***Introit (Psalm 98)***

P: The Lord announced His salvation.

C: He showed His righteousness for all nations to see.

P: Let the ocean and everything in it make noise,

C: Also the world and all people.

P: Let the rivers clap their hands and the hills sing with joy to the Lord.

C: Because He comes to judge the earth.

P: He will judge the world with righteousness.

C: He will judge the people fairly.

**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, in Your grace, attend Your people praying. We suffer from our sin. Show mercy to us and save us because You are good and glorious. 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 Deuteronomy chapter 30.

 Look, today I put in-front-of-you life and good, and death and evil. I command you today to love the Lord your God, to follow His ways, and obey His commandments and laws and judgments. Then you will live and your people will increase. The Lord your God will bless you in the promised land you are entering.

 But if you leave God, and you ignore Him and worship and serve other gods, then I tell you today that you will die. You will not live a long time in the promised land across the JORDAN RIVER.

 I name heaven and earth as witnesses against you. I put in-front-of-you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, then you and your children can live and love the Lord your God, obey His voice, and hold-on to Him. He is your long life, then you can live in the land the Lord promised to your fathers, to ABRAHAM, ISAAC and JACOB.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from 1 Corinthians chapter 3.

 Dear Christians, I couldn’t talk to you as mature spiritual people. You love worldly things. You are baby Christians.

 I gave you milk to drink, not solid food. You were not-yet ready for deeper teachings. Also now you are not ready, because you continue the same-as unbelievers. You are jealous and fight. That shows you are the same-as unbelievers, and you do the same-as sinful people.

 One person says, “I follow PAUL.” Another person says, “I follow APOLLOS.” You are doing the same as any unbeliever! Who is APOLLOS? Who is PAUL? They are servants, the Lord sent them to teach you God’s word, and you believed.

 I planted, APOLLOS watered, but God made your faith grow. The person who plants and the person who waters aren’t important. God is important, and He makes faith grow.

 The person who plants and the person who waters work together. God will reward each person for their work. We work together with God. And you are God’s field, God’s building.

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 said, Long ago you heard the command, “You will not murder.” And, “The court will punish the person who murders.” But I tell you that every person angry against his brother will be guilty in court. The person who tells his brother, “You idiot,” will be guilty in court. The person who says, “You fool,” will go to the fires of hell.

 Suppose you go to the altar to give your offering and there you remember you sinned against another believer. Leave your gift there at the altar. Go and make peace with your brother. Then come and give your offering.

 When you are going to court, quickly solve your problems with your enemy. If you don’t solve your problems, then your enemy will give you to the judge, then to the prison guard, and they throw you in prison. I tell you the truth, you will not go free until you pay the last penny you owe.

 You heard the command, “You will not do adultery.” But I tell you, everyone who looks at a woman and lusts, he already did adultery with her in his heart.

 If your right eye leads you to sin, then poke-out your eye and throw it away. It is better for one part of your body to die than for your whole body to go into hell. If your right hand leads you to sin, then cut-off your hand and throw it away. It is better for you if one part of your body dies than for your whole body to go into hell.

 The command said, “If a man divorces his wife, he should give her a divorce certificate.” But I tell you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for unfaithfulness, makes her do adultery. And every man who marries a divorced woman, he does adultery.

 Long ago, the command said to people, “Don’t make false promises, but do your promises to the Lord.” But I tell you don’t swear any promise. Don’t swear by heaven, because that is God’s throne. Don’t swear by earth, because that is God’s foot stool. Don’t swear by JERUSALEM, because that is the city of the great king. Don’t swear by your head, because you can’t make one hair white or black. Let your “Yes” mean yes, and your “No” mean no. Saying more than that is from the devil.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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