**NATIVITY OF THE LORD, PROPER I**

*December 24-25*

*Year B, Revised Common Lectionary*

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The Lamb. Detail of Nativity window from St. Stephen’s, Oxford, NC, 19th century, from:
http://www.flickr.com/photos/jbtaylor/5305079306/

Isaiah 9:2-7
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 a garment 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 Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His zeal rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be end to it, and his kingdom shall never be destroyed.

Psalm 96

* O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
* Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.
* Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.
* For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.
* For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.
* Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
* Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
* Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

Titus 2:11-14
For 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 Savior, Jesus Christ. He is he 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.

Luke 2:14, (15-20)
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