***Introit (Psalm 74)***

P: Love for Your house filled me.

C: When people insult You, they also insult me.

P: God, why do You throw us out forever?

C: Why are You angry against the sheep in Your land?

P: Remember Your people! Long-ago You bought Your people. You saved them and they belong to You.

C: Remember Your holy mountain where You live.

P: Come again to the ruined city.

C: The enemy destroyed everything in Your temple.

**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 see that we have no strength. Use Your power and protect us from all troubles in our body, and protect us from all evil thoughts that attack our soul. 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 Jeremiah chapter 26.

JEREMIAH finished saying everything the Lord told him to say. Then the priests, the prophets, and all the people grabbed Jeremiah and said, “You must die! You prophesy in the Lord’s name and say, ‘This temple will get destroyed, this city will get destroyed and no one will live here.’ Why do you say that?” In the Lord’s temple, all the people met together against JEREMIAH.

The princes in JUDAH heard about these things. They left the king’s house and went to the Lord’s temple. They sat in the temple entrance. The priests and prophets told the princes and the people, “This man (JEREMIAH) must die because he spoke against the city. All of you heard him.”

Then JEREMIAH told the princes and the people, “Everything you heard, the Lord told me to speak. Now change your ways. Live right, do what is right, listen to the Lord your God. The Lord will change His mind and not punish you. You have power to hurt me. Do what you want and what you think is right. But understand – if you kill me, all of you and the whole city are guilty for killing an innocent man. The Lord sent me to tell you all these things.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from Philippians chapters 3 and 4.

Dear Christians, all of you should follow my example. Also watch the people who live the same as we live. Before, I told you often and now tell you with tears, many people’s lives show they hate the cross of Christ. In the end, God will destroy those people. Their god is their stomach, their desires. They think their shame is glory. They only think about earthly things.

But we are citizens of heaven. We watch for the Lord Jesus Christ, the Savior, to come from heaven. He will change our humble bodies to become the same-as His body in glory. He will do that with His power that makes everything serve Him. Dear Christians, I love you and want to see you. You are my joy and my crown. Dear friends, continue strong in the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Luke chapter 13.

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

Some PHARISEES came to Jesus and told Him, “You must leave, because King HEROD wants to kill You.”

Jesus answered, “Go tell that fox, ‘Look! Today and tomorrow I finish My work of throwing demons out of people and healing people, and on the third day I will be finished.’ But I must continue My work today and tomorrow and the next day, because a prophet can’t die outside of JERUSALEM.”

“JERUSALEM, JERUSALEM, God sent prophets and other people to you, and you killed them. You stoned them to death. Often I wanted to gather your children, the same-as a HEN gathers her baby CHICKS under her wings. But you refused. Look! Now I will leave you. You will not see Me until you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the Lord’s name.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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