***Introit (Psalm 51)***

P: Wash me, wash away all my wrong doing.

C: Make me clean from all my sin.

P: Make me clean with hyssop and I will become clean.

**C: Wash me and I will become more white than snow.**

P: God, make a clean heart in me.

**C: Make new a right spirit in me.**

P: Don’t throw-away me; let me stay with You.

**C: Don’t take-away Your Holy Spirit from me.**

P: Give me again the joy of Your salvation.

**C: Support me with a spirit wanting You.**

**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, all good and right things come from You. Encourage every right belief and make our good desires happen. Then we will grow in Your grace and our lives will be full with good works. 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 Deuteronomy chapter 4.

MOSES said: ISRAEL, now listen to the laws and commandments I teach you. Obey the laws. Then you will live and enter and take the land. The Lord God of your fathers gives you that land. Don’t add anything to these commandments, and don't take-away anything. Then you can obey the commandments from the Lord your God that I give you.

Obey and do these things. That will show people your wisdom and understanding. When those people hear about all these laws, then they will say, “Truly that is a great nation of wise and understanding people!”

Does any other great nation have a god that is near? There is none same-as our God. He is near while we pray to Him. Or what great nation has laws and commandments good and right the same-as this law I give you today? None!

Be-careful and watch your soul, or you will forget everything you saw and then this law will leave your heart for all your life. Teach all these things to your children and their children.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from Ephesians chapter 6.

Continue strong in the Lord and in His great power. Put-on the full protection God gives you. Use God’s protection, then you can fight against the devil’s bad ways. Our fight is not against people on earth. We are fighting against rulers, authorities, and powers in this dark world. We are fighting against evil spiritual powers.

That is the reason you need to have God’s full protection. Then when the devil comes you can stand strong. And when you do everything, you can continue standing.

Now stand strong with this protection. You put-on the belt named truth around you. You put-on the BREASTPLATE (body protection), that is righteousness. The shoes on your feet are the gospel of peace, that makes you ready. Always use the shield named faith. With that you can stop all the burning arrows from the devil. Put-on your HELMET named salvation. And take the sword of the Spirit, that sword is God’s Word. Pray and beg God, always praying with the Spirit. Always be-ready. Never give-up. Always pray for all of God’s people.

Also pray for me. Pray that while I speak, God will give-me words that I can announce the Gospel without fear. I am now a preacher in jail. Pray that I will bravely announce the Gospel. That is what I should do.

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.

Jesus called the people and said, “Attend! Understand! Nothing outside a person makes them become not clean. What comes out of a person makes that person not clean.”

Jesus left the crowds and entered the house. His disciples asked Him about that teaching. Jesus answered, “You don’t understand? Don’t you know that what goes into a person can’t make him not clean. What he eats doesn’t enter his heart. The food enters his stomach, then goes out of his body.” When Jesus said that, He showed that eating all different foods is alright.

Jesus said, “What comes out of a person makes him not clean. Evil things come out from people’s hearts. Evil thoughts, sexual desires, stealing, murder, adultery, greed, hatred, cheating, sex sins, jealousy, lying, sinful pride, and sinful foolishness, all come from people’s hearts. All these evil things start inside and make people not clean.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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