CHRISTMAS DAY
at Midnight

First Reading **Isa. 9:2-7**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

A Son is given to us.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm **Psalm 95(96)**

Response: ***Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.***

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. ℟

Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. ℟

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,
let the land and all it bears rejoice,
all the trees of the wood shout for joy
at the presence of the Lord for he comes,
he comes to rule the earth. ℟

With justice he will rule the world,
he will judge the peoples with his truth. ℟

Second Reading **Titus 2:11-14**

A reading from the letter of Paul to Titus

God's grace has been revealed to all people.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Good News and great joy to all the world:
today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL **Lk 2:1-14**

✠A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

R. Glory to you Lord Christ.

Today a Saviour has been born for you.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!"

For the Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

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