

Christ the King / The Reign of Christ

24 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

- 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.

Psalm

Psalm 93

¹ The Lord is king, and has put on robes of glory:

the Lord has put on his glory,
he has girded himself with strength.

² He has made the world so firm:

that it cannot be moved.

³ Your throne is established from of old:

you are from everlasting.

⁴ The floods have lifted up, O Lord,

the floods have lifted up their voice:
the floods lift up their pounding.

⁵ But mightier than the sound of many waters,

than the mighty waters or the breakers of the sea:
the Lord on high is mighty.

⁶ Your decrees are very sure:

and holiness, O Lord, adorns your house for ever.

2nd Reading

Revelation 1.4b-8

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.

Gospel

John 18.33-37

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.'