***Introit (Psalm 27)***

P: I always watch the Lord,

C: Because He will save me from trouble.

P: I ask the Lord one thing; I desire this.

C: All my life, I want to live in His house. All my life, I want to watch His beauty and meet God in His temple.

P: During trouble, He will keep me safe in His house.

C: He will hide me in His tent and put me high on His rock.

P: God will lift me high above my enemies. In His worship tent, I will give sacrifices with joy.

C: I will sing and praise the Lord.

**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, our heavenly Father, every morning You show mercy new. We deserve punishment, but You love us as Your children. You give us everything we need for our body and soul. Let us see Your mercy, thank You for Your gifts, and live to follow and obey You. 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 Isaiah chapter 42.

The Lord says, For a long time I continued silent. I was calm and I waited. Now I will shout and breathe hard same-as a woman giving-birth. I will destroy the mountains and hills and kill all their plants. I will make rivers shrink and lakes will dry-up.

I will lead blind people to walk on a road they don’t-know and lead them on paths they don’t-know. I will make dark become light for them and make rough places level. I will do this, and I will not ignore them.

Then those people trusting idols and name metal idols their gods will feel much shame. I will reject them.

Listen, you deaf people. You blind people, open your eyes and see.

Who is blind? My servant. Who is deaf? My announcer I send. Who is blind the same-as the one belonging to Me? Who is blind the same-as the Servant of the Lord? He sees many things, but he doesn’t watch. His ears are open, but he hears nothing.

Because the Lord is righteous, He was happy to make His law wonderful and glorious.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from Ephesians chapter 5.

Remember! In the past your life was dark. But now your life is light in the Lord. Live the same-as children in His light. Living in His light means everything good and right and honest. Try to learn what pleases the Lord.

Don’t join in dark sinful actions, but show they are wrong. That is shameful to talk about the secret sins people do. But when God’s light show they are wrong, then they see the truth. When they see the truth, that is God’s light. That is why God says: “Sleeper, wake-up! Rise from the dead! And Christ will shine on you!”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

*You have two choices for the Gospel lesson, a shorter reading from John 9 and a longer reading from John 9. Choose one.*

*This is the shorter reading.*

The Gospel lesson is from John chapter 9.

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

Jesus was walking in JERUSALEM and He saw a man blind all his life, from birth. Jesus’ disciples asked Him, “Teacher, who sinned and made him blind? The man himself sinned, or his parents sinned?”

Jesus answered, “No, his sin and his parents’ sin didn’t made him blind. He is blind for people to see God’s work through him. The Father sent Me, and we must do His works now in the day. The night is coming and then no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light for the world.”

Then Jesus spit on the ground and made MUD. He put the MUD on the man’s eyes and told him, “Go and wash your eyes in the pool named SILOAM.” SILOAM means “sent.”

The man went and washed his eyes. When he came back, he could see.

People brought the man to the PHARISEES. Jesus made the mud and healed the man on a SABBATH worship day. The PHARISEES asked the man how he could see. The man answered, “Jesus put MUD on my eyes. Then I washed my face, and now I can see.”

Some of the PHARISEES said, “Jesus can’t be from God because He doesn’t obey the SABBATH worship laws.” But others said, “How can a sinner do these wonderful works?” The group was divided. They asked the blind man again, “Jesus opened your eyes. What do you say about Him?”

The man answered, “He is a prophet.”

The PHARISEES said, “You were born full of sin, and you want to teach us?” Then they threw the man out of the Jewish church.

Jesus heard about that. Jesus found the man and said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

The man answered, “Please tell me, who is the Son of Man? Then I can believe.”

Jesus said, “You have already seen Him. The Son of Man is talking to you.”

The man said, “Lord, I believe!” Then the man worshiped Jesus.

Jesus said, “I came to this world to judge. Then blind people will see, and people who see will become blind.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*This is the longer reading.*

The Gospel lesson is from John chapter 9.

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

Jesus was walking in JERUSALEM and He saw a man blind all his life, from birth. Jesus’ disciples asked Him, “Teacher, who sinned and made him blind? The man himself sinned, or his parents sinned?”

Jesus answered, “Not his sin and not his parents sin made him blind. He is blind for people to see God’s work through him. The Father sent Me, and we must do His works now in the day. The night is coming and then no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light for the world.”

Then Jesus spit on the ground and made MUD. He put the MUD on the man’s eyes and told him, “Go and wash your eyes in the pool named SILOAM.” SILOAM means “sent.” The man went and washed his eyes. When he came back, he could see.

The man’s neighbors and people who knew the man asked, “This man is the beggar, right?” Some people said, “Yes, that is the man.” Other people said, “No, he only looks the same.” But the man continued saying, “I am the man.”

Then people asked him, “How can you see?”

He answered, “Jesus made MUD, put that on my eyes, and said, ‘Go to SILOAM and wash.’ I washed and now I can see.”

People asked, “Where is Jesus?”

He answered, “I don’t know.”

People brought the man to the PHARISEES. Jesus made the MUD and healed the man on a SABBATH worship day. The PHARISEES asked the man how he could see. The man answered, “Jesus put MUD on my eyes. Then I washed my face, and now I can see.”

Some of the PHARISEES said, “Jesus can’t be from God because He doesn’t obey the SABBATH worship laws.” But others said, “How can a sinner do these wonderful works?” The group was divided. They asked the blind man again, “Jesus opened your eyes. What do you say about Him?”

The man answered, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews didn’t believe the man was blind and then could see. They brought the man’s parents and asked them, “Is this your son? You said he was born blind? How can he see?”

His parents said, “We know he is our son, and he was born blind. But we don’t know how he sees. We don’t know who opened his eyes. Ask him. He is old enough. He will answer.” His parents were afraid of the Jews. The Jews decided that if anyone believed Jesus is the Savior, the Jews will throw him out of the Jewish church. That is why the parents said, “He is old enough, ask him.”

A second time, the Jews brought the man who was blind but now can see. They said, “Give glory to God and tell the truth. We know Jesus is a sinner.”

The man answered, “I don’t know if Jesus is a sinner. But I know this – I was blind, but now I see.”

The Jews asked, “What did Jesus do? How did He make you see?”

He answered, “I already told you, and you didn’t listen. Why should I tell you again? Do you want to follow Jesus?”

The Jews hated him and said, “You follow Jesus, but we follow MOSES. We know God spoke to MOSES. But we don’t know where Jesus is from.”

The man said, “That is amazing! You don’t know where Jesus is from, but He made me see. We know God doesn’t listen to sinners. But if a person worships God and does what God wants, then God listens to him. In all the world’s history, if a man was born blind, no one can make him see. If Jesus is not from God, He couldn’t do anything.”

The PHARISEES said, “You were born full of sin, and you want to teach us?” Then they threw the man out of the Jewish church.

Jesus heard about that. Jesus found the man and said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

The man answered, “Please tell me, who is the Son of Man? Then I can believe.”

Jesus said, “You have already seen Him. The Son of Man is talking to you.”

The man said, “Lord, I believe!” Then the man worshiped Jesus.

Jesus said, “I came to this world to judge. Then blind people will see, and people who see will become blind.”

Some PHARISEES heard Jesus say that. They asked Jesus, “Are we blind?”

Jesus said, “If you are blind, then you will not be guilty. But because you say you can see, you are guilty.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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