

**HOLY NAME OF JESUS**

*January 1, 2015*

*Year B, Revised Common Lectionary*

*[formatted version with line breaks and verse markers removed]*

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*Birth of Jesus*, JESUS MAFA, Cameroon, 1973.

**Numbers 6:22-27** The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them, The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

**Psalm 8**

- ✠ O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.
- ✠ Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.
- ✠ When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;
- ✠ what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?
- ✠ Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.
- ✠ You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,
- ✠ all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,
- ✠ the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
- ✠ O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**Galatians 4:4-7** But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

**Philippians 2:5-11** Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but

*emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

**Luke 2:15-21** When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

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