***Introit (Psalm 98)***

P: The Lord showed His holy arm to all nations.

C: All the earth will see our God save His people.

P: Sing a new song to the Lord; He does wonderful things.

**C: His right hand and His holy arm earned salvation.**

P: The Lord announced His salvation.

**C: He showed the nations His righteousness.**

P: He remembered His love and His faithfulness for Israel.

**C: All people on earth have seen God’s salvation.**

P: All the earth, shout with joy to the Lord!

**C: Sing joyful praises to 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: God, You made us wonderful. You sent Your Son Jesus to save us and make us new again. Jesus became the same-as us. Let us now always live in Him. 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 chapters 61 and 62.

I will rejoice much because of my Lord, and my soul will be happy with my God. A man getting married puts-on a beautiful hat the same-as a priest. A BRIDE puts-on her jewels. The same, God clothed me with salvation. He covers me with the robe named “Righteousness.”

The ground makes good things grow, and SEEDS grow in a garden. The same, the Lord will make righteousness and praise grow in-front-of all nations.

For My people I will not be-quiet and for My people in the city JERUSALEM I will not rest until their righteousness shines bright and salvation shines same-as a fire. The nations will see your righteousness and all the kings will see your glory. The Lord will give you a new name. You will be the same-as a beautiful crown for the Lord, a king’s crown in God’s hand.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from Galatians chapter 4.

At the right time, God sent His Son, born from a woman. His Son lived obeying the Law. The law reigns all people, and Jesus came to save them. And now He can adopt us as His sons. And because you are His sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into your hearts. The Holy Spirit shouts, “Daddy, Father.” Now, you are no more a slave. You are God’s sons. And because you are His sons, you will inherit from God.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Luke chapter 2.

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

JOSEPH and MARY followed MOSES’ law and waited until MARY was clean to enter the temple. Then they brought Jesus to JERUSALEM and give Him to the Lord. God’s law says, “Every first-born son will be named holy to the Lord.” And they brought a sacrifice, same as the Lord’s Law says, “A pair of DOVES, or two young pigeons.”

A man lived in the city named JERUSALEM. The man’s name was SIMEON. He was a good man and faithful. He was eager for the Promised Savior to come. The Holy Spirit lived in him and told him that he will see the Savior before he died. The Holy Spirit led SIMEON into the temple.

The parents brought the baby Jesus into the temple. They came to do what the Jewish Law said. Then SIMEON held baby Jesus.

SIMEON praised God and said: “Lord, now You let me leave in peace, because You kept Your promise. My eyes saw the Savior. You made the Savior ready for all people to see. Jesus will shine same-as a light for the non-Jewish people. Jesus is glory for Your chosen people ISRAEL.”

Jesus’ father and mother were surprised SIMEON said these things about Jesus.

SIMEON blessed them and told MARY, Jesus’ mother, “This child will make many people in ISRAEL lose faith, and many people will get new faith. Many people will work against Him. He will show the secret thoughts in many hearts. And you, MARY, will have pain, same-as a sword piercing your soul.”

One woman prophet from the family named ASHER came. Her father was PHANUEL, and the woman’s name was ANNA. She was very old. She was married for seven years, then her husband died. Now she was eighty-four years old. She stayed in the temple and worshiped night and day, praying and fasting (not eating).

ANNA came and gave thanks to God. She told people about Jesus, all those people waiting for God to save the people in the city JERUSALEM.

JOSEPH and MARY finished doing everything the Lord’s Law commanded. Then they went home to GALILEE, to their home town NAZARETH. The little boy Jesus grew and became stronger and wiser, and God blessed Him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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