. We pray in Your name, Lord Jesus. You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (copy) Amen.

The First Lesson is from Acts chapter 1.

 Then the disciples went again from the MOUNT OF OLIVES to JERUSALEM, about one-half mile away. They entered the city and went to the room where they lived. The apostles were named PETER, JOHN, JAMES and ANDREW; PHILIP and THOMAS; BARTHOLOMEW and MATTHEW; JAMES the son of ALPHAEUS, SIMON the ZEALOT, and JUDAS the son of JAMES. All these men, the women, MARY the mother of Jesus, and Jesus’ brothers, all agreed together and prayed always.

 PETER stood up and spoke to the believers, about 120 people. He said, “Brothers, the Bible words must happen. The Holy Spirit spoke through DAVID about JUDAS. JUDAS led people to arrest Jesus. He was a disciple with us and did this ministry.”

 After JUDAS betrayed Jesus, he bought a field. He fell, his stomach burst open and spilled out. All the people in JERUSALEM heard about that. They gave the field a Hebrew name, AKELDAMA, that means Field of Blood.

 PETER said, “The Book of PSALMS says, ‘Let his house become empty and let no one live there,’ and ‘Let another man have his work.’ One man should become a witness with us about Jesus’ resurrection. That man must have been with us for all of Jesus’ ministry, starting with John baptizing Jesus until Jesus went up into heaven.”

 The believers chose two men. One was named JOSEPH, also named BARSABBAS, also named JUSTUS. The second man was MATTHIAS. The believers prayed and said, “Lord, You know all people’s hearts. Show us which man You chose to become an apostle after JUDAS left and went to his place.” They threw DICE and chose MATTHIAS. He became one of the twelve apostles.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Second Lesson is from First Peter chapters 4 and 5.

 My friends, don’t be surprised when suffering happens to test you. That is not a strange happening. Be-happy, because you join in Jesus’ suffering. Then you will be full of joy when Jesus shows His glory. But now if people mock you because you belong to Christ, you are happy, because God’s glorious Spirit is in you.

 You should not murder, steal, do evil, or bother other people’s business, and then complain you are suffering. But if you suffer because you are a Christian, don’t feel ashamed, but praise God that you are a Christian. Now is the time God begins judging His people. And if God begins with us, then what will happen to those people refusing to listen to God’s gospel?

 If it is hard for righteous people to become saved, then what will happen to wicked people and sinners? So if God lets people suffer, let them trust God to take-care of their souls and let them do good.

 Become humble under God’s almighty hand. Then at the right time God will honor you. Give-Him all your worries, because He takes-care of you.

 Continue awake and be-careful! The devil is your enemy, the same-as a hungry lion searching-for some person to destroy. Resist the devil and continue strong in your faith. You know your Christian friends all over the world suffer same-as you.

 Yes! You must suffer for a short time, but then God will make you perfect, strong, and support you. God is full of love and He called you to experience His glory in Jesus. He has all power forever. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from John chapter 17.

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

 Jesus looked-up to heaven and said, “Father, now the time is ready. Give glory to Your Son, then Your Son can give-You glory. Because You gave Me power over all people, then I can give eternal life to all the people You gave Me. Eternal life means they know You, the only true God, and know Me, because You sent Me. I gave-You glory here on earth because I finished the work You gave Me. And now, Father, give-Me glory to reign with You the same-as I reigned before the world began.

 For those people You gave-Me, I showed them Your name. They belonged to You, and You gave-Me them, and they obeyed Your Word. Now they know, everything I have comes from you.

 Because I told them everything You told Me. And they accepted and learned the truth that I came from You, and they believe You sent Me. I pray for them. I don’t pray for the world, but I pray for those people You gave Me, because they belong to You.

 All My people are Yours, and all Your people are Mine. And I receive glory from those people. I will no more stay in the world, but they stay in the world. I am-coming to stay with You. Holy Father, take-care-of those people that You gave to Me. Then they will continue together as one the same-as We are one.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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