

**23 November 2014**

## **Christ the King**

### **Collect of the Day**

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.

### **First Reading**

*Ephesians 1.15-23*

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

### **Gospel**

*Matthew 25.31-46*

Jesus said to his disciples: <sup>31</sup>“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. <sup>32</sup>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,

<sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and  
the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>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; <sup>35</sup>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, <sup>36</sup>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.” <sup>37</sup>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? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a  
stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave  
you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you  
sick or in prison and visited you?” <sup>40</sup>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.” <sup>41</sup>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; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you  
gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me  
nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>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.” <sup>44</sup>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?” <sup>45</sup>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.” <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal  
punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’  
(NRSV)

### **Post Communion Prayer**

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