

# December 24, 2017

## Fourth Sunday of Advent Lectionary: 11

### Reading 1 [2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16](#)

When King David was settled in his palace,  
and the LORD had given him rest from his  
enemies on every side,  
he said to Nathan the prophet,  
"Here I am living in a house of cedar,  
while the ark of God dwells in a tent!"  
Nathan answered the king,  
"Go, do whatever you have in mind,  
for the LORD is with you."  
But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan  
and said:  
"Go, tell my servant David, "Thus says the  
LORD:  
Should you build me a house to dwell in?"

"It was I who took you from the pasture  
and from the care of the flock  
to be commander of my people Israel.  
I have been with you wherever you went,  
and I have destroyed all your enemies before  
you.  
And I will make you famous like the great  
ones of the earth.  
I will fix a place for my people Israel;  
I will plant them so that they may dwell in  
their place  
without further disturbance.  
Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict  
them as they did of old,  
since the time I first appointed judges over  
my people Israel.  
I will give you rest from all your enemies.  
The LORD also reveals to you  
that he will establish a house for you.  
And when your time comes and you rest  
with your ancestors,  
I will raise up your heir after you, sprung  
from your loins,

and I will make his kingdom firm.  
I will be a father to him,  
and he shall be a son to me.  
Your house and your kingdom shall endure  
forever before me;  
your throne shall stand firm forever."

### Responsorial Psalm [Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29](#)

**R. (2a) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

The promises of the LORD I will sing  
forever;  
through all generations my mouth shall  
proclaim your faithfulness.  
For you have said, "My kindness is  
established forever";  
in heaven you have confirmed your  
faithfulness.

**R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

"I have made a covenant with my chosen  
one,  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
Forever will I confirm your posterity  
and establish your throne for all  
generations."

**R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

"He shall say of me, 'You are my father,  
my God, the Rock, my savior.'  
Forever I will maintain my kindness toward  
him,  
and my covenant with him stands firm."

**R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

### Reading 2 [Rom 16:25-27](#)

Brothers and sisters:  
To him who can strengthen you,  
according to my gospel and the  
proclamation of Jesus Christ,  
according to the revelation of the mystery  
kept secret for long ages  
but now manifested through the prophetic

writings and,  
according to the command of the eternal  
God,  
made known to all nations to bring about the  
obedience of faith,  
to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ  
be glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Alleluia [Lk 1:38](#)**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.  
May it be done to me according to your  
word.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel [Lk 1:26-38](#)**

The angel Gabriel was sent from God  
to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,  
to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph,  
of the house of David,  
and the virgin's name was Mary.  
And coming to her, he said,  
"Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."  
But she was greatly troubled at what was  
said  
and pondered what sort of greeting this  
might be.  
Then the angel said to her,  
"Do not be afraid, Mary,  
for you have found favor with God.

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb  
and bear a son,  
and you shall name him Jesus.  
He will be great and will be called Son of  
the Most High,  
and the Lord God will give him the throne  
of David his father,  
and he will rule over the house of Jacob  
forever,  
and of his kingdom there will be no end."  
But Mary said to the angel,  
"How can this be,  
since I have no relations with a man?"

And the angel said to her in reply,  
"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 called holy, the Son of God.  
And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,  
has also conceived a son in her old age,  
and this is the sixth month for her who was  
called barren;  
for nothing will be impossible for God."  
Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of  
the Lord.  
May it be done to me according to your  
word."  
Then the angel departed from her.