***Introit (Psalm 39)***

P: As God promises, we look-forward to a new heaven and earth,

**C: That is the home of righteousness.**

P: Lord, show me my life is short.

C: Show me my days go quickly.

P: You made my days very few.

**C: All my years are same-as nothing to You.**

P: Lord, I wait for what?

**C: My hope is in You.**

P: Save me from all my sins.

**C: Don’t let foolish people mock me.**

P: Lord, hear my prayer. Answer my cry for help. Don’t ignore my crying.

**C: I travel with You, the same-as my fathers.**

**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: Eternal God, Father of mercy, You made Your Son the judge of all people living and dead. Help us wait for Jesus to come again. Keep us watching Your kingdom. You prepared that kingdom for Your people when You created the world. 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 Ezekiel chapter 34.

 The Lord God says, “Look, I Myself will search-for My sheep and find them. When sheep get scattered, a shepherd searches-for them. The same, I will search-for My sheep. They scattered on a dark, sad day, but I will save them. I will bring them home from other countries. I will feed them on the mountains in ISRAEL, near the streams, and all the places where people live.”

 “I will give them good food, and they will eat on the high mountains in Israel. They will lie down on good ground and will eat from that good land on the mountains in Israel. The Lord God announces, I will be their shepherd. I will feed my sheep and give them rest.”

 “I will search-for the lost sheep. The sheep that ran-away, I will bring back. The hurt sheep, I will heal. The weak, I will make strong. But the fat and strong sheep, I will destroy them. I will feed all sheep the right way.”

 The Lord God says to them, “Look! I will judge between the strong sheep and the weak sheep. You push the weak sheep until they run away. Therefore I will save My sheep. No one will chase them again. I will judge between one sheep and another.”

 “I will give them one shepherd, My servant DAVID. He will feed them. He himself will feed them and he will be their shepherd. I, the Lord, I will be their God. My servant DAVID will be prince for them. I, the Lord, announce this.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from 1 Corinthians chapter 15.

 Christ truly arose from the dead. Of all people who died, He is the first to rise alive.

 Death happened from one man, ADAM. The-same, arising from death happens because of one Man, Jesus. ADAM’S sin makes all people die. The same, Christ makes all people rise alive.

 But everyone in his-own group. First Christ arose. Then when He comes, all people joined to Christ will arise. Then the end of the world will happen. Christ will defeat all rulers, leaders, governments, and give the kingdom to God the Father.

 Jesus must reign same-as King until God puts every enemy under Jesus’ feet. The last enemy Jesus will defeat is death. The Bible says, “God puts everything under His feet.” God makes Jesus reign over everything, but that doesn’t mean Jesus reigns over God. But when everything is-finished put under Jesus’ feet, then the Son Himself will be under God, and God will reign fully over all.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Matthew chapter 25.

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

 The Son of Man will come in His glory, and all the angels will come with Him. Then He will sit on His throne with glory. All the nations will be in-front-of Him. He will separate people the same-as a shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will put the sheep on His right and the goats on His left.

 Then the king will tell the people on the right, “Come, My Father blessed you. Receive the kingdom God prepared for you at the beginning of the world. I was hungry and you gave Me food. I was thirsty and you gave Me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed Me. I had no clothes and you gave Me clothes. I was sick and you took-care of Me. I was in prison and you visited Me.”

 Then those holy people will answer, “Lord, when did we see You hungry and give You food, or thirsty and give You a drink? When did we see You as a stranger and welcome You, or without clothes and we gave You clothes? When did we see You sick or in prison and visit You?”

 The king will answer, “Truly, I tell you, the same-as you did those things for another Christian, no-matter they seem not important, you did that for Me.”

 Then He will tell the people on the left, “You are cursed. Leave Me and go into the eternal fire, that fire prepared for the devil and his angels. I was hungry and you gave Me no food. I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink. I was a stranger and you didn’t welcome Me. I had no clothes and you didn’t give Me clothes. I was sick and in prison and you didn’t visit Me.”

 And they will answer, “Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or without clothes or sick or in prison, and we didn’t take care of You?”

 He will answer, “Truly, I tell you, the same-as you didn’t do those things for people who seemed not important, you didn’t do them to Me.”

 Then those people will go into eternal punishment, but the holy people will go into eternal life.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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