

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

First Reading

Lector: The First reading for The Fourth Sunday in Advent is from the book of 2 Samuel, Chapter 7 verses 1-11 and 16. Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

People: But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"'"

Lector: Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies.'

People: Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Psalm

Lector: The Psalm for today is Psalm 89 verses 1-5. I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations. For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness." You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: 'I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.'" Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

ALL: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be! Amen!

The Second Reading

Lector: The Epistle reading for today is from the book of 2 Romans, Chapter 16 verses 25-27. Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Gospel Reading

Lector: The Holy Gospel for today is from the book of Luke, Chapter 1 verses 26-38. In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.

People: And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Lector: And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

Acknowledgments Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House, License # 10002146.

5:30 PM Saturday December 23, 2017

The Divine Service
Page 184 in the Lutheran Service Book
Preservice music * Ringing of the Bells *
The Lord's Greeting

(Sign the attendance cards and prayer requests before the service. Place attendance cards and offerings in the offering plate in the narthex.)

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

	Opening Hymn	374
	(Please rise for the last verse)	
	Confession and Absolution	Page 184
	Gloria Patri	Page 186
	Kyrie	Page 186
	Gloria In Excelsis	Page 187
	Collect	Page 189
Sit	First Lesson (Inside folder)	
	Psalm	Pastor
	Second Lesson	
Rise	Gospel Opening Verse (Alleluia ..)	Page 190
	Gospel Lesson	
	Gospel Responsory Verse (Praise be to Thee)	Page 191
Sit	Hymn of the Day (Last verse please stand)	370
Sit	Sermon	
	Nicene Creed (Inside back cover of hymnal)	
Rise	Offertory (Create in me ...)	Page 192
	Ritual of Friendship	
	Prayers of the Parish	

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

	Preface	Page 194
	Sanctus	Page 195
	Lord's Prayer	Page 196
	The Words of Our Lord	Page 197
	Pax Domini	Page 197
	Agnus Dei	Page 198
Sit	Organ Interlude for the Distribution	
Rise	Nunc Dimittis	Page 199
	Thanksgiving	Page 200
	Salutation & Benedicamus	Page 201
	Benediction	Page 202
	Closing Hymn	368

Postlude