***Introit (Psalm 62)***

P: You people, trust God always! Pour-out your heart to God.

C: God is our Protector.

P: My soul waits patiently for God.

C: My salvation comes from Him.

P: He is my rock and my Savior. He protects me.

C: I will not fear.

P: God spoke one thing. I heard this two times.

C: God, You are strong. Lord, You are loving.

P: You will give-to each person

C: Agreeing with what they do.

**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: Eternal God, You tell us not to worry about earthly things. Give us always a right desire for riches in heaven. Those riches are for everyone trusting Your mercy. Then we can be happy every day in Your salvation and faithfully serve You. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, 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 49.

 The Lord says this: in the time for accepting people, I answered you\*. In the day for saving, I helped you. I will keep you and make you same-as a promise for the people. You will make the land strong. You will build-up the old inheritance. You will tell prisoners, “Come out!” You will make free those people in darkness.

 The people can eat along every road. The empty mountains will become good grass. The people will not be hungry or thirsty. The hot wind and sun will not hurt them. God has mercy on them and He will lead them. He will lead them to water springs. God says, I will make all My mountains become a road, and I will lift-up my roads. Look, people will come from far-away. They will come from the north and west and from the land named SYENE.

 Heavens, sing with joy! Earth, rejoice! Mountains, begin shouting with joy! Because the Lord comforts His people and He shows mercy for His people in trouble.

 But the people of JERUSALEM said, “The Lord ignores us. The Lord forgot us.”

 God asks, “Can a woman forget the baby she is nursing? Will she have no mercy for the son she birthed? Maybe a mother will forget, but I will not forget you. Look, I carved you on the palms of My hands.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

\* In the first paragraph, sign “you” as one person, not many people. “You” means one person, Jesus, and how He will make His people free.

The New Testament lesson is from Romans chapter 1.

 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you. Why? In all the world, people talk about your faith. My spirit serves God and I preach the good news about His Son. He sees how I always talk about you. I always pray for you. I ask God to let me come to see you. I truly want to see you. Then I can give you a spiritual gift to make you stronger. Then our faith can encourage each other.

 Brothers, I want you to know that often I planned to come to you, but something always prevents me. I want to preach and make you grow, also, the same as I do for other non-Jews.

 I must serve both Greeks and other nations, both wise and foolish people. Therefore I am eager to preach the gospel to you in Rome.

 I am not ashamed of the gospel. The gospel is God’s power to save everyone who believes. That is for the Jews first and also for non-Jews. From the time faith begins until faith ends, the gospel shows God’s righteousness. As the Bible says, “The righteous person will live, how? Faith.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel is from Matthew chapter 6.

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

 Jesus said, “No one can serve two masters. A person will hate one master and love the second master. Or a person will obey one master and hate the second master. You can’t serve God and money both.

That is why I tell you, don’t worry about your life. Don’t worry about what you will eat or drink or what clothes you will wear. Life is more than food, and your body is more than clothes, right?

 Look at the birds. They don’t plant or harvest or save food in barns. But your Father in heaven feeds them. You are worth much more than birds, right?

 If you worry, can that add one hour to your life?

 Why do you worry about clothes? Look at the flowers. They don’t work to make clothes. King SOLOMON had great riches and glory, but these flowers are dressed more beautiful than him. The grass is alive today and burned up tomorrow. If God dresses that grass with beautiful flowers, God will do much more for you, right? You have little faith!

 Don’t worry. Don’t ask, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What clothes will we wear?’ Non-believers eagerly want those things. But your Father in heaven knows you need those things.

 You first search-for God’s kingdom and His righteousness. God will give you all these other things also. Don’t worry about tomorrow. Tomorrow will take-care of itself. Every day has enough trouble for that day.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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