***Introit (Psalm 105)***

P: Give-thanks to the Lord! Call-on His name.

**C: Tell all people what He has done!**

P: He covers Himself with a cloud.

**C: At night, He uses fire for light.**

P: People asked, and He gave-them birds for food.

**C: He gave them much bread from heaven.**

P: He opened the rock and water poured-out.

**C: The water flowed through the dry land.**

P: God remembered His holy promise.

**C: He remembered His servant Abraham.**

P: God led-out the people with joy.

**C: He led His people with singing.**

**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: Heavenly Father, we don’t deserve Your goodness. But You continue giving all our needs for body and soul. Give us Your Holy Spirit. Then we will see Your gifts, thank You for all Your blessings, and happily serve 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 55.

 Everyone thirsty, come to the water! You have no money? Doesn’t-matter! Come and buy and eat! Come and buy wine and milk, no cost, for free!

 Why do you spend money for things that aren’t bread? Why do you work for things that don’t satisfy you? Listen to Me and eat what is good. You will have much joy with real food.

 Attend to Me, come to Me, and your soul will live. I will make an eternal promise for you, to give you the continuing love I showed King David. I made him a witness for the people. I made him a leader and commander for the people.

 You will call to nations that you don’t know, and they will hurry to come to you. They will come because the Lord your God, the Holy God of Israel, He gave you glory.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

*There are two New Testament lessons to choose from; a shorter reading from Romans 9 and a longer reading from Romans 9. Choose one.*

*The shorter reading.*

The New Testament lesson is from Romans chapter 9.

 I tell you the truth. I belong-to Christ, and I am-not lying. My heart and the Holy Spirit agree. I have much sorrow; my grief never stops.

 I wish God would send me to hell and throw me away from Christ, if that can save my own people. They are the people of ISRAEL. God named them His sons. God gave them His glory and promises. God gave them His Law. God showed them how to worship Him. God made wonderful promises to the Jews. Long-ago, their fathers ABRAHAM, ISAAC, and JACOB, belonged to God. And Christ belongs-to that family. Christ is God reigning over everything; praise Him forever! Amen.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

*The longer reading.*

The New Testament lesson is from Romans chapter 9.

 I tell you the truth. I belong-to Christ, and I am-not lying. My heart and the Holy Spirit agree. I have much sorrow; my grief never stops.

 I wish God would send me to hell and throw me away from Christ, if that can save my own people. They are the people of ISRAEL. God named them His sons. God gave them His glory and promises. God gave them His Law. God showed them how to worship Him. God made wonderful promises to the Jews. Long-ago, their fathers ABRAHAM, ISAAC, and JACOB, belonged to God. And Christ belongs-to that family. Christ is God reigning over everything; praise Him forever! Amen.

 But God’s word didn’t fail. Not everyone in the Jewish family named ISRAEL belongs to God’s people ISRAEL. Not everyone in ABRAHAM’S family is a believing child of ABRAHAM. The Bible says, “Your children will come from ISAAC.” This means the children from his body are not God’s children. Only the children in God’s promise are God’s children. Because this is what God’s promise said, “About this time next year, I will come again and SARAH will have a son.”

 Also, REBECCA became pregnant with twins from our father ISAAC. God announced, “The older son will serve the younger son.” He said this before they were born, before they did good or bad. This shows God plans to choose people, not because of people’s works, but because of God’s call. The same-as the Bible says, “I loved JACOB, but I hated ESAU.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Matthew chapter 14.

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

 Jesus heard about HEROD killing JOHN the Baptizer. Then Jesus got in a boat and went to a quiet place alone. But people heard about that. Then they walked and followed Jesus. Jesus arrived on land and saw the large crowd of people. He felt mercy for them and healed the sick people.

 That evening, Jesus’ disciples said, “There is nothing here and the day is finished. Tell the people to go to the towns and buy food for themselves.”

 But Jesus said, "No! They don’t need to leave. You give them food.”

 The disciples answered, “We only have five loaves of bread and two fish.”

 Jesus said, “Give-Me that food.” Jesus told the people to sit-down on the grass. Then Jesus took the five loaves of bread and the two fish, He looked-up to heaven and thanked God. Then Jesus broke the bread and gave-to the twelve disciples, and they gave the bread to the people.

 All the people ate. Everyone was-satisfied. Then all the left-over food, the twelve disciples picked-up and filled twelve baskets with food. About 5,000 men ate, plus women and children.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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