***Introit (Psalm 51)***

P: The sacrifice God wants is a humble soul.

C: A humble and sorry heart, God will not reject that person.

P: God, show mercy to me, because Your love never ends.

**C: Because You have much mercy, please forgive my sin.**

P: Wash-away all my wrong-doing.

**C: Wipe-away all my sin.**

P: I know my wrong-doing.

**C: I always see my sin.**

P: God, make a clean heart in me.

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

P: Don’t throw me away from You.

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

P: Give-me joy in You saving me,

**C: And make me want to follow Your ways.**

**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 eternal God, You love us because You made us. All people who repent, You forgive. Make new hearts in us, and make us want to confess our sin, repent, and stop our sinning. Then we will have complete forgiveness from 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 Joel chapter 2.

 The Lord your God says: “Now come again to Me with all your heart. Come, eating nothing, crying, sorrow.” Don’t rip your clothing, but feel honest sorrow in your hearts. Come again to the Lord your God, because He shows kindness and mercy. His anger is slow, and He shows much love, and He doesn’t want to punish people.

 Maybe He will change His mind and come and give a blessing. Maybe that blessing is a food or drink offering for the Lord, your God.

 Blow-the-trumpet in the city JERUSALEM. Prepare a holy day with no eating. Announce the day for holy worship, the people meeting together. Call everyone for worship.

 Bring the old people and the children, also the young babies. Let the GROOM leave his room and let the BRIDE leave her room.

 The priests are the Lord’s servants. Let them cry in the temple between the altar and the PORCH. Let them say, “Lord, save Your people. Don’t shame your people, or other nations will mock us. Don’t let the nations say: ‘Where is their God?’”

 Then the Lord will be jealous for His land, and feel mercy for His people. The Lord will tell His people: “I will send GRAIN and wine and oil for you, and you will be-satisfied. I will never again shame you in-front-of other nations.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from 2 Corinthians chapters 5 and 6.

 Christ sent us to work for Him. God talks to you through us. For Jesus, we beg you, let God change you from enemies to become His friends. Christ had no sin, but God filled Him with our sin. Then God can fill us with His perfect life.

 We work together-with Him, and we beg you: Don’t waste God’s grace. Because God says: “Happened the right time, I listened to you. On the day for salvation, I helped you.”

 Attend, now is the time God accepts people. Today is the day for God to save you. We don’t make this difficult for you. No one can blame our ministry. We are God’s servants and we work hard every way.

 We never give up, people abuse us, we suffer hard times, terrible troubles, people beat us, they put us in prison, we suffer riots, hard work, no sleep, we are hungry.

 We continue with clean life, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, true love, true speaking, and God’s power. We use God’s right weapons for the right hand and the left hand. We continue no-matter people honor or don’t honor us, no-matter they say bad about us or praise us.

 People say we are liars, but we are honest. People say they don’t know us, but everyone knows us. People want to kill us, but we live. People punish us, but they don’t kill us. We look sad, but we always rejoice. We are poor, but we make many people rich. We have nothing, but we have everything.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Matthew chapter 6.

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

 Jesus taught them saying, “Be-careful! Don’t do your good works in-front-of people for them to watch you. Then you will lose the gift from your Father in heaven.

 When you give a gift to a poor person, don’t announce that. Hypocrites announce their gifts in Jewish churches and in the streets. They want people to praise them. I tell you the truth, that is their only reward. When you help a poor person, give in secret (private). Your right hand gives-the-gift, your left hand doesn’t-know. Your Father sees the good things you do secretly and He will bless you.

 Now about prayer, happen you pray, don’t do same-as hypocrites. They enjoy standing and praying in the Jewish churches and on the streets. Then everyone will see them. I tell you the truth, that is their only reward.

 When you pray, go into your room alone and close the door. Pray to your Father secretly. Your Father sees the good things you do secretly and He will bless you.

 When you give-up eating, don’t look sad the same-as the hypocrites. Their face shows they are not eating, then everyone will see they gave-up eating. I tell you the truth, that is their only reward. When you give-up food, wash-your-face and comb-your-hair. Then other people don’t know you gave-up eating. But your Father will know. Your Father sees the good things you do secretly and He will bless you.

 Don’t keep precious things on earth. Moths and RUST destroy your things, and thieves can steal those things. Keep precious things in heaven, because no moth or RUST destroys in heaven, and no thief can steal in heaven. Your heart is with the things you love.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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