

# Fourth Sunday in Advent

Rorate Coeli  
December 18, 2016



## SERVICE OUTLINE

(Divine service III pg. 184)

- ❖ Hymn 515  
(stand last verse)
- ❖ Confession  
& Absolution 184
- ❖ Introit (left)
- ❖ Gloria Patri  
& Kyrie 186
- ❖ Gloria in Excelsis is  
omitted during Advent 187
- ❖ Salutation  
& Collect 189  
(Sit)
- ❖ Readings &  
Responses 190
- ❖ Nicene Creed 191  
(Sit)
- ❖ Hymn 350
- ❖ Sermon
- ❖ Offertory 192
- ❖ Offering  
(Sharing of Peace)  
(Stand)
- ❖ Prayer of the Church  
*P: Lord, in Your mercy,  
C: Hear our prayer.*
- ❖ Service of the  
Sacrament 194ff
- ❖ Distribution  
Hymn 974  
Hymn 563  
Hymn 431
- ❖ Nunc Dimittis 199
- ❖ Concluding Collect
- ❖ Benediction  
(Sit)
- ❖ Hymn 548

**INTROIT** *Ps. 19:1, 4–6; antiphon: Is. 45:8a*

Shower, O heavens, | from above,\*

**and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;**

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;\*

**let the earth cause them | both to sprout.**

The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,\*

**and the sky above proclaims his | handiwork.**

Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the  
end | of the world.\*

**In them he has set a tent | for the sun,**

which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,\*

**and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.**

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the | end of  
them,\*

**and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\* and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Shower, O heavens, | from above,\*

**and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;**

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;\*

**let the earth cause them | both to sprout.**

## **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** *Ps. 145:18, 21*

The Lord is near to all who | call on him,\*

**to all who call on | him in truth.**

My mouth will speak the praise | of the Lord,\*

**and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever.**

**DAILY READINGS** **December 18:** Is. 34:1–2, 8–35:10; Rev. 6:1–17; **19:** Is. 40:1–17; Rev. 7:1–17; **20:** Is. 40:18–41:10; Rev. 8:1–13; **21:** Is. 42:1–25; Rev. 9:1–12; **22:** Is. 43:1–24; Rev. 9:13–10:11; **23:** Is. 43:25–44:20; Rev. 11:1–19; **24:** Is. 44:21–45:13, 20–25; Rev. 12:1–17.

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### Old Testament Reading:

#### Deuteronomy 18:15–19

<sup>15</sup>“The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—<sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ <sup>17</sup>And the Lord said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.’ ”

### Epistle: Philippians 4:4–7

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

### Holy Gospel: Luke 1:39-56

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup>and she entered the house of

Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup>and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup>And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.” <sup>46</sup>And Mary said, My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup>for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup>for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. <sup>50</sup>And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; <sup>52</sup>he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; <sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. <sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, <sup>55</sup>as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.” <sup>56</sup>And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.