***Introit (Psalm 98)***

P: Sing a new song for the Lord, because He did wonderful things!

**C: His right hand and His holy arm worked salvation.**

P: The Lord announced His salvation.

**C: He showed the nations His righteousness.**

P: He remembered His love and faithfulness for Israel.

**C: All the earth sees salvation from our God.**

P: All the earth, rejoice loudly to the Lord!

**C: Sing and praise Him with joy!**

P: Sing praises for the Lord with the guitar.

**C: Make beautiful songs with the guitar.**

P: Use trumpets to make music.

**C: And rejoice loudly for the King, the Lord.**

**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: O God, You make us united. You give us the same mind and same desires. Make us love Your commands and promises. Then it doesn’t-matter how much this world changes, our joy is always in 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 First Lesson is from Acts chapter 11.

The apostles and Christians in JUDEA heard that non-Jews now also believed God’s word. PETER went to JERUSALEM and the Jews argued with him. They accused PETER, “You visited non-Jews and ate with them.”

PETER began explaining everything. He said, “I was praying in the city named JOPPA. I saw a vision and saw a large SHEET coming-down from the sky. The SHEET came-down to me. I saw many different animals – four footed animals, WILD animals, crawling animals, and birds. A voice told me, ‘PETER, stand up. Kill and eat.’ But I said, ‘Lord, never! I never eat anything not clean or not holy.’ But God told me, ‘If God makes that clean, you should not name that not clean.’”

“That happened three times. Then everything went-up into the sky. At the same time, three men came to the house. They came from the city named CAESAREA. The Holy Spirit told me to go with them. These six believers went with me, and we entered the man’s house. He explained that he saw an angel standing in his house. The angel told him, ‘Send a person to JOPPA and bring SIMON PETER here. PETER will preach God’s word to save you and the people in your house.’ I preached and the Holy Spirit came on them, the same-as He came on us at the beginning.”

“I remembered Jesus said, ‘JOHN baptized with water, but you will get baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ God gave them and us the same gift after we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Then how can I stop God?”

Then the Jewish believers stopped accusing PETER. They gave glory to God and said, “God gives the non-Jews repentance that gives life.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Second Lesson from Revelation chapter 21.

John wrote: I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth were gone and there was no sea. I saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down from God in heaven. The city was dressed the same-as a BRIDE ready to meet her husband.

I heard a loud voice from the throne. The voice said, “Look! God’s home is with people, and He will live with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will continue with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death, no more grief, no crying, no pain. The first things are gone.”

The One sitting on the throne said, “Look! I am making everything new.” And He told me, “Write this, because these words are faithful and true.” He said, “This is finished. I am the A and Z, the beginning and the end. For the thirsty person, I will give him to drink from the water of life, for no cost. The one who has victory, he will inherit these things. I will be his God and he will be My son.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

*There are two choices for the Gospel lesson, John 13 or John 16. Choose one.*

*The reading from John 13.*

The Gospel lesson is from John chapter 13.

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

JUDAS left. Then Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man (Jesus) gets glory, and God shows His glory through the Son of Man. God gets glory through Jesus, and God will also give Jesus Himself glory. God will give Jesus glory quickly. Children, I am with you only a short time. You will look-for Me. But I tell you the same-as I told the Jews, you can’t come with Me.”

“I give you a new commandment: love each-other. The same-as I loved you, you should love each-other. This is how all people will know you are My disciples, if you love each-other.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*The reading from John 16.*

The Gospel lesson is from John chapter 16.

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

Jesus said, “I have many more things to tell you. But you can’t accept them now. But when the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not decide what to say. But what He hears from God, He will speak. He will tell you what is coming. He will give glory to Me, because He will tell you about Me. Everything the Father has is Mine. That is why I said the Holy Spirit will tell you about Me. Soon you will not see Me. Then soon after, you will see Me again.”

Some of His disciples began talking to each other. “What is Jesus telling us? ‘Soon you will not see Me, then soon after, you will see Me again.’ What does Jesus mean, ‘because I go to the Father?’ Why does He say soon this will happen? We don’t understand.”

Jesus knew they wanted to ask Him questions. So Jesus said, “Are you talking about what I said? Soon you will not see Me, and soon after, you will see Me. I tell you the truth, you will cry and mourn, but the world will rejoice. You will be very sad, but your sorrow will become joy.”

“When a woman is giving-birth, she suffers and is sad. But after she gives-birth, she forgets the suffering. Now she is joyful because her child is born. Now you are sad. But I will see you again and you will rejoice and no one will take-away your joy.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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