# The Feast of Christ the King

**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. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING** **Ezekiel 34. 11-16, 20-24**

11 Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will
search for my sheep and will seek them out.
12 As 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. 13 I 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. 14 I 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. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my
sheep, and I will make them lie down, says
the Lord GOD. 16 I 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.
20 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them:
I myself will judge between the fat sheep and
the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with
flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak
animals with your horns until you scattered
them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and
they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will
judge between sheep and sheep.
23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my
servant David, and he shall feed them: he
shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24
And 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. 15-23**

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus
and your love towards all the saints, and for
this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for
you as I remember you in my prayers. 17 I
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, 18 so 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, 19 and what is the immeasurable
greatness of his power for us who believe,
according to the working of his great power.
20 God 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, 21 far
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. 22 And he has put all things
under his feet and has made him the head
over all things for the church, 23 which is his
body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**GOSPEL** **Matthew 25. 31-46**

Hear the holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to S. Matthew.
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples:
31 '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. 32 All the nations
will be gathered before him, and he will
separate people one from another as a
shepherd separates the sheep from the
goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right
hand and the goats at the left.
34 Then 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; 35 for 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, 36 I was
naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick
and you took care of me, I was in prison and
you visited me." 37 Then 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? 38 And when
was it that we saw you a stranger and
welcomed you, or naked and gave you
clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw
you sick or in prison and visited you?"
40 And 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."
41 Then 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; 42 for I was hungry and you gave me
no food, I was thirsty and you gave me
nothing to drink, 43 I 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." 44 Then 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?" 45 Then 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.'
This is the gospel of the Lord.
**Praise to you, O Christ**.

**Post Communion**

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