

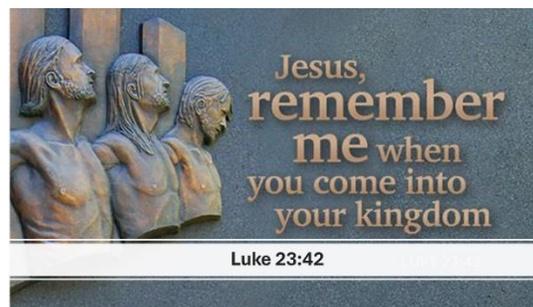
## November 23rd, 2025 Lectionary Notes

### The Readings on This Day

**\*\*\*Click on the links for the Bible Verse(s)**

### Sunday, November 20–26

#### Christ the King (Lectionary 34)



Hoping to celebrate the lordship of Christ in a world of increasingly secular and non-Christian empires, Pope Pius XI inaugurated in 1925 a Sunday dedicated to Christ as King. Originally Roman Catholics celebrated Christ the King on the last Sunday in October, to precede the feast of All Saints, yet also to counter the Protestant celebration of the Reformation. When the Roman Catholics proposed the three-year lectionary after the Second Vatican Council, Christ the King was moved to the final Sunday of the liturgical year. The Revised Common Lectionary has retained the festival. Its emphasis on the eschatological majesty of Christ leads well into Advent.

#### [Jeremiah 23:1-6](#)

Christians interpret this passage as a description of Jesus Christ, who reigns wisely and executes justice. The Hebrew of verse 6 refers to YHWH God, that is, the Lord, as the embodiment of righteousness, and Christians transfer to the Risen Christ the honorific “Lord,” who reigns as king from the cross.

#### [The Psalm for the Day](#)

The psalm appointed for the day in the Complementary Series is [Psalm 46](#), which imagines God in the center of the city, holding the city together, ensuring peace, and being exalted in all the earth. These descriptions are elaborations on the primary metaphor of divine kingship.

#### [Colossians 1:11-20](#)

The reading from Colossians is most appropriate to celebrate the sovereign Christ: all other thrones or rulers were created through his power and for him alone. As an ideal king would be imagined, Christ holds all things together, has first place in everything, embodies God, and makes peace on earth. God is the strength from which the people derive their strength.

#### [Luke 23:33-43](#)

This passage is particularly appropriate for the celebration of the reign of Christ. The Roman authorities claim that they have executed the purported king of the Jews, and the thief asks Jesus for entrance into his kingdom. Christ is king when he reigns from the cross, forgiving our sins.