***Introit (Psalm 91)***

P: When he calls Me, I will answer. During trouble, I will stay with him.

**C: I will save him and honor him.**

P: I will make him happy with long life.

C: I will save him.

P: You live with the Lord.

**C: The Most High God protects me.**

P: No evil will happen to you.

**C: No sickness will come near your tent.**

P: He will order His angels

**C: To protect you in all your ways.**

P: Their hands will carry you.

**C: Your foot will not kick a stone.**

P: You will walk on the lion and snake,

**C: Your foot will crush the young lion and snake.**

**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 God, long-ago You led Your people through the desert. You led them to the promised land. Today, lead the people in Your church. Then we can follow our Savior through this world and enter glory in Your new world. 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 Genesis chapter 22.

Later God tested Abraham. God called: “Abraham!” and he answered, “I am here.” God said, “You love much your only son Isaac. Bring your son and go to the country Moriah. Then sacrifice him the same-as a burnt sacrifice on the mountain I tell you.”

The next morning Abraham awoke early-in-the-morning. He got his donkey ready, he got two young servants and his son Isaac. He also chopped wood for the altar fire. Then they went to the place God told him. On the third day Abraham looked-up and saw the place far-away.

Abraham told the servants, “Stay here with the donkey. I and the boy will go-there and worship and come here again.” Abraham took the wood for the burnt sacrifice and put the wood on his son Isaac. Abraham brought the fire and the knife. Then the father and son went together.

Isaac asked, “Father!”

Abraham said, “Yes, my son?”

“We have the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt sacrifice?”

Abraham answered, “God Himself will give the lamb for the sacrifice.” The two continued walking.

They arrived at the place God told Abraham. Abraham built an altar and put the wood on the altar. Then he took his son Isaac, tied-his-hands, and laid-him on the altar, on the wood. Abraham took-the-knife for killing his son.

But the Angel of the Lord called from heaven and said, “Abraham! Abraham!”

And he answered, “I am here.”

The Angel said, “Don’t hurt the boy, don’t do anything against him. Now I know you honor God. You didn’t refuse to give Me your son, your only son.”

Then Abraham looked-up and saw a ram behind him. The ram’s horns were stuck in a bush. Abraham got the ram and offered it same-as a burnt sacrifice instead-of his son. Abraham named that place, “The Lord gives,” and today people still say, “On the Lord’s mountain, He will give.”

Again the Angel of the Lord said to Abraham from heaven, “The Lord announces, I promise this. You didn’t refuse to give-Me your son, your only son. Now I will bless you with many children same-as many stars in the sky and sand on the beach. Your family will defeat the enemy cities. Through one person in your family, I will bless all nations on earth, because you obeyed Me.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The New Testament lesson is from James chapter 1.

Blessed is a man who passes the test. When he passes the test, he will receive the crown of life. God promised that for people who love Him.

When you feel tempted, don’t say, “God is tempting me.” Evil can’t tempt God, and God doesn’t tempt anyone. What tempts you? Your own desires and lust tempt you and drag you away. Lust and desires happen first and lead to sin. When sin is full grown, that brings death.

My dear brothers, don’t believe a lie. Every good gift, every perfect gift, is from heaven. The Father of lights gives you gifts. He never changes and His glory never changes.

He wanted to give us life, and the word of truth made us alive. Then we can be the first fruits, the first believers among His people.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Mark chapter 1.

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

In those days, Jesus came from the town Nazareth in Galilee. John baptized Jesus in the Jordan River. When Jesus stood up from the water, He saw heaven open and the Holy Spirit came down same-as a dove on Him. A voice from heaven said, “You are My Son, I love You. I am very pleased with You.”

Then the Holy Spirit quickly pushed Jesus out into the desert. Jesus stayed forty days and the devil tempted Him. He stayed with the wild animals, and the angels served Him.

King Herod put John in jail. Then Jesus went to the country named Galilee and He preached the good news of God. He said, “The time is now. God’s kingdom is here. Repent and believe the good news.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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