***Introit (Psalm 147)***

P: God’s Word became human and He lived with us. We saw His glory.

C: He has glory because He is the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

P: Praise the Lord! It is good to praise our God.

C: It is pleasing and right to praise God.

P: The Lord is great and powerful.

C: No one can measure His understanding.

P: The Lord is happy with people who honor Him.

C: He is happy with people who trust His continuing love.

P: Jerusalem, praise the Lord!

C: All His holy mountain, praise your God!

**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 God, You put in our hearts Your true Light, Your Son become man. Make Jesus shine bright in our lives. 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 1 Kings chapter 3.

King SOLOMON went to the city named GIBEON to sacrifice. That was the high place where people sacrificed. SOLOMON gave a thousand sacrifices on that altar. At night, the Lord came to SOLOMON in a dream. God said, “Ask Me, and I will give to you.”

SOLOMON said, “You showed great love and kindness to Your servant, my father DAVID. He followed You. He was honest and righteous in his heart for You. You continue to show great and faithful love. You gave DAVID a son to become king today. Lord my God, now You made me Your servant and king after my father DAVID. But I am the same-as a little child. I don’t know how to go-out or come-in. Your people are a large group, too large to count. Give me understanding. Then I can lead Your people, and I can judge between good and evil. No one is good enough to lead Your people.”

The Lord was happy SOLOMON asked for wisdom. God said, “You didn’t ask for long life or riches. You didn’t ask Me to kill your enemies. You asked for understanding to judge right. Because you asked that, I will do the same-as you said. I now give you wisdom and understanding. No one will be wise the same-as you; no one before you and no one after you. You didn’t ask this, but I also give you riches and honor. All your life, no other king will equal you. If you follow Me and obey My laws and commandments the same-as your father DAVID followed Me, then I will give you long life.”

SOLOMON woke-up and knew that was a dream. He went to JERUSALEM and stood in-front-of the ARK of the Lord’s Promise. SOLOMON gave sacrifices and peace offerings there, and he gave a feast for his servants.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from Ephesians chapter 1.

Praise God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! God blessed us through Jesus with every spiritual blessing in heaven. Before God made the world, He already chose us to become holy and perfect with Jesus. Long ago, He decided to adopt us as His sons through Jesus Christ. That was His plan and gives praise for His wonderful grace. God freely gives us His grace through His dear Son. We have salvation in Jesus through His blood, that is the forgiveness of sins. God pours His grace on us with all wisdom and understanding. He told us about His secret plan. His good plan is to bring all things together in Christ. At the right time, God brought all things in heaven and on earth together in Christ.

God gives us an inheritance through Christ, because He chose us long ago. That agreed with His plan, and God works everything the same-as He wants. We were the first people to trust Christ. God planned for us to praise His glory. When you heard the truth, the good news of salvation, and you believed the good news, God gave you the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit keeps you in faith and He is God's promise that He will give us our inheritance. All this praises His glory!

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel is from Luke chapter 2.

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

Jesus continued to grow and become strong. He got more wisdom, and God’s grace was with Him.

Every year, Jesus’ parents went to JERUSALEM for the PASSOVER. When Jesus was 12 years old, He went with His parents to the PASSOVER. After PASSOVER was finished, Jesus’ parents started going home, but Jesus stayed in JERUSALEM, and His parents didn’t know.

They thought Jesus was in the group traveling, so they traveled one day. Then they began looking for Jesus with friends and family. They didn’t find Jesus, so they went again to JERUSALEM. Three days they searched and finally found Jesus in the temple. Jesus was sitting with the law teachers, listening to them and asking questions.

Everyone was amazed, because Jesus understood much and gave good answers. When Jesus’ parents saw Him, they were surprised. His mother asked, “Son, why did You do this against us? Your father and I were very worried, looking for You!”

Jesus asked, “Why did you look for Me? You didn’t know I need to be in My Father’s house?”

But they didn’t understand what He meant. They all traveled to NAZARETH, and Jesus obeyed His parents. His mother remembered all these things in her heart. Jesus grew and His wisdom increased, and God’s favor and people’s favor for Him increased.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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