***Introit (Psalm 132)***

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**C: The person finding safety in the Lord, that person is happy.**

P: The Lord chose Jerusalem.

C: He wants that for His home.

P: The Lord says this is His resting place forever.

C: He wants to live here.

P: He will give Jerusalem many blessings.

C: He will give food for the poor people.

P: He gives salvation same-as clothes for the priests.

C: God’s holy people will shout with joy.

**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 show Your power when You show mercy. Give us Your full grace. Then we will be sorry for our sins and trust You, and You will give us Your wonderful blessings. 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 Ezekiel chapter 2.

God told me, “Son of man, stand-up and I will talk to you.” While the Lord spoke to me, the Holy Spirit entered me and made me stand-up. I heard Him tell me, “Son of man, I send you to the people Israel. That nation rebels against Me. They and their fathers continue sinning against Me until today. The children are also stubborn and against Me. I send you to them. Tell them, ‘The Lord God says this.’ No-matter they listen or don’t listen, this group of rebels will know I sent a prophet among them.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from 2nd Corinthians chapter 12.

 I must continue boasting. This doesn’t help me, but I will tell about visions and things the Lord told me. I know a Christian man. Fourteen years ago, he saw the third heaven, in his body or not in his body, I don’t know, but God knows. This man experienced heaven. In his body or not in his body, I don’t know, but God knows. This man heard things in heaven, but he can’t say what he heard. I will boast about that kind of man. I will not boast about myself, but I will boast about my weakness. If I want to boast, I am not a fool, because I speak the truth. But I don’t boast. I want people to see me and listen to me, but not think too-much about me.

God showed me and told me great things. To stop me from feeling proud, God gave me trouble in my body, the devil’s work to bother me and stop me from becoming proud. Three times I prayed the Lord to take-away my trouble. But He told me, “My grace is enough for you. My power is strongest while you are weak.” I will be happy to boast about my weakness. Then Christ’s power will come and stay on me. Now I am satisfied with my weaknesses, insults, hard times, persecutions, and difficulties for Christ. Because while I am weak, then I am strong.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Mark chapter 6.

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

Jesus left that area and went to His hometown. His disciples went with Him. On Saturday Jesus taught in the Jewish church; and many listening to Him were-surprised.

They said, “Where did this Man get all this knowledge? How does He have wisdom? How can He do wonderful works? He is the carpenter, the Son of Mary and brother of JAMES, JOSEPH, JUDAS, and SIMON? His sisters live here with us?” They refused to believe in Him.

Jesus told them, “People honor a prophet, but his hometown and his family don’t honor Him.” He couldn’t do wonderful works there except He put His hands on a few sick people and healed them. Jesus was-surprised the way they refused to believe Him.

Jesus walked through the nearby towns and taught them.

Then Jesus called the twelve disciples to Him. He sent them out, two by two. Jesus gave the disciples authority to command demons. He told them only take a walking-stick with them. Don’t take bread, a bag, or money. Wear sandals, but don’t bring extra clothes. Jesus said, “When you enter a house, stay there until you leave town. If a place doesn’t accept you and they won’t listen to you, then shake-off the dirt from your feet. That is a witness against them.”

The disciples went and preached that people should repent. They threw demons out of people. They used oil to anoint many sick people and healed them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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