***Introit (Psalm 37)***

P: Continue quiet and wait patiently for the Lord.

C: Don’t worry about sinners who succeed.

P: Don’t worry about people doing evil.

C: Don’t feel jealous of people doing wrong.

P: They will dissolve the same-as grass.

C: They will dry-up and die the same-as a green plant.

P: Trust the Lord and do good.

C: Live in His land and live faithfully.

P: Find your happiness in the Lord.

C: He will give what your heart wants.

P: Trust the Lord and do good.

C: Trust Him and He will do good for you.

**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: Dear God, You are strength for all people trusting You. Give Your mercy and power and defend us from all danger and trouble. 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 Genesis chapter 45.

JOSEPH told his brothers, “I am JOSEPH! Is my father still alive?” But his brothers were very afraid. They couldn’t say anything. JOSEPH said, “Please come near me.” His brothers came near. JOSEPH said, “I am your brother JOSEPH. You sold me as a slave to EGYPT. Don’t blame yourselves for selling me here. God sent me here to save lives. For 2 years now, no food grows. Five more years, people can’t plant or harvest food. God sent me here first to save your lives, your family, and your future children. You didn’t send me here! God sent me to EGYPT. He made me the same-as a father for the EGYPTIAN king and ruler of his house and all EGYPT.”

“Now hurry and go to my father. Tell him, ‘Your son JOSEPH says God made him ruler of EGYPT. Now go to EGYPT. Don’t wait. You will live in GOSHEN in Egypt, near JOSEPH. You, your children and their children, your animals and everything you have, all will come to EGYPT. There are 5 more years of no food. JOSEPH will take care of you and all your family, and you will not become poor.’”

JOSEPH said to his brothers, “Now you see, and my brother BENJAMIN sees, I am JOSEPH. You must tell my father how EGYPT honors me, and tell him everything you see here. Hurry and bring my father here.” Then JOSEPH hugged his brother BENJAMIN and he cried. Also BENJAMIN cried. JOSEPH kissed all his brothers and he cried. Then his brothers talked with him.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from 1 Corinthians chapter 15.

Because death happened from one man, ADAM, the-same way arising from death happens because of one Man, Jesus. ADAM’s sin makes all people die. The same, Christ makes all people rise alive.

But everyone in his-own group. First Christ arose. Then when He comes, all people belonging to Christ will arise. Then the end of the world will happen. Christ will defeat all rulers, authorities and powers, and He will give the kingdom to God the Father. Jesus must reign same-as King until He puts every enemy under His feet. The last enemy Jesus will defeat is death.

Why am I always in danger? In Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day. Dear Christians, you can brag about that. How does it help me in this life if I fought enemies in the city EPHESUS? If dead people don’t rise alive, then we should do what unbelievers say: “Let us eat and drink, because tomorrow we die.” Don’t let anyone fool you. If you are friends with bad people, they will ruin your good belief. You are living in a fog. Wake up! Do right! Don’t continue sinning! Some of you don’t know God. You should be ashamed!

Someone will ask, “How does God raise dead people? What kind of body will they have?” Foolish question! When you put a SEED in the ground, the SEED must die first, then it comes up alive.

You don’t put the full-grown plant in the ground. You only put SEED in the ground, maybe WHEAT or some other SEED. God gives the full plant, the same as He wants. Each SEED has its own kind of plant. Living things are not all the same. People have one kind of body, animals their-own kind of body, birds have their own kind of body, and fish have their own kind of body. Also, the sky and earth are different. The sky has one kind of glory, the earth has a different kind of glory. The sun has its glory, the moon has its glory, the stars have their glory, and each star’s glory is different.

Rising from the dead is the same. The body in the ground will dissolve. The body God raises alive will never dissolve.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Luke chapter 6.

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

Jesus said, “I tell you, love your enemies. If someone hates you, do good to them. If people curse you, bless them. If people abuse you, pray for them. If someone hits your cheek, let him hit your other cheek also. If someone takes your coat, let him take your shirt also. If someone asks for something, give. If someone takes from you, don’t take it back. You do for other people the same way you want other people to do to you.”

“If you love people who love you, how is that good? Sinners also love people who love them. If you give to people who will pay you back, how is that good? Sinners do the same.”

“But you love your enemies. Do good. Give and don’t expect them to pay you back. Then your reward will be great. You will be God’s children. People are evil and not thankful, but God Himself shows kindness to them. You show mercy the same-as your heavenly Father shows mercy.”

“Don’t judge, and God will not judge you. Don’t criticize, and God will not criticize you. Forgive, and God will forgive you. Give, and you will receive. You will receive a large amount, overflowing. The way you measure, God will measure to you same.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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