***Introit (Psalm 1)***

P: The Lord knows the righteous person’s life.

C: But the wicked person will die.

P: Blessed is the person who doesn’t follow wicked advice,

C: And he doesn’t join sinners or people who mock.

P: He is happy in the law of the Lord.

C: Day and night he thinks-about God’s law.

P: He is the same-as a tree planted near a stream. That tree grows fruit at the right time and never dries-up.

C: Everything he does succeeds.

P: Not true for the wicked people!

C: Wicked people dry-up and the wind blows them away.

P: Wicked people will not live through God’s judgment.

C: Sinners will not stand with God’s righteous people.

**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, You know many dangers surround us. We are not strong to defend ourselves against danger and temptation. Give-us Your strength and protection. When we experience danger, You support us and save us from all temptations. 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 Old Testament lesson is from Micah chapter 6.

 Attend to the Lord’s words. Stand-up and speak your complaint to the mountains and hills. You mountains and earth, hear the Lord’s complaint against His people. Because the Lord will say what His people did wrong and He will argue against Israel. "O My people, what did I do against you? How did I make you tired? Answer me! I led you out of the country named EGYPT. I saved you from slavery. I sent MOSES, AARON and MIRIAM to lead you. My people, remember the things King BALAK planned against you. Remember how BALAAM, son of BEOR, answered the king. Remember the things that happened from the city named SHITTIM to the city named GILGAL. Remember! Then you will know how the Lord saves you.”

 What must I bring to the Lord and bow-down in-front-of Him? Must I bring a one year old cow for a burnt offering? Will the Lord be-happy with thousands of rams and a thousand rivers of oil? Must I give the Lord my first-born son to pay for my sin?

 The Lord finished told you what is good. The Lord wants you always to do right, to love mercy, and to live humble with God.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from 1 Corinthians chapter 1.

 For unbelievers who are lost, they think the message about the cross is foolishness. But God is saving us, and for us the message about the cross is God’s power. The Bible says, “I will destroy wise people’s wisdom. I will reject smart people’s intelligence.” Where is the wise man? Where is the law teacher? Where is the person arguing?

 God made this world’s wisdom become foolish. The world can’t use their wisdom to know God. That agrees with God’s wise plan. God is happy to use a foolish message to save people who believe.

 The Jews want to see wonderful works for proof, and the Greeks look-for wisdom. But we preach that Christ died on a cross. The Jews think that insults them, and Greek people think that is foolish.

 But for those people God calls to believe, no-matter Jew or Greek, Christ is God’s power and God’s wisdom. God’s foolishness is more wise than people, and God’s weakness is stronger than people.

 Think about when God called you to become Christian. The world said not many of you were wise. Not many of you were powerful or rulers. But God chose foolish things in this world. That shames wise people. God chose weak things in this world. That shames strong people. God chose simple things, and things people hate, and things that seem worthless. Then He can show the important things in this world mean nothing. Then no one can boast to God.

 But God made you in Christ Jesus. Jesus is God’s wisdom for us, and righteousness, and making us holy, and saving us. Then the Bible verse is true, “If someone boasts, let him boast about the Lord.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Matthew chapter 5.

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

 Jesus saw the large crowds of people. So He went up on a mountain and sat down. Jesus’ disciples came, and He began teaching them. He said,

 “People poor in spirit, God blesses them. The kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

 People who mourn, God blesses them. He will comfort them.

 People gentle and humble, God blesses them. They will inherit the earth.

 People who hunger and thirst for righteousness, God blesses them. God will satisfy them.

 People who show mercy, God blesses them. God will show mercy to them.

 People who have pure hearts, God blesses them. They will see God.

 People who make peace, God blesses them. They will be named sons of God.

 When people persecute a righteous person because that person is righteous, God blesses that righteous person. The kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

 When people insult you, persecute you, and wrongly say evil things against you because you believe in Me, God blesses you. You should rejoice and be happy, because your reward in heaven is great. People persecuted the prophets the same way.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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