***Introit (Psalm 119)***

P: Lord, I hope for Your salvation.

**C: I do Your commandments.**

P: I am happy with Your word,

**C: The same-as a person finding great treasure.**

P: Seven times every-day I praise You,

**C: For Your good and right commands.**

P: People loving Your law have great peace.

**C: Nothing can make them fall.**

P: My soul keeps Your word.

**C: I greatly love Your word.**

**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 protect us and You are our strength. You give us a holy life. In Your grace, hear our prayers. In Your great mercy, give us the things we ask in faith. 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 Habakkuk chap. 1 and 2.

 God gave HABAKKUK this message.

 O Lord, how long will I call for help, and You don’t hear me? I shout, “Trouble,” and You don’t save me. Why do You make me see trouble? Why do You look and do nothing? Destruction and hurt happen all around me, war and fighting happen. The law does nothing, judgment never succeeds. Wicked people defeat righteous people. Doing right never happens.

 I stand on the wall and I watch. I stand on the tower and I look to see God talk to me and answer my complaint. I will learn what to say about my problems.

 The Lord answered me and said, “Write this vision. Make the vision clear to all people that read it, then they can escape. The vision waits until the right time. The vision will happen, no lie. Maybe that seems slow to happen, but wait for it and it will come. See, the proud person’s soul is not clean, but faith will guide the righteous person’s life.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson from 2 Timothy chapter 1.

 I am PAUL, an apostle of Christ Jesus because God wanted that, and because Christ Jesus promises life for me. To TIMOTHY, my dear son. Grace, mercy and peace to you from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

 I serve God with a clean conscience, same-as my fathers served Him. And I thank God while I always remember you in my prayers night and day. I remember your tears, and I very much want to see you, because that will make me happy. I remember your strong faith. That faith first lived in your grandmother, LOIS, and your mother, EUNICE. Now I know that faith lives in you.

 That is the reason I want you to remember to continue busy using the gift God gave you when I put-my-hands-on-you. Because the Spirit God gives doesn’t make us afraid, but His Spirit fills us with power, love, and self-control.

 Therefore, don’t be-ashamed of telling about our Lord, and don’t be-ashamed of me, His prisoner. With God’s power, you join in suffering for the gospel. He saved us and gave us this holy work, not because we did anything good. No! But God saved us because of His desire and mercy. Before God made the world, He showed mercy on us through Christ Jesus. Now His mercy came to us when our Savior Christ Jesus appeared. Jesus destroyed death and gives us eternal life through the gospel.

 God chose me to become a preacher, apostle, and a teacher. And that is the reason I suffer now. But I am not ashamed, because I trust God, and I know Him. And I know He can protect the things He gave-me until the last day.

 The same as I taught you, you follow that right teaching and live in the true faith and love in Christ Jesus. Through the power of the Holy Spirit living in us, you keep that good thing God gave you.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Luke chapter 17.

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

 Jesus told His disciples, “Some people will lose faith. But terrible for the person who makes people lose their faith! Better to tie a stone around the neck of that tempter and throw him into a lake. That punishment is easier than God’s punishment for causing one of God’s children to lose faith. Be-careful!”

 “If your brother sins, warn him. If your brother repents, then forgive him. Also, if your brother sins against you seven times in one day and seven times your brother repents, you forgive him.”

 Then the disciples said to Jesus, “Give us more faith.”

 Jesus said, “If you have a faith same-as a tiny MUSTARD seed, you could tell this MULBERRY tree to come-out-of the ground and plant itself in the lake, and the tree will obey you.”

 “Suppose your servant is working in the fields or watching the sheep, then finishes and comes to the house. Will you tell him to come quickly and sit-down to eat? No, you will tell the servant to go and prepare something for me to eat, go get ready and serve me first and later you can eat and drink. You will not thank the servant for obeying you, right? The same, happen you finished doing everything God commands, you say, ‘We are servants that deserve no praise. We only did our duty.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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