***Introit (Psalm 85)***

P: Lord, show us Your continuing love.

**C: Give us Your salvation.**

P: Let me attend the Lord’s words.

**C: He will speak peace for His holy people. Don’t let His people become foolish again.**

P: God gives His salvation for people honoring Him.

**C: Then His glory will live in our country.**

P: Continuing love and faithfulness are together.

**C: Righteousness and peace kiss each-other.**

P: Righteousness goes in-front-of God.

**C: Righteousness leads His way.**

**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 full of power and strength, You make and give all good things. Put into our hearts love for Your name. Feed us with all good things. Then we will love and serve other people. 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 1 Kings chapter 19.

The prophet ELIJAH entered a cave at MOUNT SINAI and he lived there. The Lord spoke to him, “ELIJAH, what are you doing here?”

ELIJAH answered, “Lord God Almighty, I always served You – only You. But the people of Israel broke Your promises, destroyed Your altars, and killed all Your prophets. I am the only prophet still alive, and they are trying to kill me!”

The Lord said to ELIJAH, “Go, stand on the mountain in-front-of God.” Then the Lord came near and sent a strong wind. The wind hit the mountain and broke rocks. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind, an earthquake happened – but the Lord was not in the earthquake.

After the earthquake, a fire happened – but the Lord was not in the fire. After the fire, a small, quiet voice spoke.

Happened ELIJAH heard that voice, he hid his face with his coat and went outside and stood in-front-of the cave. A voice asked him, “ELIJAH, what are you doing here?”

ELIJAH answered, “Lord God Almighty, I always served You - only You. But the people of Israel broke Your promises, destroyed Your altars, and killed all Your prophets. I am the only prophet still alive, and they are trying to kill me.”

The Lord said, “Go again to the desert around the city named DAMASCUS. There you will pour oil on the man named HAZAEL to make him king of SYRIA.”

“Pour oil on JEHU, son of NIMSHI, to make him king of Israel, and pour oil on ELISHA, son of SHAPHAT from the city ABEL MEHOLAH, to make him prophet instead-of you. If someone escapes from HAZAEL killing them, then JEHU will kill them. Anyone that escapes JEHU, ELISHA will kill them. But I will let seven thousand people stay alive in Israel, all those people that are faithful to God and refused to worship the false god BAAL and refused to kiss the idol.”

ELIJAH went and found ELISHA plowing a field with twelve oxen (cows). ELISHA followed the last oxen. ELIJAH came and put his coat on ELISHA. Then ELISHA began leaving the oxen and ran following ELIJAH and asked, “Please let me say ‘Goodbye’ to my father and mother, then I will follow you.”

ELIJAH said, “Go, see them. I will not stop you.” ELISHA went and took some oxen and killed them and cooked the meat and had a big feast with his family. Then ELISHA went and followed ELIJAH to help him.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson from Galatians chapter 5.

Christ freed us. Now we are truly free. Stand strong, and don’t become a slave in sin again.

My Christian friends, God gave you freedom. But don’t use your freedom to sin. Use your freedom to serve one-another in love. All God’s law means one thing: love your neighbor same-as you love yourself. But if you fight and attack one-another, be-careful or you will destroy each-other.

But I say, let the Holy Spirit lead you. Then you will not follow your sinful desires. The things the sinful body wants are against what the Spirit wants. And the things the Spirit wants are against what the sinful body wants.

The sinful body and the Spirit are enemies. The sinful body will stop you from doing the things you want to do. But if the Spirit leads you, then the law doesn’t reign over you.

Now you know what the sinful body does – sex sins, not clean living, pleasure living all the time, worshiping idols, using devil’s power, hating, fighting, jealousy, anger, selfishness, arguing, making enemies with one-another, wanting things that belong to another person, drunkenness, sinful eating, and things same-as that. Now I warn you, same-as I warned you before, people doing those things will not be in God’s kingdom.

But the Holy Spirit gives us love, joy, and peace. The Holy Spirit makes us patient, kind, good, faithful, gentle, and controlling our desires. There is no law against doing these things. Those people belonging to Christ Jesus, they killed those sinful desires. If the Holy Spirit gives us life, then let the Holy Spirit guide our life.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Luke chapter 9.

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

And it happened before Jesus died, rose alive and went up into heaven that Jesus decided to go to Jerusalem. Jesus sent some people to a town in the country named SAMARIA to prepare a place for Jesus to stay. But the people refused to welcome Jesus, because He was-going to JERUSALEM. Happened JAMES and JOHN saw that, they asked Jesus, “Lord, do you want us to send fire from heaven to kill those people?” Jesus looked at those disciples and corrected them.

They all went to another city. While they walked on the road, a man said to Jesus, “I will follow You any place You go.”

Jesus said, “Foxes have homes and birds have resting places, but the Son of Man has no place to rest His head.”

Jesus said to another man, “Follow Me.”

The man said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”

But Jesus said, “Let other people bury the dead. But you go and announce God’s kingdom.”

Another man said, “I will follow You, Lord, but first let me say ‘Good-bye’ to my family at home.”

Jesus answered, “If someone begins plowing and then looks behind him, he is not right to serve in God’s kingdom.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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