

4th SUNDAY of Advent
(Yr C)

Reading 1

Citation: Micah, Chap. 5, Verses 1-4a
Micah 5: 1-4a

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Micah

Thus says the LORD:
You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah,
 too small 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 times.
Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time
 when she who is to give birth has borne,
and the rest of his kindred shall return
 to the children of Israel.
He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock
 by the strength of the LORD,
 in the majestic name of the LORD, his God;
and they shall remain, for now his greatness
 shall reach to the ends of the earth;
 he shall be peace.

The word of the Lord.

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Reading 2

Citation: Hebrews, Chap. 10, Verses 5-10
Hebrews10: 5-10

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Brothers and sisters:

When Christ came into the world, he said:

"Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;
in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight.
Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll,
behold, I come to do your will, O God.' "

First he says, "Sacrifices and offerings,
holocausts and sin offerings,
you neither desired nor delighted in."

These are offered according to the law.

Then he says, "Behold, I come to do your will."

He takes away the first to establish the second.

By this "will," we have been consecrated
through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The word of the Lord.

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Gospel

Citation: Luke, Chap. 1, Verses 39-45
Luke 1: 39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Mary set out
and traveled to the hill country in haste
to a town of Judah,
where she entered the house of Zechariah
and greeted Elizabeth.
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,
the infant leaped in her womb,
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,
cried out in a loud voice and said,
"Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.
And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.
Blessed are you who believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord
would be fulfilled."

The Gospel of the Lord.