

Luke 19:28–40

“Behold, Your King”

Advent 1

December 2, 2018

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

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Grace, mercy, and peace be unto you from God, our Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen! Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

**[Introduction]**

Kings – You know, the ones that sit upon the throne,  
the ones who rule the land...

Kings are troublesome persons:

they demand by their laws;

they insist on obedience;

they reward the friend and punish the enemy;

they are a blessing to a people, or they are a curse to a people.

It seems that many times... Kings are troublesome persons...

At the end of the book of Judges, the people cried out ... ***“If we only had a king!”***

For ... ***“In those days there was no king in Israel...”*** (Judges 21:25)

What kind of king do we want?

What kind of rule do we wish to live under?

God’s people have seen two kinds: Earthly and Eternal.

**[Ancient King]**

The ancient Israelites wanted a king to judge them ***“like all the nations”*** (1 Sam 8:5).

The Israelites wanted to be like the nations,

having a king who would judge them and fight their battles (1 Sam 8:4–22).

God instructed the prophet Samuel to warn the people

***“and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them”*** (1 Sam 8:9).

He will use your sons to protect himself in battle.

He will take your daughters to be his bakers and cooks.

He will take your property to enrich his friends.

He will tax you to advance the wealth of his servants.

In summary, you will be your king’s slaves.

Israel’s desire for an earthly king was their rejection of God as their king (1 Sam 8:8).

It did not matter that God had saved Israel from Egypt.

The Israelites rejected God to be ruled by other gods.

Yet it was God's purpose to give Israel a different kind of king:  
a king who would rule them with God's own mercy and grace.

SO God raised up David and said to him:  
***"You shall be shepherd of my people Israel,  
and you shall be prince over Israel"*** (2 Sam 5:2).

So God raised up a shepherd boy and made him to be king.  
God acts in such a manner: he exalts the humble.

The kingdom of David would be blessed by ***"the steadfast love"*** of God,  
which would never depart from it.  
God acts in such a manner: he blesses the humble.

The temple in Jerusalem would be the sign of this king and the place of God's  
everlasting blessing.

Solomon ***"shall build a house for my name,  
and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever"*** (2 Sam 7:13).

God himself would be King over Israel.

Even with all that, as in the days of Samuel,  
Israel repeatedly defiled the house of the Lord  
and God's holy name through idolatry and wickedness.

And so God gave Israel wicked and idolatrous kings of the earth,  
kings of that first kind, the kind they'd requested.

He gave them over to be conquered  
by the kings of Assyria and  
by the kings of Babylon— and later on Rome.

***[Eternal King]***

Still, from his people's slavery to earthly kings,  
God promised to act once more  
to give them a king of the second kind.

From the humility of divine mercy, God would raise up a humble king.  
The humble king would come from a humble town:

***“But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel”*** (Micah 5:2).

This humble king would be the true Davidic king:

***“And he shall stand and shepherd [God’s] flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God”*** (Micah 5:4).

This humble king would bring peace, for he would himself be Israel’s peace:

***“And [Israel] shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace”*** (Micah 5:4–5).

He would come into his temple to purify his priests and his people (Mal 3:1–3).  
Through this humble king, God would again be the God of a humble people.

Here, then, is God’s King of the second kind for you:  
Jesus is *THE* new and humble Davidic King – an eternal King.

Born in Bethlehem, the city of David:

***“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord”*** (Lk 2:11).

The sign of this King would be a

***“baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger”*** (Lk 2:12).

Yet this humble child is the reality of heavenly peace on earth.

The angels of heaven announce this:

***“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased”*** (Lk 2:13–14).

The Davidic, Eternal King comes to his royal city and to his house as a humble King, riding upon the foal of a donkey (v 35).

Yes, he is King

—he will judge his temple and weep over the city’s rejection (Lk 19:41–46)—  
but he is that kind of king who will also be the sacrifice to save it.

Jesus, the true Davidic King, will gave himself into death as that true sacrifice.

On that Friday that we call good, He gave up his spirit.  
He suffered and died.  
He hung limp upon the cross as a sword was pierced into his side.  
He was dead.

But death has no grip upon him, for in three days He rose.  
The tomb was empty and Jesus appeared to many, as many as 500 at once.

Jesus, the true Davidic King sacrificed Himself.

**[Conclusion]**

In his humble sacrifice, Jesus established a new temple and a new people.

In this new temple, we are invited to worship God as a humble people.

In faith, and by the voice of a humble spirit,  
we join the Jerusalem throng of old in saying:  
***“Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord!”***

Which kind of king do we want?  
What kind of rule do we wish to live under? By faith, we know:

So let us ....  
***“rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works ...  
saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” (Luke 19:38-39)***

We rejoice because Jesus is our King – our King eternal.  
***“I tell you, if [we] were silent, the very stones would cry out.” (Luke 19:40)***

So let us rejoice.

***“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29)***  
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church – behold, your king... your Davidic, eternal King.  
Jesus has come, and he will come again. Amen.

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REJOICE always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;  
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. AMEN! (1 Thess. 5:16–18)

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