

NOVEMBER 25, 2018
CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY



Jesus' reign frees us to serve as priests.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 18:33-37	Jesus, the King of truth
Monday	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14	Judgment before the Ancient One
Tuesday	Revelation 1:4b-8	Jesus reigns
Wednesday	Mark 15:1-15	Pilate questions Jesus
Thursday	1 Peter 2:1-10	A chosen people
Friday	Ephesians 4:1-16	Unity in the body of Christ
Saturday	Psalms 93	The majesty of God's rule
Sunday	Luke 21:25-36	The coming of the Son of Man

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. **Revelation 1:5b-6 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus Christ, you who are “the ruler of the kings of the earth,” thank you for making us your servants and priests. Amen. (Revelation 1:5-6)

Mealtime Prayer:

Blessed be to God, our King, for health and food, for love and friends, for everything his goodness sends. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Christ the King bless you with his love and fill you with grace and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come. (Revelation 1:4b-5)



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

Christ is the King



CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home or small group:

- Children like to play “Follow the Leader.” How would you describe Jesus, the leader you want children to follow?
- Who or what seems to be the leader in control of the world around us?
- How is Jesus Christ “ruler of the kings of the earth” (Revelation 1:5) in a way that is different than other rulers? How does Jesus reign impact your daily life?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Revelation 1:4b-8.

Like Daniel in the Old Testament, the book of Revelation, or Apocalypse, is a unique form of literature in the Bible. It is written for a time when the people of God are surrounded by powerful forces opposed to them and to the God of the Bible. This is resistance literature that says to the faithful people, “Hang in there. Your God will win and, in fact, already rules all earthly powers.” It is a subversive message that opposes the apparent power of earthly rulers with their wealth, control, and influence. In the midst of the struggles of the early church opposed by a Roman emperor, Jesus Christ is truly “the ruler of the kings of the earth” (v. 5). Christ—not the emperor—is the one “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty” (v. 8). Not only that, but the followers of Jesus have an elevated status and are “priests serving his God and Father” (v. 6). How does the message of Revelation strengthen and encourage you as a priest who represents and prays to the Almighty? How do you communicate God’s love and reign to others? How do your prayers serve the reign of Christ now, no matter what the historical events are around you?

Pray: **Lord Jesus Christ, you who are “the ruler of the kings of the earth,” thank you for making us your servants and priests. Amen.**

SERVICE



As priests who serve Jesus’ God and Father (Revelation 1:6), prayer is a form of service that blesses, strengthens, and encourages others with the presence of the Alpha and the Omega, the Almighty (Revelation 1:8). Take time this week to pray Psalm 93, a psalm that celebrates the rule of God. Then pray for all that God has created, including those who have special needs this day. Pray that in the midst of daily challenges people will know and believe in the one “who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood” (Revelations 1:5b).

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



As priests of the ruler of all things, the Alpha and the Omega, we bless others. This week bless your family and friends with the following: **May Christ the King bless you with his love and fill you with grace and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org