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## December 24, 2023 - Weekly Readings

### 4th Advent

**We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1 Land. We appreciate the Gifts of Resources from Creator coming from Treaty 2 and 3 Land. Treaty 1, 2 & 3 Land are the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, Dene, Sioux and the homeland of the Metis Nation. We are grateful for their stewardship of this land and their hospitality which allows us to live, work and serve God the Creator here.**

#### Hymns for the Day

Opening #692 (WOV)

for all the faithful women

Gradual #634 (WOV)

sing of Mary, pure and lowly

Closing #481 (CP)

May the grace of Christ our saviour

7:5 Go and tell my servant David:  
 Thus says the LORD: Are you the  
 one to build me a house to live  
 in?

7:6 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 and a tabernacle.

7:7 Wherever I have moved  
 about among all the people of  
 Israel, did I ever speak a word  
 with any of the tribal leaders of  
 Israel, whom I commanded to  
 shepherd my people Israel,  
 saying, "Why have you not built  
 me a house of cedar?"

7:8 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 to be prince  
 over my people Israel;

7:9 and I have been with you  
 wherever you went, and have cut

#### 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

7:1 Now when the king was  
 settled in his house, and the  
 LORD had given him rest from all  
 his enemies around him,

7:2 the king said to the prophet  
 Nathan, "See now, I am living in a  
 house of cedar, but the ark of  
 God stays in a tent."

7:3 Nathan said to the king, "Go,  
 do all that you have in mind; for  
 the LORD is with you."

7:4 But that same night the word  
 of the LORD came to Nathan:

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.

7:10 And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly,

7:11 from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

7:16 Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

#### **Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26**

89:1 I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

**89:2 I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

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

**89:4 'I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations.'" Selah**

89:19 Then you spoke in a vision to your faithful one, and said: "I have set the crown on one who is mighty, I have exalted one chosen from the people.

**89:20 I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him;**

89:21 my hand shall always remain with him; my arm also shall strengthen him.

**89:22 The enemy shall not outwit him, the wicked shall not humble him.**

89:23 I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.

**89:24 My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him; and in my name his horn shall be exalted.**

89:25 I will set his hand on the sea and his right hand on the rivers.

**89:26 He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation!'**

Remember us, gracious God, when we cannot see your way and purpose, and renew in us the joy of your kingdom of light and life. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen**

#### **Romans 16:25-27**

16:25 Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages

16:26 but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith --

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

### **Luke 1:26-38**

1:26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth,

1:27 to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

1:28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."

1:29 But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

1:30 The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

1:31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.

1:32 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 ancestor David.

1:33 He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

1:34 Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"

1:35 The angel said to 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 holy; he will be called Son of God.

1:36 And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren.

1:37 For nothing will be impossible with God."

1:38 Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

### **The Dismissal**

To all our donors and those who have contacted us for one concern or the other, we are grateful for your gifts and presence. Thank you for your generous donations and giving.

We pray that the  
risen Lord bless and multiply you  
in all you do.

Go Forth into the world rejoicing  
in the power of  
the Holy Spirit.  
And be what you are, the church  
in the World.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.

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