

The Lessons Appointed for Use on the
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Year C
RCL



Micah 5:2-5a
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45
Psalm 80:1-7

Old Testament

Micah 5:2-5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
 who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
 one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
 from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
 when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
 to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
 in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
 to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

The Word of the Lord

The Response

Psalm 80:1-7 (sung at 10:30)

Qui regis Israel

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a | flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the | cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Ma- | nasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to | help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of | hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be | saved.
- 4 O LORD God of | hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your | people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of | tears; *
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our | neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to | scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of | hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be | saved.

The New Testament

Hebrews 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;

in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God'
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

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), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord

The Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."