***Introit (Psalm 40)***

P: I don’t hide Your salvation in my heart.

**C: I announce Your faithfulness and salvation.**

P: I wait patiently for the Lord.

C: He listened to me and heard my cry.

P: He lifted me out of trouble.

**C: He set me on a rock and gave me a safe place to stand.**

P: The Lord gave me a new song to praise our God.

**C: Many people will see and honor and trust the Lord.**

P: Blessed is the person trusting the Lord.

**C: He doesn’t trust proud and lying people.**

P: Lord my God, You do many great things for us. No one is better than You!

**C: I will announce Your wonderful work. Your works are more than anyone can say.**

**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: Almighty and eternal God, You reign all things in heaven and on earth. Show mercy and hear our prayers. Give us the help we need, then we can have peace in all our life. 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.

*You have two choices for the Old Testament lessons; a shorter reading from 1 Samuel 3 and a longer reading from 1 Samuel 3. Choose one.*

*The shorter reading.*

The Old Testament lesson is from First Samuel chapter 3.

ELI was the high priest. The boy SAMUEL lived with ELI and served the Lord. The Lord didn’t speak often, and people didn’t have many visions.

ELI was old and almost blind. One night ELI was in bed. The candle for God was still burning in the temple. The ark of God was in the temple, and SAMUEL slept in the temple.

The Lord called SAMUEL. SAMUEL said, “I am here,” and he ran to ELI. The boy said, “I am here, you called me.”

ELI said, “I didn’t call you, go to bed again.” So SAMUEL went and lay-down.

The Lord spoke again, “SAMUEL!” And SAMUEL got-up and went to ELI and said, “Here I am, because you called me.” ELI said, “No, my son, I didn’t call you, go to bed again.”

SAMUEL didn’t-yet know the Lord. In the past, God didn’t speak to SAMUEL. Now the Lord called SAMUEL a third time. Again SAMUEL stood up and ran to ELI. “I am here, because you called me.” Then ELI understood that the Lord spoke to the boy.

Now ELI said, “Go and lay-down again, and if God speaks again, then you say, ‘Lord, speak, because Your servant is listening.’” So SAMUEL went to bed again.

And the Lord came and stood near and spoke same-as before, “SAMUEL, SAMUEL!” SAMUEL answered, “Speak, because Your servant is listening.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

*The longer reading.*

The Old Testament lesson is from First Samuel chapter 3.

ELI was the high priest. The boy SAMUEL lived with ELI and served the Lord. The Lord didn’t speak often, and people didn’t have many visions.

ELI was old and almost blind. One night ELI was in bed. The candle for God was still burning in the temple. The ark of God was in the temple, and SAMUEL slept in the temple.

The Lord called SAMUEL. SAMUEL said, “I am here,” and he ran to ELI. The boy said, “I am here, you called me.”

ELI said, “I didn’t call you, go to bed again.” So SAMUEL went and lay-down.

The Lord spoke again, “SAMUEL!” And SAMUEL got-up and went to ELI and said, “Here I am, because you called me.” ELI said, “No, my son, I didn’t call you, go to bed again.”

SAMUEL didn’t-yet know the Lord. In the past, God didn’t speak to SAMUEL. Now the Lord called SAMUEL a third time. Again SAMUEL stood up and ran to ELI. “I am here, because you called me.” Then ELI understood that the Lord spoke to the boy.

Now ELI said, “Go and lay-down again, and if God speaks again, then you say, ‘Lord, speak, because Your servant is listening.’” So SAMUEL went to bed again.

And the Lord came and stood near and spoke same-as before, “SAMUEL, SAMUEL!” SAMUEL answered, “Speak, because Your servant is listening.”

Then the Lord told SAMUEL, “Look, I will do something in ISRAEL that will make everyone surprised and afraid. On that day, I will do everything I said against ELI and his family. I tell ELI that soon I will punish his family forever. Because he knew that his sons were sinning and insulting Me, but he didn’t stop them. Now I promise ELI’S family that no sacrifice or offering will forgive their sin, never.”

SAMUEL went again to bed and stayed until morning. Then he opened the doors for the Lord’s house. SAMUEL was afraid to tell ELI about the vision. But ELI said, “SAMUEL, my son.”

SAMUEL said, “I am here.”

ELI said, “What did the Lord tell you? Don’t hide what He said. God will punish you if you hide anything God told you.” Then SAMUEL told him everything the Lord said. SAMUEL kept nothing secret. Then ELI said, “He is the Lord. Let Him do what He thinks is good.”

SAMUEL grew-up. The Lord was with him and blessed everything he said. All ISRAEL from north to south knew that SAMUEL was the Lord’s prophet.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from 1 Corinthians chapter 6.

Someone will say, “I can do anything I want.” But not everything is good for you. “I can do anything I want,” but I don’t-want anything to make me a slave.

Someone will say, “Food is for the stomach, and the stomach is for food.” Yes, but God will destroy both. God didn’t make your body for sexual sins. He made your body for the Lord, and the Lord owns our bodies. God raised the Lord Jesus from death, and His power will also raise us.

You know your bodies belong to Christ. Then? What belongs to Christ, I can unite that with a prostitute? Never!

Anyone who joins his body with a prostitute becomes one body with her. The Bible says, “The two will become one body.” But if you are joined to the Lord, you and Christ are one spirit together.

Avoid sex sins. All other sins happen outside the body, but the person doing sexual sin, he sins against his own body. Did you forget? God gave you His Spirit, and your body is a temple for the Holy Spirit now living in you. You don’t own yourselves. God bought you and paid the price. Now use your bodies to give glory to God.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from John chapter 1.

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

The next day Jesus decided to go to the country GALILEE. Jesus found PHILIP and told him, “Follow Me.”

PHILIP lived in the city BETHSAIDA. ANDREW and PETER also lived in that city. PHILIP found his friend NATHANIEL and told him, “We found the promised Savior. Remember MOSES and the prophets wrote about Him in the Holy Book. His name is Jesus, son of JOSEPH, from the city NAZARETH.”

NATHANIEL answered, “NAZARETH? Can anything good come from there?”

PHILIP said, “Come and see.”

Jesus saw NATHANIEL coming and Jesus said, “Here is a true son of ISRAEL. There is nothing false in him.”

NATHANIEL asked Jesus, “How do you know me?”

Jesus answered, “Before PHILIP invited you, you sat under the fig tree. I saw you there.”

NATHANIEL answered, “Teacher, You are the Son of God. You are the King of ISRAEL.”

Jesus asked him, “You believe only because I told you I saw you sitting under the fig tree? You will see things greater than that!” Then Jesus said, “I tell you the truth. You will see heaven open and the angels of God going and coming to the Son of Man.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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