

ABOUT THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Theme: God with Us

– highlighting the Scriptures for the week –

The Royal family of Judah was in turmoil. (Isaiah) Disaster threatened Jerusalem's gates, King Ahaz doubted the Word of the LORD's comfort. Therefore the LORD Himself provided a sign: a virgin would conceive and bear a son: *Immanuel* – "God with us." The promised child has come. (Matthew) Another Name He has received: *Jesus* "the LORD saves" And save He has. What was long foretold has been accomplished. (Romans) Born of royal stock, the Son of David is also Son of God, now risen powerfully from the dead, born to set us free to obey the gospel of God in childlike faith and joyful service to others for Jesus' sake.

WEEKLY BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

Use the schedule below in your personal devotion. The first three readings are the lessons read today; the last three will be read next Sunday. The Wednesday reading is the psalmody for the week. Each day you may want to pray that Psalm or the prayer printed in our service folder today, followed by the suggested reading and your personal requests and Thanksgivings to our Heavenly Father.

- Sunday** Isaiah 7:10-17 What dramatic sign demonstrated the LORD's good intentions toward Ahaz? How was this promise fulfilled? What is the name of this miraculous child? What does this mean now? At the end of time?
- Monday** Romans 1:1-7 What is the lineage of Jesus according to His human nature? According to His divine nature? To what are we called by His authority and power? What is it that we receive from Him? What does this mean?
- Tuesday** Matthew 1:18-25 What was Joseph's first reaction to Mary's pregnancy? What did the angel of the LORD tell him instead? What was the child to be named? What does this name mean? How did Jesus live up to His Name? How does He now?
- Wednesday** Psalm 24 What are the qualifications to stand in the presence of the LORD (the holy place)? Who alone of all the sons of Adam is qualified? How do we share in His qualifications? When and How does the King of Glory enter in among us now? How do we receive Him? What does this mean?
- Thursday** Isaiah 63:7-14 Why does the prophet speak of the kindnesses of the LORD? How have God's people behaved toward Him? The result? What does this mean?
- Friday** Galatians 4:4-7 When did God send His Son (according to the apostle)? In what state (status) was He born? The purpose? The result? What does this mean?
- Saturday** Matthew 2:13-23 Why did the Holy Family escape to Egypt? How long did they stay? According to Matthew, what prophecy does this fulfill? Why did the family not return to Judea? Where did they go? According to Matthew, what prophecy did this fulfill? What does this mean?