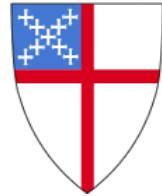


**The Lessons Appointed for Use on the  
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Year C  
RCL**



Micah 5:2-5a  
Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)  
Canticle 15 (or 3)

**The Collect**

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**Old Testament**

**Micah 5:2-5a**

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 labor 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.

**The Response**

**Canticle 15 Page 91, BCP**

**The Song of Mary *Magnificat***

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
    for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
    the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
    in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
    he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
    and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
    and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
    for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
    to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
    as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.*

## **The 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, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

*Optional parts of the readings are set off in square brackets.*

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