

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
November 25, 2018

Today we celebrate the last Sunday of the Church year with the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. How fitting it is for us to hear readings that speak of a king that is to come, a ruler who has come to rule over all kings and a king whose kingdom does not belong to this world. Can this all be one king?

In the first reading the prophet Daniel is describing a vision of a king for the Israelites who is coming to save them from the persecution of Antiochus. The Israelites are given hope that a king will rise up to lead them out of their misery and restore order to the nation of Israel, "His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away; his kingship shall not be destroyed." This was truly a vision of hope for the people of Israel.

Our second reading is taken from the exciting Book of Revelation. Speaking of Jesus as ruler of the kings of the earth and making us a kingdom for himself, there is another vision by the author John. "Behold he is coming amid the clouds... All the peoples of earth will lament him." Again, another vision of hope for us to be with God in his heavenly kingdom, "the one who is and who was and who is to come, the almighty."

The Gospel of John presents to us the scene of Pilate interrogating Jesus and whether he is this King of the Jews. Jesus is making a clear statement that his kingship is beyond any authority on earth. "My kingdom does not belong to this world, my kingdom is not here." He further testifies that he came into this world "to testify to the truth, everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

The king who comes from the line of David, the king who makes us a kingdom for himself, the king who is beyond this earth, is indeed one king. Jesus is our King of kings, Lord of lords and savior for us all. Let us remember as we enter our church to honor him with the dignity and respect of a king, with a bow, or genuflecting on one knee, or even more reverently, falling to both of our knees to show our utmost honor and glory to our one Lord and King, Jesus!

May we begin to prepare ourselves for this Advent Season coming, to receive the Christ child in our very heart and soul, making room for the King of the Universe.

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