***Introit (Psalm 16)***

P: Bless the Holy Trinity, the one true God.

C: We give Him glory because He shows mercy to us.

P: The Lord is always in-front-of me.

C: He is near my right hand. I won’t fear.

P: My heart is happy. All my body rejoices.

C: I live in safety.

P: You won’t leave my soul in hell.

C: You won’t let Your holy Son dissolve.

P: You showed me the path of life.

C: With You is full joy. With You is happiness forever.

**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 and eternal God, You gave us grace for us to know You, the Trinity, and Your glory. Your grace gives us true faith in You. Make us faithful to always worship You, always proclaim You, our only God and our only Savior. We pray to You Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, because You live and reign, one God, now and forever.

C: (copy) Amen.

The Old Testament lesson is from Genesis chapters 1 and 2.

In the beginning, God made the sky and the earth. The earth had no shape and it was empty. Over the surface of the deep water, it was very dark. The Spirit of God was moving over the waters.

Then God said, “Let there be light!” And light appeared. God saw the light and said the light was good. God separated the light from the darkness. The light, God named “Day.” The darkness, God named “Night.” That was evening and morning, the first day.

God said, “Let the waters separate up-high and down-low and put distance between waters.” God separated the waters above and waters below. The place between waters He named the sky. That was evening and morning, the second day.

God said, “Let the waters under the sky come together in one place. Let dry land appear.” That happened. God named the dry land “earth.” God named the waters together “sea.” God saw that was good.

God said, “Let the earth grow plants, plants growing SEEDS, and fruit trees growing fruit with SEEDS. The SEEDS will grow the same kind of plants.” That happened. The earth grew plants with SEEDS for each kind of plant, and trees growing fruit with SEEDS for each kind of tree. God saw that was good. That was evening and morning, the third day.

God said, “Let lights appear in the sky to show day and night. The lights will show time and seasons, days and years. The lights will give light for the earth.” That happened. God made two large lights. The bright-light reigned the day, the smaller light reigned the night. And He made the stars.

God put the lights in the sky to give light on earth, to reign the day and night, and to separate light and darkness. God saw that was good. That was evening and morning, the fourth day.

God said, “Let the waters become full with animals. Let birds fly in the sky above the earth.” God made the large animals in the ocean and everything that moves and lives in the water, all the different kinds of animals. And He made all the different kinds of birds. God saw that was good. God blessed them and said, “Birth more animals and increase. Fill the waters and let birds birth more birds.” That was evening and morning, the fifth day.

God said, “Let the earth have different kinds of animals, TAME animals, crawling animals, and wild animals.” That happened. God made all the kinds of WILD animals on earth and all the kinds of TAME animals, and every crawling animal. God saw that was good.

God said, “Let us make man in our IMAGE, the same-as Us. Let them reign over the fish in the water and the birds in the sky and the TAME animals and all the earth and every crawling animal on earth.” God made man in God’s IMAGE. God made them male and female.

God blessed them and said, “Have many children. Fill the earth and reign over it. Reign the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and every living animal on earth.”

Then God said, “Look! I gave you every plant growing SEEDS and every tree growing fruit with SEEDS. That is your food. For every animal on earth and every bird in the sky and everything on earth that moves and lives, I give every green plant for food.” That happened same-as God said.

God saw everything He made, and it was very good. That was evening and morning, the sixth day.

That is how God made the sky and the earth and everything. Before the seventh day, God finished His work. On the seventh day, God rested from all His work. God blessed the seventh day and made that holy, because on that day He rested from His work creating the world.

That is the story of the sky and the earth and how the Lord God made them.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from Acts chapter 2.

PETER stood with the eleven apostles. He spoke loudly to all the people. He said, “Men in Israel, attend to my words about Jesus from the city NAZARETH. God was with Jesus and He did amazing and wonderful works. You know that. People arrested and judged Jesus, and God knew and planned that to happen. You used unbelievers to crucify and kill Jesus. Jesus suffered the pains of death, but God freed Him. God raised Jesus from death, because death can’t hold Jesus.

DAVID said this about Jesus: “I saw the Lord always in-front-of me. Because He is near my right hand to protect me. Now my heart is happy, and my mouth rejoiced. Yes, also my body will live in hope. Because You will not leave me in the grave. You will not let the body of Your Holy Son dissolve. You showed me the way of life. You came near me to give me joy.”

My friends, I can truly tell you about DAVID, our father. DAVID died and was buried. His grave is here with us today. DAVID was a prophet and knew what God said. God promised DAVID that He will make a man from DAVID’s family become king the same-as DAVID.

DAVID knew about Jesus rising alive before that happened. That is why DAVID said God will not leave Jesus in hell and His body will not dissolve. God raised Jesus from death. We are all witnesses.

Jesus went-up to heaven, near God’s right side. The Father gave the Holy Spirit to Jesus. Now Jesus poured-out the Spirit on us. You see and hear that.

DAVID didn’t go-up into heaven. Jesus went-up into heaven. DAVID himself said, ‘The Lord God said to my Lord: Sit near My right side. I will put your enemies under your reign.’

Now all the people in Israel should know this: You crucified Jesus. But God made Jesus Lord and Christ!”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Matthew chapter 28.

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

Jesus’ eleven disciples went to the country named GALILEE. They went to the mountain, the place Jesus commanded them to go. The disciples saw Jesus and worshiped Him. But some doubted. Jesus came to them and said, “God gave-Me all authority in heaven and on earth. Now you go to all people and make them My disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do all the things I told you. And remember! I am with you every day until the end of the world.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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