NOVEMBER 22, 2026
CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

taking faith home

Christ rules now and forevermore.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	**Matthew 25:31-46**	**The sheep and the goats**
Monday	**Ezekiel 34:11-24**	**God, the true shepherd**
Tuesday	**Ephesians 1:15-23**	**Paul's prayer**
Wednesday	**Psalm 100**	**All nations to praise the Lord**
Thursday	**Isaiah 1:16-20**	**Justice is needed**
Friday	**Amos 5:10-15**	**Choose good, not evil**
Saturday	**Psalm 95:1-7a**	**Worship and obey the Lord**
Sunday	**Mark 13:24-37**	**When the Son of Man appears**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

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. **Ezekiel 34:16 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
God of glory and might, we give thanks that you are our God and that we are the sheep in your hand through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Psalm 95:7a)

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, to you we make a joyful noise for all that you do, including your gift of this food for us today. Amen. (Psalm 95:1)

A Blessing to Give:
May Christ the King give you courage.

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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HYMN OF THE WEEK

When the Poor Ones

taking faith home

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are some values that describe the role of a good leader?
- Why is it good news to know that God cares for the poor, the sick, and the hungry?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Ezekiel 34:11-24 and Matthew 25:31-46.
The God of the Bible is the God of justice but not just any kind of justice. God's justice recognizes the unfairness of power that abuses the weak. In Ezekiel 34, God has had enough of Judah's unjust shepherds (kings), specifically, the kings who have not taken care of God's sheep. Therefore, God declares the sheep that are lost, strayed, injured, and weak will be cared for by God's power and the fat and strong sheep—those well off at the expense of the weak—will be destroyed. That is the divine judgment Jesus presents in the parable of the sheep and the goats. God's will—Jesus' will, as seen in the Son of Man in the parable—is to provide for the needs of the hungry, thirsty, lonely, naked, or sick. The message is so strong that when anyone has cared for these, they have cared for the Son of Man. The Gospel of Matthew does not shy away from judgment that distinguishes the authentic from the inauthentic life of those who follow Jesus. Matthew speaks against those who abuse their powers, whether religious, social, political, or economic. This final Sunday in the church year recognizes that all evil abuses will end one day and only God's compassion will survive through Christ, the true ruler of all things.
Discuss: In what ways do you live your life that reveals the love of Jesus to those in need?
Pray: **Almighty God, help us to see you in our neighbors, especially those in need of care through Jesus Christ, the one who is above all rule and authority. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you support organizations that care for the needs of others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

This year, November 22nd is the last Sunday in the church year. Think or talk about the ministries in your congregation. In the past year, what were the highlights? In what ways did you grow in your faith? How did you share your faith with others? Write your thoughts on a sheet of paper. The new church year begins next week, the First Sunday of Advent. Take a moment to read through your list and think about what you can add to the ways you will share God's love with others in the coming year.

Pray: **God of glory and might, we give thanks that you are our God and that we are the sheep in your hand through Christ our Lord. Amen.** (Psalm 95:7a)

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In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: **www.milestonesministry.org**