The Feast of Christ the King

So today is the Feast of Christ the King, the final Sunday of the Church's year. Next week, we get to say, happy new year as we leave year A and the Gospel of Matthew behind and enter year B – the year of Mark's Gospel. It's always an important day in the church's calendar. It marks an important ending and beginning. But today, it is extra special, as it marks another very important new beginning - a new beginning for Sophia and Emily as they are baptised, as they begin their journey of faith, their journey with King Jesus.

So, just to be a bit different on this special day, I've recruited a little help with today's sermon. Our sermon is going to be a team effort. So together we are going to think about, what it means when we say today that Jesus is King.

What do we think about when we think of a King?

What do we picture?



Clothes royal robes and crown

Seat Throne

Home Palace or castle

Transport Carriage and horses

Chores Servants

Food The finest food, banquets

Security Surrounded by security guards

Interestingly, if we google 'Christ the King', or 'King Jesus', we get a very similar image.

There's the throne, a crown, robes, angels waiting on him.
But was this what Jesus was like when he was here on earth?



Amazingly, Jesus left all that, and became a human being. He chose to become one of us.

So what did being King looked like for Jesus?



Clothes Poor, travelling preacher. No robes, no crown accept the crown of thorns.

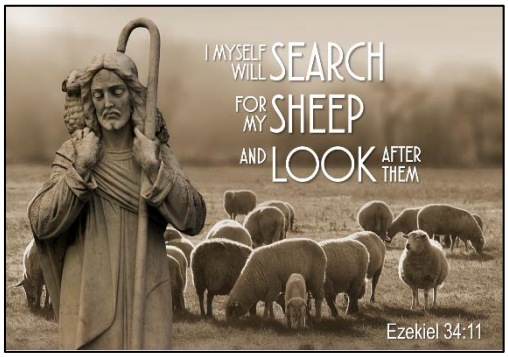
Home Constantly travelling from place to place. Jesus said he had 'No-where to lay his head' (Mt 8:20)

Transport Travelled on foot around Judea, preaching

Servants? Jesus told his disciples that he had come not to be served but to serve others. He washed feet, healed, served the least and the last.

Food He fed others – food for the stomach, but also spiritual food for the soul.

Security Jesus came to save us. In today's Old Testament reading God is pictured as a shepherd. Jesus too called himself the Good Shepherd, who looks after his sheep, keeps them safe, cares for them. Jesus wasn't protected, he chose to give up his life to save us.



Jesus is a VERY different type of King. Jesus' kingdom is a very topsy-turvy kingdom. Amazingly, when we are baptised, we become part of Jesus' kingdom, he becomes our king.

As our King, Jesus loves and cares for us, he leads and guides us, he feeds us. But also Jesus' shows us how to live. As followers of Jesus, we have an amazing model to follow. Jesus loved everyone. Jesus cared for people in need. Jesus spent time with people others didn't want to go near. Jesus' fed the hungry, he healed the sick. Jesus spoke up for people who were being treated badly. Jesus told everyone he could just how much God loved them. And, as this morning's Gospel reading reminds us, as followers of King Jesus – that's what we're called to do too.

It's not always easy. Jesus has gone back up to heaven. Today we particularly remember him sitting on his throne next to his father. We can't watch what Jesus is doing and copy. But we're not left alone. When we read the Bible, it teaches us about how Jesus lived and how he wants us to live. Jesus also sends us an amazing helper. If we ask him, he sends the Holy Spirit to come to live with us. He helps us and guides us and shows us how to live as Jesus lived.

So today is a very special day. Today we all celebrate that Jesus is King of Kings, we remember that we are all citizens of his topsy-turvy kingdom, we all commit ourselves to following Jesus every day and with the Spirit's help, we follow his example of love, life and light, in everything we are, everything we do and think and say. Amen.

Revd Ros Wilshire