

SERMON STARTER

GRATITUDE

24.11.2024

The readings focus on God's Kingship and also how people serve Him in gratitude for both who He is and for what He has done. As we draw closer to Christmas it could be a good time to think about something as simple as saying 'thank you'. We will be receiving and giving gifts. This is a time when we can think about the importance of saying thank you.



Gratitude is more than saying thank you though. It is the offering of a life of service and worship to God.

It could even be a good introduction to thinking of things that we might want to do differently as we speed towards Advent.



READINGS



Daniel 7:9-10, 13,14

In this passage an incredible image of heaven and the end times is painted. In this, God, the Ancient of Days, the King, whose Kingship never ends is seen. It is interesting to think of our own response to seeing something amazing, something that is full of awe and then to think about how we would react. Perhaps we would be speechless, maybe there would be a part of us that would fall down and worship. In gratitude for this amazing sight and the knowledge that the Kingdom of God will never end, we may not be able to do anything other than worship.

Psalms 93



The majesty and wonder of God, including His power over all creation is in this Psalm. The Psalm is one of praise and worship of God because of His majesty. Again our gratitude, that we can even worship Him will come to the fore. We show gratitude to God just because of who He is.

Revelation 1:4b-8

In this passage we are again reminded of the awesome nature of God. We are also reminded of what has been done for us in being freed from our sins through blood on the cross. Not only this, but we are reminded that God is the Alpha and Omega, He is the first and the last. We are able to be in relationship with Him. The only response is surely gratitude not only for all God has done, not only for who He is but also because we are able to be invited into His Kingdom.



THE GOSPEL



John 18:33-37

In this passage we are reminded that Jesus is the truth. We are reminded that those who follow Him, are part of His Kingdom. This Kingdom is not as we might expect. The Kingdom of God is a kingdom for us, an incredible gift never to be overlooked or understated.

