

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 34:11–12, 14–16abce

November 22, 2020 Our Lord Jesus Christ the King (A)

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this:

“I, the Lord God, will look for my people and take care of them myself.

As a shepherd looks for sheep that have wandered away,

I will search for my scattered people.

I will rescue them from all the places where they went on that dark and gloomy day.

“My people will be like sheep grazing and resting in good pastures and on Israel’s mountains.

I, the Lord All-Powerful, will lead them there and watch over them.

“I will look for the lost sheep and bring back the ones that have wandered off.

If any are hurt, I will bandage their wounds.

If any are weak, I will help them.

I will take good care of my people!”

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 23:1-2ab, 2c-3, 5-6

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All: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

*You, Lord, are my shepherd. I will never be in need.
You let me rest in fields of green grass.*

All: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

*You lead me to streams
of peaceful water,
and you refresh my life. You are true to your name,
and you lead me along the right paths.*

All: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

*You treat me to a feast, while my enemies watch.
You honor me as your guest, and you fill my cup
until it overflows.
Your kindness and love will always be with me
each day of my life, and I will live forever
in your house, Lord.*

All: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:20–24a

November 22, 2020 Our Lord Jesus Christ the King (A)

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised to life! And he makes us certain that others will also be raised to life.

Just as we will die because of Adam,
we will be raised to life because of Christ.

Adam brought death to all of us,
and Christ will bring life to all of us.

But we must each wait our turn. Christ was the first to be raised to life, and his people will be raised to life when he returns.

Then after Christ has destroyed all powers and forces, the end will come.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31–46

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A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: “When the Son of Man comes in his glory with all of his angels, he will sit on his royal throne.

“The people of all nations will be brought before him, and he will separate them, as shepherds separate their sheep from their goats.

“He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘My father has blessed you! Come and receive the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world was created.

When I was hungry, you gave me something to eat, and when I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink. When I was a stranger, you welcomed me, and when I was naked, you gave me clothes to wear. When I was sick, you took care of me, and when I was in jail, you visited me.’

“Then the ones who pleased the Lord will ask, ‘When did we give you something to eat or drink? When did we welcome you as a stranger or give you clothes to wear or visit you while you were sick or in jail?’

“The king will answer, ‘Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me.’

“Then the king will say to those on his left, ‘Get away from me! You are under God’s curse. Go into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels! I was hungry, but you did not give me anything to eat, and I was thirsty, but you did not give me anything to drink. I was a stranger, but you did not welcome me, and I was naked, but you did not give me any clothes to wear. I was sick and in jail, but you did not take care of me.’

“Then the people will ask, ‘Lord, when did we fail to help you when you were hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in jail?’

“The king will say to them, ‘Whenever you failed to help any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you failed to do it for me.’”

Then Jesus said, “Those people will be punished forever. But the ones who pleased God will have eternal life.”

The Gospel of the Lord.