

Readings for Christ the King – The Reign of Christ

24th November 2024

Sentence

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing.

Revelation 5.12

Collect

Everlasting God,
whose will is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son,
our Lord and King:
grant that the people of earth,
now divided and enslaved by sin,
may be freed and brought together
under his gentle and loving rule;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

1st Reading – 2 Samuel 23.1-7

Our first reading is taken from the second book of Samuel, Chapter 23 beginning at verse 1.

¹ Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the favourite of the Strong One of Israel:

² The spirit of the LORD speaks through me,
his word is upon my tongue.

³ The God of Israel has spoken,
the Rock of Israel has said to me:

One who rules over people justly,
ruling in the fear of God,

⁴ is like the light of morning,
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

⁵ Is not my house like this with God?

For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,
ordered in all things and secure.

Will he not cause to prosper
all my help and my desire?

⁶ But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away;
for they cannot be picked up with the hand;

⁷ to touch them one uses an iron bar
or the shaft of a spear.

And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God.***

Psalm 132.1-12

Our Psalm today comes from Psalm 132. I will read one verse, and I invite you to respond with the next verse,

- 1 Lord, remember David and all his trouble:
how he swore an oath to the Lord,
and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob;
- 2 **'I will not enter the shelter of my house:
nor climb into the comfort of my bed;**
- 3 'I will not give sleep to my eyes: or slumber to my eyelids,
- 4 **'Till I find out a place for the ark of the Lord:
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob.'**
- 5 Lo, we heard of it at Ephrathah: we found it in the fields of Ja-ar.
- 6 **Let us go to the place of his dwelling:
let us fall upon our knees before his footstool.**
- 7 Arise, O Lord, into your resting-place:
you, and the ark of your might.
- 8 **Let your priests be clothed with righteousness:
and let your faithful ones shout for joy.**
- 9 For the sake of David your servant:
do not turn away the face of your anointed.
- 10 **The Lord has sworn to David:
an oath which he will not break;**
- 11 'One who is the fruit of your body: I will set upon your throne.
- 12 **'If your children will keep my covenant
and the commands which I teach them:
their children also shall sit upon your throne for ever.'**

2nd Reading – Revelation 1.4b-8

Our second reading is taken from Revelations, Chapter 1, beginning at verse 4b.

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,

⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,

⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God.***

Gospel – John 18.33-37

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, chapter 18, beginning at verse 33.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’ ³⁴ Jesus answered, ‘Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?’ ³⁵ Pilate replied, ‘I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?’ ³⁶ Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.’ ³⁷ Pilate asked him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.’

This is the gospel of the Lord, ***praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.***