



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year A

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10-16

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying,

¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God;
let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.”

¹²But Ahaz said,

“I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.”

¹³Then Isaiah said,

“Hear then, O house of David!

Is it too little for you to weary mortals
that you weary my God also?

¹⁴Therefore this very Lord will give you a sign.

Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son
and shall name him Immanuel.

¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey

by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good,
the land before whose two kings you are in dread
will be deserted.”

Word of God, word of life. *or* The word of the Lord.

PSALMODY: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

SECOND READING: Romans 1:1-7

A reading from Romans.

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus,
called to be an apostle,
set apart for the gospel of God,
²which God promised beforehand
through the prophets in the holy scriptures,
³the gospel concerning God's Son,
who was descended from David according to the flesh
⁴and was declared to be Son of God
with power according to the spirit of holiness
by resurrection from the dead,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship
to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles
for the sake of his name,
⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all God's beloved in Rome,
who are called to be saints:
Grace to you and peace
from God, our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Word of God, word of life. *or* The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way.
When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph,
but before they lived together,
she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit.

¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man
and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace,
planned to divorce her quietly.

²⁰But just when he had resolved to do 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 as your wife,
for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

²¹She will bear a son,
and you are to name him Jesus,
for he will save his people from their sins.”

²²All this took place to fulfill
what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³“Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”
which means, “God is with us.”

²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep,
he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him;
he took her as his wife

²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son,
and he named him Jesus.

The gospel of the Lord.