***Introit (Psalm 26)***

P: Lord, I love living in Your house!

C: Your glory lives in this place.

P: Save me, Lord, because I live the right way.

**C: I trust You and I don’t doubt.**

P: Lord, test me,

**C: Test my heart and mind.**

P: I show I am innocent and go to Your altar, Lord.

**C: I thank You and announce all Your wonderful works.**

**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 merciful God, protect Your church from false and wrong teaching. Then Your faithful people can announce You are the only true God, and we can be happy with Your good gifts of life and salvation. 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 29.

 This message from God is the same as a book closed and locked. People give the book to a person who can read and say, “Read this.” He will say, “I can’t, because it is closed and locked.” They will give it to a person who can’t read and say, “Read this.” He will say, “I can’t read.”

 The Lord said, “These people talk about Me and their words honor Me. But their hearts are far away. They make up their own rules to honor Me. Look! I will do wonderful things for these people. I will do amazing things. Then their wise men will have no wisdom, and their smart men will know nothing.”

 You people try to hide your plans from the Lord. You work in the dark. You think no one sees you, and no one knows what you do.

 You do everything the wrong way! A man makes a pot. Can the pot become boss and the man become clay? Can the pot say, “The man didn’t make me”? Can the pot say the man doesn’t understand?

 Very soon, LEBANON will become a field full of growing plants, and the field will become the same-as a forest. At that time, the deaf will hear and understand God’s word, and blind eyes will see. Humble people will get new joy in the Lord. Poor people will be very happy in the Holy God of Israel.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from Ephesians chapter 5.

 Wives, put yourselves under your husband’s authority, the same-as you are under the Lord’s authority. The husband leads the wife the same as Christ leads the church, and Christ is the Savior for the church. The church is under Christ’s authority, and wives should also put themselves under their husband’s authority in everything.

 Husbands, love your wives, the same-as Christ loved the church and gave-up His life for the church. Then He can make the church holy, when He washed the church clean with water and God’s word. He made the church become a glorious gift for Himself. He made the church perfect, holy, without any sin or bad thing.

 Now husbands should love their wives the same-as their own bodies. The man who loves his wife loves himself. No person hates his own body. A man feeds and takes-care of his body.

 The same, Christ takes care of His body, the church. We belong to Christ’s body, the church. “For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and become joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”

 This is amazing, and I say that about Christ and the church. But each husband should love his wife the same-as he loves himself. And the wife should respect her husband.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Mark chapter 7.

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

 The PHARISEES came to Jesus, and also some Jewish Law teachers came from Jerusalem. They saw some of Jesus’ disciples eating but the disciples didn’t wash their hands.

 The Jews follow special traditions from their fathers. The PHARISEES and Jews always wash their hands before they eat. When they come home from shopping, they first wash and then eat. They have many other rules, washing cups, pitchers, bowls, and beds.

 The PHARISEES and Law teachers asked Jesus, “Why don’t Your disciples obey the traditions? Why do they eat with dirty hands?”

 Jesus answered, “ISAIAH correctly wrote about you hypocrites! ISAIAH wrote: ‘These people honor Me with their words, but their hearts are far from Me. Their worship is worthless, because their teachings are rules they make up.’ You ignore God’s Laws and you obey people’s laws.”

 Jesus said, “You reject God’s commandments and obey your own tradition! Moses said, ‘Honor your father and mother,’ and, ‘The person who insults father or mother, that person must die.’ But you say a man can tell his father or mother, ‘I can’t help you because I promised my money for God.’ Then you don’t let the man help his father or mother. That is your tradition, and you break God’s word! And you do many other things the same-as that.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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