

**READINGS AND CREED INSERT • 12/20/20**  
**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**FIRST READING**

2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16

When King David was settled in his palace, and the LORD had given him rest from his enemies on every side, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!" Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you." But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said: "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?'" "It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth. I will fix a place for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance. Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever.'".

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM (5:00pm, 7:15am, and 8:30am)**

From Ps 89

Antiphon: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

**SECOND READING**

Rom 16:25-27

Brothers and sisters: To him who can strengthen you, according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith, to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever. Amen.

**GOSPEL**

Lk 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "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, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

We invite all Catholics who are properly disposed (i.e., in the state of grace and having fasted for one hour before communion) to come forward in the usual way to receive Holy Communion. All others, including our non-Catholic guests, may remain in their pews and join us in prayer.

Alternatively, to participate in the communion procession and receive a blessing, come forward in the line and cross your arms over your chest as you approach the minister. Thank you.

**PROPERS SUNG BY THE CHOIR AT 11:00am MASS • PLEASE DO NOT JOIN IN THE SINGING.**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *Rorate caeli*

Is 45:8; Ps 18:2

Rorate, caeli, desuper, et nubes pluant iustum; aperiatur terra et germinet Salvatorem.

*¶ Caeli enárrant glóriam Dei: et ópera mánum eius annúntiat firmaméntum.*

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior.

*¶ The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.*

**GRADUAL** (in place of the Responsorial Psalm at 11:00am)

Ps 145:18

Prope est Dóminus ómnibus invocántibus eum: ómnibus, qui ínvocant eum in veritáte.

*¶ Laudem Dómini loquéter os meum: et benedícat omnis caro nomen sanctum eius.*

The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth.

*¶ May my mouth speak the praise of the Lord, and may all flesh bless His holy name.*

**ALLELUIA**

Ps 145:21

Alleluia, Alleluia. *¶ Veni, Dómine, et noli tardáre: reláxa facínora plebis tuæ Israél.*

Alleluia, Alleluia. *¶ Come, O Lord, and delay not; forgive the sins of Your people Israel.*

**OFFERTORY ANTIPHON** *Ave Maria*

Lk 1:28

Ave Maria, gratia plena: Dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui.

*Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *Ecce Virgo concepiet*

Is 7:14

Ecce, Virgo concípiet et páriet filium: et vocábitur nomen eius Emmánuel.

*Behold, a Virgin shall be with child and bear a son and shall name Him Emmanuel.*

Today's Mass Ordinary is Mass XVII from the Kyriale. The hymn "O come, O come, Emmanuel" (below) is sung during the retiring procession.

**HYMN** *Veni, Emmanuel*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear. *¶ Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide Thy heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. *¶ Rejoice...*

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadow put to flight. *¶ Rejoice...*

O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind; Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace. *¶ Rejoice...*

Please remember our Advent Recitals (4:30pm) and Vespers (5:15pm) on each Sunday of Advent. ***This week's recital is presented by Bruce Ludwick, Jr., Director of Music of the Cathedral.*** Please visit the Sacred Music tab of our website ([www.stpaulsbhm.org/sacred-music](http://www.stpaulsbhm.org/sacred-music)) for more info on this week and upcoming recitals.

