

**ADVENT 4****KJV****COLLECT**

God our redeemer,  
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son:  
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our Saviour,  
so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever

**FIRST READING****Isaiah 7.10–16**

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah*

Moreover the LORD spake again unto Ahaz, saying, Ask thee a sign of the LORD thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the LORD. And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good. For before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings.

**READER:** This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**SECOND READING****Romans 1.1–7**

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans*

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God, (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,) Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead: By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name: Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ: To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**READER:** This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL****Matthew 1.18–25***Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew****Glory to you O Lord***

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord****Praise to you O Christ*****POST COMMUNION**

Heavenly Father,

who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised Saviour:

fill us your servants with your grace,

that in all things we may embrace your holy will

and with her rejoice in your salvation;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.