***Introit (Psalm 127)***

P: If the Lord doesn’t build the house,

C: The workers waste their time.

P: Children are a blessing from the Lord.

C: A baby born is gift from God.

P: A soldier wants many arrows.

C: The same, parents want children.

P: Happy is the man with many children.

C: When he talks to his enemies, he will not be shamed.

**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: Father full of mercy, Your patience and love never end. Let Your Holy Spirit always work in us. Then we will always think and do things that please You. 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 Genesis chapter 2.

 Then the Lord God said, “It-is not good for the man to live alone. I will make a helper right for him.” The Lord God used dirt and He made every animal in the field and every bird in the sky. God brought the animals and birds to the man to see the names he will give them. The names the man gave, that became their names. The man named all the animals and the birds. But for ADAM, there was no helper right for him.

 Then the Lord God made the man sleep hard. And while he slept, God took-out one RIB and closed-up his body. With that RIB God took-out of the man, God made a woman and brought her to the man.

 The man said, “Now this is bone from my bone, and a body from my body. She will be named woman, because she came from man.”

 That is the reason a man leaves his father and mother and join to his wife, and they become one body. The man and the woman were both naked, but they were not ashamed.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

*You have two choices for the New Testament lesson, a long reading from Hebrews 2 and a short reading from Hebrews 2. Choose one.*

*The longer reading.*

The New Testament lesson is from Hebrews chapter 2.

 We must pay attention to what we learned. We must not stray from that. God sent angels to tell us His message, and no one can change His word. He punishes everyone breaking and not obeying His word. The same, if we ignore God’s salvation, God will punish us and we can’t escape.

 The Lord announced salvation. Then the people with Jesus told us about salvation. God proved they spoke the truth, because He showed wonderful works and miracles and He gave the Holy Spirit the same-as He wanted.

 God didn’t make the angels reign over the future world. The Bible says, “How is man important, that You remember him? How is the Son of Man important, that You take-care of Him? For a short time, You made Him humble below the angels. You crowned Him with glory and honor, and You gave Him control over everything.”

 God made Jesus reign over everything. But right now we don’t-yet see Him reigning all things.

 We do see that Jesus was humble below the angels for a short time. Because He suffered and died, now He has a crown of glory and honor. God’s grace made Jesus die for everyone.

 God makes and takes-care of all things. He wants to bring many people into His glory. God made their Savior Jesus perfect through suffering.

 Jesus and His holy people have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to name them His brothers and sisters.

 Jesus said, “I will announce Your name to My brothers. With Your people I will sing praise to You.” Again, the Bible says, “I will trust Him.” Again, “Look, I am here and also the children God gave Me.”

 God’s children have flesh and blood, so Jesus also became flesh and blood. Then He could die and destroy the devil and his power of death. Then Jesus can save all people who are slaves to death and fear. Jesus doesn’t help the angels. He helps the children of Abraham.

 That is why Jesus had to become the same-as His brothers in every way. Then He can become a high priest who serves God in mercy and faithfulness. Jesus Himself got tempted and suffered. That is why He can help people who get tempted.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

*The shorter reading.*

The New Testament lesson is from Hebrews chapter 2.

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 Jesus said, “I will announce Your name to My brothers. With Your people I will sing praise to You.” Again, the Bible says, “I will trust Him.” Again, “Look, I am here and also the children God gave Me.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Mark chapter 10.

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

 Some Law teachers came to Jesus to test Him. They asked, “Does the Law let a man divorce his wife?”

 Jesus answered, “What did Moses command you?”

 They answered, “Moses let a man write a divorce paper and send-away his wife.”

 Jesus said to them, “Moses wrote this commandment for you because your hearts are stubborn. But God made the world in the beginning, and God made the man and woman. That is why a man will leave his father and mother and join to his wife, and the two become one body. Now, what God joined together, man must not separate.”

 Later in the house, the disciples asked Jesus about divorce. Jesus said, “If a man divorces his wife and marries another woman, then he is breaking the marriage Law with her. And if a wife divorces her husband and marries another man, she is breaking the marriage Law.”

 People brought children to Jesus for Him to touch them, but Jesus’ disciples told them No. But Jesus saw that and He was not happy. He said, “Let the children come to Me. Don’t stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to people the same-as these children. I tell you the truth, if anyone doesn’t welcome the kingdom of God the same-as a child, he will never enter it.” Jesus took the children in-His-arms, touched them with His hands, and blessed them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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