

Sunday, October 25 Feast of Christ the King

Tropar, tone 4: Christ, Our God, Your kingship has taken us out of the power of darkness* and brought us into the Kingdom of Your love.* You who are eternal, appeared as a King.* Lord, glory be to You.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen!

Kondak, tone 7: Let us adore and fall down before the immortal King of the ages,* the only all-wise God Christ, saying:* "Power, honor and kingdom have been bestowed upon You,* and for this reason all the nations will serve You.* Your power is everlasting* and Your kingdom will not crumble,* because the eternal King Christ* became King for our sake.

Prokimen, tone 3: Sing to our God, sing; sing to our King, sing.

Verse: *God is king of the whole world: play your best in his honor!.*

Epistle: A reading from the Letter of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Colossians. (1: 12 - 20)

Brothers and Sisters! Give thanks to the Father for having made you worthy to share the lot of the saints in light. He rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son. Through him we have redemption, the forgiveness of our sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creatures. In him everything in heaven and on earth was created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominations, principalities or powers; all were created through him, and for him. He is before all else that is. In him everything continues in being. It is he who is head of the body, the church; he who is the beginning, the first-born of the dead, so that primacy may be his in everything. It pleased God to make absolute fullness reside in him and by

means of him, to reconcile everything in his person both on earth and in the heavens, making peace through the blood of his cross.

Alleluia Verses: *His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the river to the ends of the earth.*

All kings will do Him homage, all nations become his servants.

Gospel: John 18:33 - 37

At that time, Pilate went back into the praetorium and summoned Jesus. "Are you the King of the Jews?" he asked him. Jesus answered, "Are you saying this on your own, or have others been telling you about me?" "I am no Jew!" Pilate retorted. "It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered: "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my subjects would be fighting to save me from being handed over to the Jews. As it is, my kingdom is not here." At this Pilate said to him, "So, then, you are a king?" Jesus replied: "It is you who say I am a king. The reason I was born, the reason why I came into the world is to testify to the truth. Anyone committed to the truth hears my voice."

Instead of 'It is truly right . . .': My soul, glorify Christ* who became the King of the universe.* Lord God, the Son of the eternal Father,* became Man by the Virgin and appeared among us* to enlighten those who dwelt in darkness,* and to assemble those who were scattered.* For this reason we glorify* the ever-praised Mother of God.

Communion Hymn: The Lord is our Judge, the Lord is our Prince, the Lord is our King and He will save us. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!