

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 23, 2018



SERVICE OUTLINE

(Divine Service IV pg. 203)

INTROIT *1 Sam. 2:1b, 2, 5b-7; antiphon: Luke 1:46b-47*

My soul magnifies the Lord,*

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

My mouth derides my enemies,*

because I rejoice in your salvation.

There is none holy like the Lord;*

there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.

The barren has borne seven,*

but she who has many children is forlorn.

The Lord kills and brings to life;*

he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

The Lord makes poor and makes rich;*

he brings low and he exalts.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son* and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,* is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

My soul magnifies the Lord,*

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

GRADUAL *Zech. 9:9; Ps. 118:26, alt.*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.*

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

Behold, your king is coming to you;*

righteous and having salvation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

From the house of the Lord we bless you.

DAILY READINGS **December 23:** Is. 43:25-44:20; Rev. 11:1-19; **24:** Is. 44:21-45:13, 20-25; Rev. 12:1-17; **25:** Is. 49:1-18; Matt. 1:1-17; **26:** Is. 49:22-26; 50:4-51:8, 12-16; Matt. 1:18-25; **27:** Is. 51:17-52:12; Matt. 2:1-12; **28:** Is. 52:13-54:10; Matt. 2:13-23; **29:** Is. 55:1-13; Luke 1:1-25. The Introit, Collect, and Gradual are from *Lutheran Service Book: Altar Book*, copyright © 2006 CPH. All Scripture quotations, including those from *Lutheran Service Book*, are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. © CPH Printed in USA
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Fourth Sunday in Advent

Old Testament Reading: Micah 5:2–5a

- 2 But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.
- 3 Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return to the
people of Israel.
- 4 And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the
strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be
great
to the ends of the earth.
- 5 And he shall be their peace.

Epistle: Hebrews 10:5–10

- 5 Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body have you prepared for me;
6 in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.
7 Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will,
O God,
as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’ ”
- 8 When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), 9 then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. 10 And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Holy Gospel: Luke 1:39–45

39 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, 40 and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41 And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, 42 and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! 43 And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. 45 And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

