Christ the King
22nd November 2026

First Reading

Ezekiel 34.11–16, 20–24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. 12As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13I 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 watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says 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, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

P20Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23I 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, the Lord, have spoken.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1.15–end

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason 16I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. 17I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, 19and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. 20God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.

22And he has put all things under his
feet and has made him the head over all
things for the church, 23which is his
body, the fullness of him who fills all in
all.

Gospel

Matthew 25.31–end

'When the Son of Man comes in his
glory, and all the angels with him, then
he will sit on the throne of his glory.
32All the nations will be gathered before
him, and he will separate people one
from another as a shepherd separates
the sheep from the goats, 33and he will
put the sheep at his right hand and the
goats at the left. 34Then the king will say
to those at his right hand, "Come, you
that 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 something to
drink, I was a stranger and you
welcomed me, 36I was naked and you
gave me clothing, I was sick and you
took care of me, I was in prison and you
visited me." 37Then the righteous will
answer him, "Lord, when was it that we
saw you hungry and gave you food, or
thirsty and gave you something to
drink? 38And when was it that we saw
you a stranger and welcomed you, or
naked and gave you clothing? 39And
when was it that we saw you sick or in
prison and visited you?" 40And the king
will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just
as you did it to one of the least of these
who are members of my family, you did
it to me." 41Then he will say to those at
his left hand, "You that are accursed,
depart from me 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
nothing to drink, 43I was a stranger and
you did not welcome me, naked and
you did not give me clothing, sick and in
prison and you did not visit me." 44Then
they also will answer, "Lord, when was it
that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a
stranger or naked or sick or in prison,
and did not take care of you?" 45Then
he will answer them, "Truly I tell you,
just 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.'

The Collect

Eternal Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.