***Introit (Psalm 75)***

P: God is the Judge.

**C: He punishes one man and lifts-up another man.**

P: We thank You, God. We thank You because Your name is near us.

**C: We tell about Your wonderful works.**

P: God says, at the right time that I choose,

**C: I will judge fairly.**

P: You people, your help doesn’t come from the East or West.

**C: The desert will not lift you up.**

P: I will announce forever,

**C: I will sing praise to the God of Israel.**

**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: Lord, You give us grace and mercy. Send Your Holy Spirit to teach us to humbly follow Jesus. Then we can resist the devil’s temptations, and we will have clean hearts and minds and avoid sinful pride. 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 Old Testament lesson is from Proverbs chapter 25.

 God’s glory hides things from people. A king’s glory is searching for knowledge. The same as the heavens are high and the earth is deep, a king’s heart is too-much for us to search and understand.

 Melt silver and take-away the dirt. Then an artist has good silver to make something. Take-away a wicked man from the king. Then the king can reign in righteousness.

 When you are in-front-of the king, don’t honor yourself. Don’t stand with the important people. It is better if someone tells you, “You are important. Come up here!” That is better than they make you go to a place with less honor.

 Don’t hurry to tell the court what you saw. Your neighbor may prove you wrong and you will feel ashamed. First, you should go talk to your neighbor. And don’t tell other people’s secrets, or people will hear about your gossip and always say bad things about you.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson from Hebrews chapter 13.

 Continue loving each-other as brothers. Always remember to show kindness to visitors. Some people welcomed angels but didn’t know they were angels. Remember people in prison. Remember them same-as you are in prison with them. Remember the suffering people because you are all together in the body of Christ.

 All people must honor marriage. Don’t do sexual sins. God will judge guilty those people doing sexual sins and breaking the marriage law.

 Don’t love money. Be-satisfied with the things you have. God said, “I will never leave you; I will never forget you.” Now we can boldly say, “The Lord is my Helper; I will not be-afraid. People can do nothing to hurt me.”

 Remember your leaders. They taught you God’s Word. Remember how they lived. Copy their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

 Don’t let strange teachings lead you away from God. God’s grace makes you strong and that is good. Some people think the right food makes your soul strong, but that doesn’t help them.

 We have an altar that feeds us. People who serve in the Jewish worship tent can’t eat from our altar. They sacrifice animals and the high priest brings the blood into the holy places as a sacrifice for sin. Then they burn the animal bodies outside the camp.

 The same, Jesus suffered outside the city gate to make people holy through His own blood. Let us go to Jesus outside the camp. We will suffer people hating us the same-as they hated Him. Our city home here doesn’t continue forever. We look-for the city that will come.

 Through Jesus, let us continue to give God a sacrifice of praise. People announcing His name will praise Him. Don’t give-up doing good and sharing what you have. Those sacrifices please God.

 Obey your leaders and respect their authority. They take-care of your souls and they must answer-to God. Let them do their work with joy. Don’t make their work a burden, because that won’t help you.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Luke chapter 14.

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

 This happened on a worship day. Jesus went to the home of an important PHARISEE to eat. The people watched Jesus carefully.

 In-front-of Jesus, there was a sick man, and his body was swollen. Jesus asked the law teachers and PHARISEES, “Does the law let Me heal people on the worship day, or not?” They didn’t answer. Jesus touched the man, healed him, and sent him away.

 Jesus asked, “On the worship day, if your son or a cow fell into a well, you will quickly pull him out, right?” They couldn’t answer Jesus.

 Jesus saw that the visitors tried to sit in the places of honor. Jesus told a story to teach them, “When someone invites you to a wedding, don’t go and sit in the place of honor. Maybe another visitor is more important than you. Then the host will come and tell you to give this person your seat. With shame you will move to a humble seat.

 But when someone invites you, go and sit at the far seat. Then when the host comes and sees you, he will say, ‘Friend, please move up close.’ Then the host will honor you in-front-of the other visitors. If you honor yourself, then you will become ashamed. But if you are humble, you will receive honor.”

 Then Jesus told the man that invited Him to eat, “When you give a big meal, don’t invite your friends, brothers, family, or rich neighbors. Because they will invite you to their house, and that will pay you back. When you give a big meal, invite the poor, lame, weak and blind people. Then you will be-happy, because those people can’t pay you back. God will pay you on the day the righteous people arise from the dead.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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