

**Lector - Prior to the service please check the service bulletin to confirm the readings and to determine if both the lesson and the epistle will be read. Please ask the celebrant if you have any questions concerning the reading. Thank you.**

Candlelight, 7:30 am SMC; 9:00 am Church; 11:00 am Church; 5:30 pm SMC

**December 23, 2018**

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

### **The First Lesson**

*A Reading from the prophet Micah*

*[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*

**Saturday Candlelight Mass, Sunday 7:30 am SMC, Sunday 5:30 pm SMC.**

The psalm/canticle is read by the lector.

**Sunday 11:00 am Church**

The Psalm is chanted by the choir. Please step from the lectern and wait to the side by the seated priest during the psalm and then return to the lectern for the reading of the Epistle.

**Candlelight**

OMIT "Let us read aloud and together".

Please check with the musicians prior to the service to determine when the refrain will be inserted.

**\*\*\*RITE I Only 7:30 am, 11am, 5:30 pm**

*The Canticle appointed for today is **Canticle 3** Let us read aloud and together:*

*[Canticle 3]*

**Blessed My soul doth magnify the Lord, \***  
**and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.**  
**For he hath regarded \***  
**the lowliness of his handmaiden.**  
**For behold from henceforth \***  
**all generations shall call me blessed.**  
**For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \***  
**and holy is his Name.**  
**And his mercy is on them that fear him \***  
**throughout all generations.**  
**He hath showed strength with his arm; \***  
**he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**  
**He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \***  
**and hath exalted the humble and meek.**  
**He hath filled the hungry with good things, \***  
**and the rich he hath sent empty away.**  
**He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \***  
**as he promised to our forefathers,**  
**Abraham and his seed for ever.**  
**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \***  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**\*\*\*RITE II Only Candlelight**

*The Canticle appointed for today is Canticle 15. Let us read aloud and together:*

*[Canticle 15]*

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \* for he has looked with favor 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.**

**He has mercy on those who fear him \***

**in every generation.**

**He has shown the strength of his arm, \***

**he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

**He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \***

**and has lifted up the lowly.**

**He has filled the hungry with good things, \***

**and the rich he has sent away empty.**

**He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \***

**for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

**The promise he made to our fathers, \***

**to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \***

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## **The Second Lesson**

*A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews*

*[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*

**Sunday 5:30 pm**

The Gospel is read by the lector during Evening Prayer as the Second Lesson.

*A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke*

[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."**

*The Word of the Lord*