***Introit (Psalm 116)***

P: The Lord is righteous and full of grace,

C: Our God is full of mercy.

P: I love the Lord because He attended me.

C: He attended my cry for mercy.

P: Because He attends me,

C: I will call to Him all my life.

P: Death surrounded me. The pain of death grabbed me.

C: I suffered much.

P: Then I called on the name of the Lord,

C: Lord, I pray, save my soul!

P: The Lord is righteous and full of grace,

C: Our God is full of mercy.

***Prayer for God’s Word***

P: Lord, You gave us this wonderful gift, the Lord’s Supper, for us to remember Your suffering. Here You give us Your body and blood. Make us receive this gift in faith, then our lives will always show Your saving work. 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 Exodus chapter 24.

 MOSES told the people the words from the Lord and all His right laws. The people said together, “Everything the Lord said, we will do.” MOSES wrote all the words from the Lord.

 Early-in-the-morning, MOSES got-up and built an altar near the mountain. He made 12 pillars for the 12 families in ISRAEL. He sent young men to the people of ISRAEL, then the people gave burnt sacrifices, and they sacrificed OXEN (cows) for peace to the Lord. Moses took the blood from the animals. He put half the blood in bowls, and he threw half the blood on the altar. Then MOSES read the book of God’s promise for the people. The people said, “Everything the Lord said, we will do. We will obey.”

 MOSES took the blood and sprinkled that on the people. Moses said, “Look, the blood of God’s promise. The Lord made His promise for you, the same-as all His words said.”

 Then MOSES, AARON, NADAB, ABIHU, and 70 of the elders in ISRAEL all went up the mountain. They saw ISRAEL’s God. Under His feet, there was something like pavement made with sapphire, clear the same-as the sky. God didn’t hurt the leaders of ISRAEL. They saw God and they ate and drank.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from Hebrews chapter 9.

 Christ came as High Priest to give us good things. Then He entered the great and more perfect tent. Not a tent people made in this world. He entered heaven, that holy place, to stay there. A priest enters the temple after sacrificing goats and cows. But Jesus sacrificed Himself, His blood, and He won eternal salvation. Blood from goats and bulls and ASHES from a cow make sinners clean from sin. Then much more Christ’s blood makes our hearts clean from our worthless works. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus made His perfect sacrifice to God and He makes us clean to serve the living God.

 Now Jesus is the one who gives us God’s promises. Then when God calls people, Jesus gives them the promised eternal life. Jesus’ death saves them from their law-breaking. When someone writes a WILL to give an inheritance, that person must die for the WILL to work. A WILL happens only when someone dies. While the person lives, a WILL does nothing. That is why the Law also began with blood from sacrifices. MOSES told the people all of the commandments, then he sacrificed cows and goats. He took that blood and water and sprinkled the Law book and the people. Moses said, “This is the blood of God’s Law that He commanded for you.” The same way, MOSES sprinkled blood on the tent and all the worship furniture. The Law said to use blood to make almost everything clean from sin. If there is no sacrifice and blood, there is no forgiveness for sins.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Matthew chapter 26.

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

 On the first day of the celebration named UNLEAVENED (flat) BREAD, the disciples asked Jesus, “Where will You eat the PASSOVER? Where should we prepare?”

 Jesus said, “Go into the city to a man. Tell him, ‘The Teacher says My time is near. I will celebrate the PASSOVER with My disciples in your house.’” The disciples did the same-as Jesus said and they prepared the PASSOVER.

 That evening, Jesus lay at the table with the twelve disciples. While they ate, Jesus said, “I tell you the truth. One of you will betray Me.” They were sad and each one said, “You mean me, Lord?” Jesus said, “The one eating from the same dish with Me, he will betray Me. The Son of Man will go the same-as the Bible says. But terrible for that man who betrays the Son of Man! Better for him if he was never born.” JUDAS was the one who will betray Jesus. He asked, “Will I betray You, Teacher?” Jesus said, “You said you will.”

 While they ate, Jesus took bread, blessed that, He broke the bread and gave to His disciples. He said, “Take and eat, this is My body.” Then He took the cup. He thanked God, then He gave to them and said, “Drink this, all of you. This is My blood of promise, poured-out for many people to forgive their sins. I will not drink this wine again until the day I drink this in a new way with you in My Father’s kingdom.”

 They sang a hymn, then they went to the MOUNT of OLIVES.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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