



St George's Anglican Church | Malvern

**The Reign of Christ**

**22 November 2015**

**Sentence** Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing.

*Revelation 5.12*

**Collect**

You who are, who were, who are to come,  
before whose judgement  
all fades away that is not love:  
save us from the violence  
that seeks to claim our hearts  
so we might hear a different voice and belong to you in truth,  
through Jesus Christ, the wounded king of all. **Amen.**

**A Reading from the book of Daniel**

*As we noted last week, the book of Daniel is a blend of folktale and 'apocalyptic' a type of writing widely known in Judaism from about 200BC to 200AD. It tells stories of the overthrow of political powers and evil in the world in an allegorical way using complex symbolism. It is intended to encourage God's people not to fear the future. This passage came to be understood by Christians, not as a prediction of the future, but as proclamation in symbolic terms, of the final establishment of Christ's rule over creation.*

As I watched,  
thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One\* took his throne;  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.  
A stream of fire issued  
and flowed out from his presence.

A thousand thousand served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.  
The court sat in judgement,  
and the books were opened. As I watched in the night visions,  
I saw one like a human being  
coming with the clouds of heaven.  
And he came to the Ancient One  
and was presented before him.  
To him was given dominion  
and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
that shall never be destroyed. *Daniel 7.9-10,13-14*

Reader For the word of the Lord  
All **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 93 APBA page 321 at 10am TiS 51 Response 1**

*This is an enthronement psalm, proclaiming that 'the Lord is king'. God was symbolically (re) enthroned each Rosh Hashanah or new year in Israel. God's kingship is in creating and keeping the world.*

**A Reading from the book of Revelation**

*This reading begins with a greeting from Jesus Christ as well as from the Father and the seven spirits. Then comes the assurance that Christ loves us—note the present tense! Christ's love is perpetual and goes beyond the historical event of the redemption. The effect of the redemption Christ has won for the whole creation is to set up a community that shares Christ's kingly and priestly functions.*

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.  
To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and

made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him  
be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who  
was and who is to come, the Almighty. *Revelation 1.4b-8*

Reader May your word live in us.

**ALL And bear much fruit to your glory.**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**ALL Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Jesus said, 'For this I was born, and for this I came into  
the world: to testify to the truth.'

**ALL Alleluia!**

Reader The Lord be with you

**ALL And also with you**

Reader A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

**ALL Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*It is beyond all doubt that Jesus was crucified on the charge of being a  
messianic pretender. In John's account of the trial before Pilate, Jesus  
explicitly corrects the charge by offering a reinterpretation of what kingship  
means for him. This is done by his answers to three questions put to him by  
Pilate. Here we have a complete redefinition of messiahship or kingship in  
terms of Johannine theology. 'Truth' means the reality of God, as God chooses  
to be known in Jesus, the Word made flesh. Jesus' followers are not subjects  
in an earthly kingdom but those who hear the truth and respond to it. It is in  
this and not in a political sense that Jesus can be understood as king and  
possessing a kingdom.*

Pilate asked Jesus, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered,

'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?'

Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief  
priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' Jesus

answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

*John 18.33-37*

Reader For the Gospel of the Lord  
**ALL Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

**Next Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent.**

*In the 3 year cycle of readings Year C, the Year of Luke, commences.*

**Bible Readings next week 29 November 2015**

Jeremiah 33.14-16 Ps 25.1-10 1 Thessalonians 3.9-13 Luke  
21.25-38

**Prayer for the Week**

Stir up, we pray you, 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.  
**Amen.**

**Pray for the Faithful Departed**

We remember before God : Nina Lucy Benson, Richard Sexton,  
Walter Yencken, Norman Coles, Emily Whitbourne, Patricia Crawl,  
Marjorie Hagerty, Helen Trumble, Marjorie (Alison)Pope  
*whose anniversaries occur this week.*

**Commemorations of the week**

**November 23** - Clement of Rome (d. c.100 AD) Bishop of Rome.  
He wrote a letter to the Corinthians (c.96 AD), which gives valuable  
information on the state of the Christian ministry at that time.

**November 25** - James Noble (1876-1941). Born in Queensland,  
he was befriended and given an education by an Anglican grazier and  
later by an Anglican priest. Fr Noble became the first Anglican  
indigenous ordained priest. He worked in various mission stations  
and died in the Aboriginal settlement on Palm Island.

