The Word of God

Christ the King Sunday November 22, 2026

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, you have crowned your Son as King and, by him, will renew your whole creation. May the families of the earth now torn apart and yoked by sin find liberty in him and be subjected to his gentle rule. Grant this, we pray, through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

11"For thus says the LORD God: Behold, I, I myself will search for
my sheep and will seek them out. 12As a shepherd seeks out his
flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so
will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places
where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick
darkness. 13And I will bring them out from the peoples and
gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their
own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by
the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. 14I will
feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of
Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in
good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the
mountains of Israel. 15I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep,
and I myself will make them lie down, declares the LORD God.
16I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will
bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat
and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

20"Therefore, thus says the LORD God to them: Behold, I, I myself
will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21Because you
push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your
horns, till you have scattered them abroad, 22I will rescue my flock;
they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and
sheep. 23And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant
David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their
shepherd. 24And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant
David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

Psalm 95:1-7a

1Come, let us sing | to the LORD;*
let us shout for joy to the Rock of | our salvation.
2Let us come before his presence | with thanksgiving*
and raise a loud shout to | him with psalms.
3For the LORD | is a great God,*
and a great King a- | bove all gods.
4In his hand are the caverns | of the earth,*
and the heights of the hills | are his also.
5The sea is his, | for he made it,*
and his hands have molded | the dry land.
6Come, let us bow down, and | bend the knee,*
and kneel before the | LORD our Maker.
7aFor he is our God, and we are the people | of his pasture*
and the sheep | of his hand.*

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

20But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits
of those who have fallen asleep. 21For as by a man came death,
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. 22For as in
Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. 23But each
in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those
who belong to Christ. 24Then comes the end, when he delivers
the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and
every authority and power. 25For he must reign until he has put
all his enemies under his feet. 26The last enemy to be destroyed is
death. 27For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet."
But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain
that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him.
28When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will
also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under
him, that God may be all in all.

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

31{Jesus said to the disciples,} "When the Son of Man comes in his
glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious
throne. 32Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will
separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the
sheep from the goats. 33And he will place the sheep on his right,
but the goats on the left. 34Then the King will say to those on
his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the
kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.
35For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you
gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36I was
naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was
in prison and you came to me.' 37Then the righteous will answer
him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,
or thirsty and give you drink? 38And when did we see you a
stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39And when
did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' 40And the King
will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the
least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' 41Then he will say to
those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal
fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42For I was hungry and
you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,
43I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you
did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'
44Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you
hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and
did not minister to you?' 45Then he will answer them, saying,
'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these,
you did not do it to me.' 46And these will go away into eternal
punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Lessons for Next Week: Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7;
1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

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