

ADVENT

{4th Week – Sunday December 24, 2017 A.D.}

Themes: {Purple – Birth, “God With Us”, Worship and Christ’s Ministry † }

{Luke 2:1-7, Philippians 2:5-11, Acts 2:22-24 & 36, Hebrews 2:17 & 2 Corinthians 5:21}

Luke 2:1-7

¹ Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth.
² This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city.

⁴ Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, ⁵ in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.

⁶ While they were there, **the days were completed for her to give birth.** ⁷ And **she gave birth to her firstborn son;** and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Galatians 4:4-5

⁴ But **when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,** ⁵ so that **He might redeem those who were under the Law,** that we might receive the adoption as sons.

Isaiah 7:14

¹⁴ "Therefore **the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son,** and she will call **His name Immanuel.**

Acts 2:22-36

²² "Men of Israel, listen to these words:

Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know—

²³ this *Man*, **delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.**

²⁴ "But **God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death,** since **it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.** . . .

³⁶ "Therefore let all the house of Israel **know for certain** that **God has made Him both Lord and Christ—** this Jesus **whom you crucified.**"

Hebrews 2:17

¹⁷ Therefore, **He had to be made like His brethren** in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, **to make propitiation for the sins of the people.**

2 Corinthians 5:21

²¹ He made Him who knew no sin {to be} sin on our behalf,

so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,

⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. ⁸ Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

⁹ For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

(1563)

Q. 85. How is the kingdom of heaven shut and opened by Church Discipline?

A. In this way: that according to the command of Christ, if any under the Christian name show themselves unsound either in doctrine or life, and after repeated brotherly admonition refuse to turn from their errors of evil ways, they are complained of to the church or to its proper officers, and, if they neglect to hear them also, are by them excluded from the Holy Sacraments and the Christian communion, and by God Himself from the kingdom of Christ; and if they promise and show real amendment, they are again received as members of Christ and His Church.

ALL SCRIPTURE REFERENCES ARE NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE, 1995 UPDATE, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

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