



CHRIST THE KING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20–26

LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — LECTIONARY 34

Year C, Complementary Series

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

A reading from Jeremiah.

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!
says the LORD.

²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel,
concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people:
It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away,
and you have not attended to them.

So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD.

³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock
out of all the lands where I have driven them,
and I will bring them back to their fold,
and they shall be fruitful and multiply.

⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them,
and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed,
nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD,
when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch,
who shall reign as king and deal wisely
and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

⁶In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety.

And this is the name by which he will be called:

“The LORD is our righteousness.”

Word of God, word of life. *or* The word of the Lord.

PSALMODY: Psalm 46

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:11-20

A reading from Colossians.

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength
that comes from God's glorious power,
so that you may have all endurance and patience,
joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father,
who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

¹³God has rescued us from the power of darkness
and transferred us into the dominion of the beloved Son of God,
¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation,
¹⁶for in Christ all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible,
whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—
all things have been created through him and for him.

¹⁷Christ himself is before all things, and in Christ all things hold together.

¹⁸Christ is the head of the body, the church;
Christ is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,
so that he might come to have first place in everything.

¹⁹For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
²⁰and through Christ God was pleased to reconcile to God's own self all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Word of God, word of life. *or* The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

The holy gospel according to Luke.

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull,
they crucified Jesus there with the criminals,
one on his right and one on his left.

³⁴Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them,
for they do not know what they are doing.”
And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

³⁵And the people stood by, watching,
but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others;
let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, God’s chosen one!”

³⁶The soldiers also mocked him,
coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷and saying,
“If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!”

³⁸There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding Jesus
and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God,
since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?

⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly,
for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds,
but this man has done nothing wrong.”

⁴²Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom.”

⁴³He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

The gospel of the Lord.