

Gospel

Lk. 1:39-45

**✠ The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

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 fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



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**THE FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

22nd December, 2024



Sentence

Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord. Luke 1.45

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God,
you have visited your people and redeemed us in your Son:
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word,
and move us by your spirit to bless your wonderful works.
We ask this through him whose coming is certain,
whose Day draws near,
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

A reading from the prophet Micah

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 labour 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.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For the Psalm - Song of Mary - A.P.B.A. page 31 (said in unison)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord:
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;
who has looked with favour on his lowly servant:
from this day all generations will call me blessed;
the Almighty has done great things for me:
and holy is his name.

God has mercy on those who fear him:
from generation to generation.
The Lord has shown strength with his arm:
and scattered the proud in their conceit.
Casting down the mighty from their thrones:
and lifting up the lowly.
God filled the hungry with good things:
and sent the rich away empty.
He has come to the aid of his servant Israel:
to remember the promise of mercy,
the promise made to our forebears:
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Second Reading

Heb. 10:5-10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

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.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. **Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you **and also with you**

