***Introit (Psalm 115)***

P: You people who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord!

**C: He is your help and your shield.**

P: Why let the nations say,

**C: Where is their God?**

P: Our God is in heaven.

**C: He does everything He wants.**

P: The nations have idols of silver and gold.

**C: Their hands made their gods.**

P: The people become the same-as their idols.

**C: People trusting idols become the same.**

P: Dead people don’t praise the Lord.

**C: People in the grave don’t praise the Lord.**

P: But we will bless the Lord

**C: Now and forever. Praise 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: Living God, You show Your power when You show mercy on us. Give us Your full grace. Then we will trust Your promises and live forever with 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 Old Testament lesson is from Exodus chapter 3.

 MOSES took-care of sheep for his father-in-law JETHRO, the priest in MIDIAN. MOSES led the sheep west into the wilderness. He came to HOREB, the mountain of God. The angel of the Lord appeared to MOSES in a large fire in a bush. MOSES saw the bush was on fire, but the fire did not destroy the bush. MOSES said, “I must go and see this amazing thing, why the bush doesn’t burn-up.”

 The Lord saw that MOSES came to look. From the bush, God called to MOSES and said, “MOSES, MOSES!”

 MOSES answered, “I am here.”

 God said, “Don’t come near. Take-off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground. I am the God of your father, the God of ABRAHAM, the God of ISAAC, and the God of JACOB.” MOSES hid his face. He was afraid to look-at God.

 The Lord said, “I see My people suffering in EGYPT. I heard them cry-out because of their slave-masters. I know their sufferings. Now I came-down to save them from the EGYPTIANS and bring them to a good and large land, a country where milk and honey flows. That is the place where the CANAANITES, HITTITES, AMORITES, PERIZITES, HIVITES, and JEBUSITES live. The people of ISRAEL cry-out, and I hear them. I see how the EGYPTIANS make them suffer. Now I will send you to the EGYPTIAN king. You will bring My people, the children of Israel, out from EGYPT.”

 But MOSES said to God, “Who am I? I can’t go to the king and bring the children of ISRAEL out from EGYPT.”

 God said, “I will be with you. This will be the sign for you that I sent you. When you bring the people out from EGYPT, you will worship God on this mountain.”

 MOSES said to God, “Look, I am going to the children of ISRAEL. I will tell them, ‘The God of your fathers sent me to you.’ But they will ask me, ‘What is His name?’ What can I tell them?”

 God said to MOSES, “I Am Who I Am.” He said, “That is what you will tell the children of Israel. ‘I Am’ sent me to you.” God also told MOSES, “You will tell the children of ISRAEL, ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of ABRAHAM, the God of ISAAC, and the God of JACOB, He sent me to you.’ That is My name forever. That is My name for all generations to remember.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from 2 Thessalonians chapter 2.

 Brothers, our Lord Jesus Christ will come and bring us to Himself. Don’t become afraid of a spirit or message or letter you think is from us, that says the Lord already came. Don’t let anyone fool you! Jesus will come, but not-yet. First, people will rebel against God, and the man who hates God’s law will come. He is the son of destruction. He hates everything that people worship or name their god, and he says he is better. He sits in God’s temple and names himself God.

 Do you remember? I was with you and I told you these things. You know what holds him back now, then at the right time people will see him. The secret lawbreaking is already beginning. Someone holds-back that man now, but that will end. Then everyone will see that law-breaker. The Lord Jesus will kill him with the breath from His mouth. When Jesus comes, He will stop the wicked man.

 Brothers and sisters, we always thank God for you. Why? The Lord loves you. God chose you as some of the first people for salvation. The Spirit makes you holy and gives you faith in the truth.

 God called you through the gospel to give you salvation. Now you can have the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Brothers and sisters, stand strong and continue to believe our teaching, in our speaking and through letters.

 Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father loved us and gave us eternal comfort and hope through grace. God comforts you and strengthens you in every work and word.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Luke chapter 20.

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

 Some Jewish church leaders from the group named SADDUCEES came to Jesus. They say people won’t rise from the dead. They asked Jesus, “Teacher, MOSES said that if a married man dies and has no children, his brother must marry the widow and have children for his dead brother. A family had seven brothers. The first brother married a woman, had no children, and he died. The second brother, and then the third brother married the widow. All seven brothers married her and all died and they had no children. Finally, the woman died. When they rise from the dead, she is married to who? All seven brothers married her!”

 Jesus said to them, “In this world men and women marry, but those people worthy to live in the future world, and they rise from the dead, those people don’t marry. They can’t die again, because they live the same-as angels. They are God’s children. They rise from the dead.”

 “MOSES also said that the dead rise. At the burning bush MOSES called the Lord God of ABRAHAM and God of ISAAC and God of JACOB. God is not the God of dead persons, but of the living. All people are alive to God.”

 Some of the law teachers answered and said, “Teacher, You spoke well.” They were not brave enough to ask Jesus any more questions.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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