

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 20, 2020

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16, Holy Bible, pages 480-481

- 2Sam 7:1 After the king was settled in his palace and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him,
- 2Sam 7:2 he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a palace of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent."
- 2Sam 7:3 Nathan replied to the king, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the LORD is with you."
- 2Sam 7:4 That night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying:
- 2Sam 7:5 "Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in?'"
- 2Sam 7:6 I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling.
- 2Sam 7:7 Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"
- 2Sam 7:8 "Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture and from following the flock to be ruler over my people Israel.
- 2Sam 7:9 I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth.
- 2Sam 7:10 And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning
- 2Sam 7:11 and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies." "The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you:
- 2Sam 7:16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever. ' "

Lector: The Word of the Lord ***People: Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 89:1-5, 19-29, Holy Bible, pages 926, 927-929

Ps 89:1 I will sing of the LORD'S great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.

Ps 89:2 **I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.**

Ps 89:3 You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant,

Ps 89:4 **'I will establish your line forever and make your throne firm through all generations.'** "

Ps 89:5 The heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.

Ps 89:19 **Once you spoke in a vision, to your faithful people you said: "I have bestowed strength on a warrior; I have exalted a young man from among the people.**

Ps 89:20 I have found David my servant; with my sacred oil I have anointed him.

Ps 89:21 **My hand will sustain him; surely my arm will strengthen him.**

Ps 89:22 No enemy will subject him to tribute; no wicked man will oppress him.

Ps 89:23 **I will crush his foes before him and strike down his adversaries.**

Ps 89:24 My faithful love will be with him, and through my name his horn will be exalted.

Ps 89:25 **I will set his hand over the sea, his right hand over the rivers.**

Ps 89:26 He will call out to me, 'You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Savior.'

Ps 89:27 **I will also appoint him my firstborn, the most exalted of the kings of the earth.**

Ps 89:28 I will maintain my love to him forever, and my covenant with him will never fail.

Ps 89:29 **I will establish his line forever, his throne as long as the heavens endure.**

People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27, Holy Bible, pages 1769-1770

Rom 16:25 Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past,

Rom 16:26 but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him—

Rom 16:27 to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

People: (Please Stand)

Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the First chapter

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38, Holy Bible, page 1588

- Luke 1:26 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee,
- Luke 1:27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.
- Luke 1:28 The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."
- Luke 1:29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.
- Luke 1:30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God.
- Luke 1:31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.
- Luke 1:32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David,
- Luke 1:33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."
- Luke 1:34 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"
- Luke 1:35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.
- Luke 1:36 Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month.
- Luke 1:37 For nothing is impossible with God."
- Luke 1:38 "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Pastor: The Gospel of Our Lord

People: Praise to You, O Christ. Please be seated: