

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2020

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14, Holy Bible, pages 1069-1070

Isa 7:10 Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz,

Isa 7:11 “Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

Isa 7:12 But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.”

Isa 7:13 Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of men? Will you try the patience of my God also?”

Isa 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 110:1-4, Holy Bible, page 951

Ps 110:1 The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet."

Ps 110:2 **The LORD will extend your mighty scepter from Zion; you will rule in the midst of your enemies.**

Ps 110:3 Your troops will be willing on your day of battle. Arrayed in holy majesty, from the womb of the dawn you will receive the dew of your youth.

Ps 110:4 **The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."**

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: 1 John 4:7-16, Holy Bible, page 1902

- 1Jn 4:7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.
- 1Jn 4:8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.
- 1Jn 4:9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.
- 1Jn 4:10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.
- 1Jn 4:11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
- 1Jn 4:12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.
- 1Jn 4:13 We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.
- 1Jn 4:14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.
- 1Jn 4:15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God.
- 1Jn 4:16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.

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. Matthew the 1st chapter

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25, Holy Bible, page 1497

- Mt 1:18 This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit.
- Mt 1:19 Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.
- Mt 1:20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.
- Mt 1:21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”
- Mt 1:22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:
- Mt 1:23 “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us.”
- Mt 1:24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.
- Mt 1:25 But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Pastor: The Gospel of Our Lord

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated