

FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a

But 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.

³Therefore 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.

⁴And 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;

^{5a}and he shall be the one of peace.

Psalmody: Luke 1:46b-55

or Psalm 80:1-7

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world,
 he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
 but a body you have prepared for me;

⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings
 you have taken no pleasure.

⁷Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do
 your will, O God’

(in the scroll of the book it is written of
 me).”

⁸When 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), ⁹then he added,
 “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes
 the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And
 it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified
 through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ
 once for all.

GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

In those days Mary set out and went with haste
 to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where
 she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted
 Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greet-
 ing, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth
 was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed
 with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women,
 and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why
 has this happened to me, that the mother of my
 Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the
 sound of your greeting, the child in my womb
 leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed
 that there would be a fulfillment of what was spo-
 ken to her by the Lord.”

[⁴⁶And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness
 of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will
 call me blessed;

⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things
 for me,

and holy is his name.

⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him
 from generation to generation.

⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;
 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts
 of their hearts.

⁵²He has brought down the powerful from
 their thrones,

and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,
 and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
 in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our
 ancestors,

to Abraham and to his descendants
 forever.”]

Next Sunday’s Readings: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52.

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