***Introit (Psalm 131)***

P: From my deep sadness, I call to You, Lord!

C: Lord, attend to me! Hear me cry to You for mercy!

P: Lord, my heart and my eyes are not proud.

C: I don’t pretend I am great and important.

P: I made my soul quiet and peaceful, the same-as a child with its mother.

C: My soul is peaceful the same-as a child.

P: Israel, hope and trust in the Lord

**C: Now and 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: God, You help all people who call to You. Show mercy to us. Give us faith so we can see and believe in Your Son. Then we can follow Him into eternal life. 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 Jeremiah chapter 31.

The Lord says, “Sing with happiness for the people of JACOB. Shout with joy for JACOB, the best nation! Shout and praise and say, “Lord, save Your people, the small group of faithful people in ISRAEL.”

I will bring the people from the north and from the far places on earth. Also the blind and lame people, the pregnant woman and the woman ready to-give-birth, all of them will come.

They will come with crying and begging for mercy, and I will lead them home. I will lead them near the quiet rivers, on a straight path and they will not fall-down. I am a Father for ISRAEL, and EPHRAIM is my firstborn son.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from Hebrews chapter 7.

The Jews had many priests, because the priests died and couldn’t continue to serve. But Jesus is a priest forever because He lives forever. That means He can save fully all people coming to God through Him. Because He lives forever, He will always show God that He finished paying for their sins.

Jesus is exactly the High Priest we need. Jesus is holy; He has no sin in Him. Jesus is not a sinner and He has the place of honor in heaven.

Jesus is not the same-as a high priest on earth. Jesus doesn’t need to sacrifice every day for His own sins and then for the sins of the people. Jesus sacrificed Himself one time on the cross and that finished all sacrifices forever.

The Law chooses weak sinful men to become the high priests. But after the Law, God’s promise chose His Son, and His Son is perfect forever.

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.

Jesus and His twelve disciples went to the city JERICHO. Jesus began to leave that city, and many people followed. A blind man, named BARTIMAEUS, son of TIMAEUS, sat near the road.

When the blind man heard that Jesus from NAZARETH came near, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of DAVID, show mercy to me!” Many people told the blind man to be-quiet. But he shouted more, “Son of DAVID, show mercy to me!”

Jesus stopped and said, “Bring him.” The people called the blind man and said, “Be-happy. Jesus is calling you.”

The blind man took-off his coat, stood-up, and went to Jesus. Jesus asked, “What do you want Me to do for you?”

The blind man said, “Teacher, I want to see again.”

Jesus said, “Go, your faith heals you.” Immediately the blind man could see, and he followed Jesus on the road.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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