

NOVEMBER 26, 2017
CHRIST THE KING
SUNDAY



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Christ rules now and forevermore.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 25:31-46	The sheep and the goats
Monday	Acts 2:40-47, 4:32-35	Care given to the needy
Tuesday	Romans 12:9-21	Share with the needy
Wednesday	Ezekiel 34:11-16	God, the true shepherd
Thursday	Ephesians 1:15-23	Paul's prayer
Friday	2 Corinthians 9:6-15	Thanks be to God
Saturday	Psalms 95	Worship and obey the Lord
Sunday	Mark 13:24-37	The day and hour unknown

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

It is the same wonderful power he used when he raised Christ from death and let him sit at his right side in heaven. There Christ rules over all forces, authorities, powers, and rulers. He rules over all beings in this world and will rule in the future world as well. **Ephesians 1:19b-21 (CEV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

O God of power and might, we thank you for your glory hidden in the cross of Christ and revealed through acts of love and mercy. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Thank you, God, for food and drink, for thoughts of service for us to think. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ give you a spirit of wisdom that you may know what is the hope and glorious inheritance to which you have been called. (Ephesians 1:17-18)



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HYMN OF THE WEEK
*Lord, I Lift Your Name
On High*



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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- How do you think a fair and just leader would rule today?
- How do you see Christ's rule in the world today?
- How do we participate in Christ's rule today?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Psalm 95:1-7a slowly three times.

It can be difficult in today's world where the news gives us negative local and international reports of violence and injustices to see how God reigns now through Christ the King. Throughout history the people of God have often been challenged by the claim that God is present and opposing evil, death, and destruction. During the week remember the claim that God reigns through the cross of Christ. Remember to worship God with thanksgiving and songs of praise.

Make a joyful noise and sing hymns of praise including the "Hymn of the Week", *Lord, I Lift Your Name On High*.

SERVICE

In Matthew 25:35-40 followers of Jesus participate in the reign of God by acts of loving service. It is a way to serve Christ himself. In this text Jesus lifts up a number of ways to serve others: feeding others, giving water to the thirsty, clothing people, caring for the sick, and visiting the imprisoned. Reflect and give thanks for how you are part of this service to others and commit to some specific action of care this next week.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Hymns are sung prayers. Sing and/or pray this week a number of Christian songs that give praise for the reign of God. Here are some examples to consider:

- Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*
- How Great Thou Art*
- Crown Him with Many Crowns*
- O, Sing to the Lord*
- Shout to the Lord*
- Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*



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