***Introit (Psalm 145)***

P: O Lord, everything will thank You!

**C: All Your holy people will bless You!**

P: One generation will tell another generation about Your work.

**C: They will announce Your powerful work.**

P: I will think about Your great glory.

**C: I will think about Your wonderful work.**

P: People will tell about Your strength and amazing work.

**C: I will announce that You are great.**

P: People will announce Your rich goodness.

**C: People will sing about Your righteousness.**

P: The Lord is good to everyone.

**C: His mercy reigns over everything He made.**

**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, Your Son humbled Himself. Through Jesus, You saved this sinful world. You saved Your faithful people from eternal death. Also give us eternal joy and happiness. 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 First Lesson is from Acts chapter 9.

SAUL wanted to kill the Lord’s disciples. SAUL went to the high priest and asked him to write letters to the Jewish churches in the city named DAMASCUS. SAUL wanted to travel there and look-for people who followed Jesus. If he found any believers, men or women, he planned to take the believers to JERUSALEM and put them in jail. The letters told the Jews in DAMASCUS they should help SAUL.

SAUL was traveling to DAMASCUS with a group of people. They came close to the city. Quickly a light from heaven shined around SAUL. SAUL fell down, and he heard a voice say, “SAUL, SAUL, why do you persecute Me?”

SAUL asked, “Lord, who are You?” Jesus answered, “I am Jesus, and you are persecuting Me. Stand up and enter the city. Someone will tell you what to do.”

The men traveling with SAUL were amazed. They heard the voice, but they didn’t see anyone. SAUL stood up, but he was blind. The men led SAUL into the city. For 3 days, SAUL was blind, and he didn’t eat or drink.

A disciple lived in DAMASCUS and his name was ANANIAS. The Lord called to him, “ANANIAS!”

ANANIAS answered, “Lord, I am here.”

God told him, “Go to JUDAS’ house on the street named STRAIGHT. Ask for a man from the city named TARSUS. His name is SAUL, and he is praying. He sees a vision of you coming, putting your hands on him, and making him see again.”

ANANIAS answered, “Lord, wait! Many people talk about SAUL and how much he hurt believers in JERUSALEM. Now he came here with authority from the chief priests to arrest everyone who believes in You.”

God said, “Go! I chose SAUL to announce My name to the non-Jews and kings and to Israel. I will show him, he will suffer because he follows Me.”

Then ANANIAS went to the house. He put his hands on SAUL and said, “Brother SAUL, while you were traveling to DAMASCUS, the Lord Jesus came to you. Jesus sent me here. He wants you to see again, and He wants the Holy Spirit to fill you.” Quickly, something the same-as SCALES fell-off SAUL’s eyes, and he could see again. SAUL stood up and got baptized. Then he ate and became strong again.

SAUL stayed for a while with the disciples in DAMASCUS. He began preaching in the Jewish churches that Jesus is the Son of God. Everyone was surprised and said, “This is the man who caused trouble for believers in Jerusalem! He came here to arrest Christians and take them to the priests in Jerusalem, right?” But SAUL’s faith became stronger. In DAMASCUS, SAUL stopped the Jews’ arguments because he proved that Jesus is the Savior.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

*There are two choices for the second lesson, a shorter reading from Revelation 5 and a longer reading from Revelation 5. Choose one.*

*The shorter reading.*

The Second Lesson is from Revelation chapter 5.

The Lamb went to the throne and took the book from God’s right hand. When He took the book, then the four living beings\* and twenty-four ELDERS bowed-down to the Lamb. They all had harps and gold bowls full of INCENSE. The INCENSE means the prayers from God’s holy people. They sang a new song:

“You are worthy to take the book and open the seals. Because You died, and Your blood bought people for God. You bought people from every family and language and people group and nation. You made them become a kingdom and priests for God. They will reign on earth.”

Then I looked and heard many angels, thousands and thousands, and millions of angels. The angels were all around the throne and the living beings\* and the ELDERS. They sang in a loud voice, ‘The Lamb who died is worthy to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing!’ Then I heard every living thing in heaven, on earth, under the earth, and on the sea, and everything in them. They all shouted, “To the One sitting on the throne and the Lamb, give praise and honor and glory and power forever!” The four living beings\* said “Amen!” And the ELDERS bowed-down and worshiped.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

\* Sign this: four living exalted person (B-handshape, not the P-handshape)

*The longer reading.*

The Second Lesson is from Revelation chapter 5.

God was sitting on the throne in heaven. I saw a book in His right hand. The book had writing on the front and back, and it had seven seals. A powerful angel shouted, “Who is worthy to open the book and break the seals?” No one in heaven, on earth, or under the earth was able to open the book or look in it. I cried because no one was worthy to open the book or read it. But one of the ELDERS told me, “Don’t cry. Look! The Lion from the family named JUDAH, the One who lived before DAVID, (that is Jesus), He won! He can open the book and the seven seals.”

Between the throne and the four living beings\* and the ELDERS, I saw a Lamb (Jesus) standing there. People before killed that Lamb. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes. That means the seven spirits from God that He sends into all the earth. The Lamb went to the throne and took the book from God’s right hand. When He took the book, then the four living beings\* and twenty-four ELDERS bowed-down to the Lamb. They all had harps and gold bowls full of INCENSE. The INCENSE means the prayers from God’s holy people. They sang a new song:

“You are worthy to take the book and open the seals. Because You died, and Your blood bought people for God. You bought people from every family and language and people group and nation. You made them become a kingdom and priests for God. They will reign on earth.”

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This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

\* Sign, four living exalted person (B-handshape, not the P-handshape)

*There are two choices for the Gospel lesson, a shorter reading from John 21 and a longer reading from John 21. Choose one.*

*The shorter reading.*

The Gospel lesson is from John chapter 21.

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

Jesus appeared again to His disciples near the Sea of GALILEE. This is what happened. PETER, THOMAS, NATHANAEL from CANA, JAMES and JOHN, and two other disciples were together. PETER said, “I’m going fishing.” The other disciples said, “We’ll go with you.” So they got into the boat and went out. But all night they caught nothing.

Early in the morning, Jesus stood near the water, but the disciples didn’t know that was Jesus. Jesus called to them, “Children, do you have any fish?” They answered, “No.” Jesus said, “Throw your NET on the right side of the boat and you will find fish.” They did that and the NET was so full of fish they couldn’t pull it into the boat.

Then the disciple Jesus loved (JOHN) told PETER, “He is the Lord!” When PETER heard that, he put on his outer clothes and jumped into the water and swam to land. The other disciples brought the boat and towed the net and fish. They were only about 100 yards from shore. When they arrived on land, they saw a fire with fish and bread on it.

Jesus told them, “Bring some fish you caught.” PETER helped the other disciples drag the net onto the ground. The net was full of large fish, 153 fish. No-matter there were so many fish, the net didn’t tear. Jesus said, “Come, eat breakfast.” No disciple wanted to ask, “Who are You?” They knew He was the Lord. Jesus gave them bread and fish to eat. This was the third time Jesus appeared to His disciples after He was raised alive.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*The longer reading.*

The Gospel lesson is from John chapter 21.

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

Jesus appeared again to His disciples near the Sea of Galilee. This is what happened. PETER, THOMAS, NATHANAEL from CANA, JAMES and JOHN, and two other disciples were together. PETER said, “I’m going fishing.” The other disciples said, “We’ll go with you.” So they got into the boat and went out. But all night they caught nothing.

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After they ate, Jesus asked PETER, “SIMON, son of JOHN, do you love Me more than the other disciples?”

PETER said, “Yes, Lord, You know I love You.”

Jesus said, “Feed My lambs.” Jesus asked a second time, “SIMON, son of JOHN, do you love Me?”

PETER said, “Yes, Lord, You know I love You.”

Jesus said, “Take-care of My sheep.” A third time, Jesus asked, “SIMON, son of JOHN, do you love Me?”

PETER was very sad because Jesus asked three times, “Do you love Me?” PETER said, “Lord, You know everything. You know I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed My sheep. I tell you the truth. When you were young, you clothed yourself and went where you wanted. But when you are old, you will stretch-out your hands. Another person will clothe you and carry you to a place you don’t-want to go.” Jesus said that to show how PETER will die and glorify God. Then Jesus said, “Follow Me.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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