***Introit (Psalm 92)***

P: Lord, Your works are great!

**C: Your thoughts are very deep.**

P: Righteous people grow the same-as a tree.

**C: They grow the same-as tall, beautiful trees.**

P: The Lord plants them in His house.

**C: They grow in the temple of our God.**

P: When they are old, they continue growing fruit.

**C: They are always green and full of life.**

P: They announce the Lord is right.

**C: He is my rock. Nothing wrong is in Him.**

**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 full of all power and strength, You make and give all good things. Put-in our hearts love for Your name. Teach us Your word. Make all holy and right things increase in our lives. 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 Deuteronomy chapter 11.

Moses said: Now, remember these commandments in your heart and soul. Tie the commandments on your hand and around your forehead. Teach these commandments to your children. Talk about them while you sit at home, while you walk, at bedtime and in the morning. Write these commandments on the doors of your homes and on the gates. Then you and your children will live a long time in the land God promised to your fathers, a long time the same-as the sky is above the earth.

Attend! Here is a blessing and a curse. If you obey these commandments I give you today, the Lord your God will bless you. But if you don’t obey these commandments of the Lord your God, and if you stray and follow other gods, then God will curse you.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from Romans chapter 3.

Now God shows His righteousness, but not righteousness from the law. The law and the prophets told about that way. Now God gives His righteousness to all people who believe in Jesus Christ.

People are not different. All people sinned and don’t have God’s glory. God’s grace gives us a free gift. God says we are innocent, because Jesus paid with His blood and made us free from our sins. God sent Jesus for Jesus to sacrifice Himself for us. People trusting in Jesus’ blood have forgiveness for their sins. That shows God is right. In past times, God was patient and He didn’t punish sin. Now God shows He is right and He makes righteous those people having faith in Jesus.

Why should we be proud people? We have nothing to boast about. Why not? Because we obeyed the law? No. People who have faith don’t boast. Now we know that a person is holy before God through faith, not from obeying the law.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Matthew chapter 7.

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

Jesus said, “Be-careful of false prophets! They come dressed in sheep’s clothing, but inside they are terrible wolves. How will you recognize them? Their fruit. From a THORN bush, can you pick grapes? Or from THISTLES, can you pick FIGS? The same, a good tree can’t grow bad fruit. A bad tree can’t grow good fruit. If a tree doesn’t grow good fruit, that tree is cut down and burned. How will you recognize false prophets? Their fruit.”

“Not everyone saying to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven. The person doing things My Father in heaven wants, only that person will enter heaven. On the last day, many people will say to Me, ‘Lord, Lord, we preached in Your name, we used Your name and threw demons out of people, we did many wonderful works!’ I will tell them, ‘I never knew you. Leave Me, you evil doers!’”

“Everyone who attends My words and does them is the same-as a wise man building his house on the rock. It rained much, the streams flooded, the wind blew against that house. But the house didn’t fall, why? It was built on the rock. But everyone who hears My words and doesn’t do them is the same-as a foolish man building his house on sand. It rained much, the streams flooded, the wind blew against that house, and it collapsed, destroyed.”

Jesus finished speaking. The people were amazed because of Jesus’ teaching. Jesus taught with authority, not the same-as the Jewish law teachers.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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