

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

22 December 2024

HYMNS

312 Once in Royal David's City

302 The Angel Gabriel

303 Hark the Herald Angels Sing



SENTENCE

Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.

COLLECT

Gracious God, you have visited your people and redeemed us in your Son: as we prepare to celebrate his birth, make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word, and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose Day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

READINGS

A reading from the prophet Micah:

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. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour 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.

Micah 5.2-5a

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

We say the verses from Psalm 80 alternately:

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that led Joseph like a flock;

Shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.

Stir up your mighty strength and come to our salvation.

Turn us again, O God; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?

You feed them with the bread of tears; you give them abundance of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Turn us again, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Psalm 80.1-8

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews:

Consequently, 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.

Hebrews 10.5-10

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

PRAYERS

Anglican Church: The Parish of St Eanswythe's, Altona w. St Clement's, Laverton (Kerry Davis); The Diocese of Canberra & Goulburn (Bp Mark Short, Asst Bp Vanessa Bennett, Clergy & People); Archdeaconry of Williamstown (Glenn Buijs); The Church of the Province of Uganda (Abp Stephen Kaziimba); St Augustine's Mentone; St Michael's & St Luke's Dandenong; Clyde North & Casey Dinka; St Peter's Mornington; The Melbourne Assessment Prison West Melbourne

For the parish: Give thanks for those who support our parish life: the Op Shop team, Maintenance Committee, the Parish Treasurer and Bookkeeper and office support, and those who contribute through rostered help at each centre. Pray that they serve in Jesus name.

For the sick & in need, and those who have ongoing need for strength, courage and peace of heart, mind and soul in their journey: Keiran & Paul, Deirdre B, John & Barbara B, Barry B, Lorraine D, John F, Nan L, Kaye M, Jane & Peter M, Janet N, Stephen P, Pauline R, Hadyn R, Jenny S, Susan T-J, Sharon V, Ray & Marion W and those known to us in need of our prayers

Year's Mind

22nd Dorothy Williams (2000)

25th Maie Zorica (2020), Stephen Winter (1997)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

24th Helen Robarts