



“For this reason the Church has always venerated the Scriptures as she venerates the Lord’s Body. She never ceases to present to the faithful the Bread of Life, taken from the one table of God’s Word and Christ’s Body.” Dei Verbum, 21

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

**Reading 1 - Daniel 7: 13-14**

**Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 93: 1-2, 5**

**Reading 2 - Revelations 1: 5-8**

**Gospel - John 18: 33-37**

**Reading 1**

As the visions during the night continued, I saw coming with the clouds of heaven<sup>c</sup>

One like a son of man.\*

When he reached the Ancient of Days

and was presented before him,

14

He received dominion, splendor, and kingship; all nations, peoples and tongues will serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion

that shall not pass away,

his kingship, one that shall not be destroyed.

Who do you think is the Ancient of Days and the son of man?

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**

The Lord is king, in splendor robed;

robed is the Lord and girt about with

strength.

And he has made the world firm,

not to be moved.

Your throne stands firm from of old;

from everlasting you are O Lord.

Your decrees are worthy of trust indeed;

holiness befits your house,

O Lord, for length of days.

### **Reading 2**

Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us\* from our sins by his blood,<sup>d</sup>

6

who has made us into a kingdom, priests for his God and Father, to him be glory and power forever [and ever]. Amen.<sup>e</sup>

7

Behold, he is coming amid the clouds, and every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him.

All the peoples of the earth will lament him.

Yes. Amen.<sup>f</sup>

8

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,”\* says the Lord God, “the one who is and who was and who is to come, the almighty.”

What is the significance of verse 6, that He has made us into a kingdom?

## Gospel

So Pilate went back into the praetorium and summoned Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

34

Jesus answered, “Do you say this on your own or have others told you about me?”

35

Pilate answered, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?” <sup>p</sup>

36

Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants [would] be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here.” <sup>q</sup>

37

So Pilate said to him, “Then you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say 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.” <sup>r</sup>

38

Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

Verse 36 made me reflect on Peter in the Garden of Gethsemane cutting off the Roman soldier’s ear. Thoughts?

Verse 38 was not included in the lectionary but seems to sum up Pilate's view concisely. Compare Pilate's view with today's world view. Why do we have difficulties understanding the truth of God?

Augustine, Tractates on the Gospel of John, 115.2;  
trans. in J. C. Elowsky, p.290

Indeed, his kingdom is here until the end of time, and until the harvest comes will contain weeds... And this could not happen if the kingdom were not here. But even so, it is not from here, for it is in exile in the world. Christ says to his kingdom, "You are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the

world" (John 15:19)... [E]veryone who is reborn in Christ becomes the kingdom that is no longer of the world. For God has snatched us from the powers of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son.