



## REVEILLE'S GPS WEEKLY SCRIPTURE GUIDE

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Explore scriptures and daily devotionals that reflect on this Sunday's sermon message. Sign up to receive the daily devotional email at [www.bit.ly/devotional-rumc](http://www.bit.ly/devotional-rumc).

**November 18-24, 2024**

**Sermon by Guest Preacher Rev. Mandy Young**

Use the space below to reflect on the questions in this week's devotionals, make class and sermon notes, and write down prayers and concerns.

### **Questions for small groups and individual reflection:**

1. The text from Revelation says that we are "blessed" when we read the words aloud and are "blessed" when we hear the words. How are we blessed?
2. Our Old Testament reading offers the last words of King David. Read verses 3-4. Given all the recent focus on our election, do these words come to life?
3. This Sunday, we recognize that all of us are in search of the king who will rule with justice and righteousness. The theme runs through multiple movies and productions from "The Lion King" to "Lord of the Rings." Name a few others that come to mind.
4. Describe what a perfect king or queen would be like.

### **Monday, November 18: Read Revelation 1:4b-8**

Throughout time, we have been on a search for a ruler who can actually rule well. From the Arthurian Legends to the movies about lords, rings, and kings, we see the innate desire within us for One who will reign with justice and righteousness. This week, as we prepare for a sermon by guest preacher Rev. Mandy Young, we will explore scriptures that exhibit this yearning, and the celebration of this yearning fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Today's prophetic scripture from Revelation describes us as a "kingdom and priests to serve Jesus" who reigns as "the Alpha and Omega." What is this supposed to look like in today's world? How can we live a life grounded in this understanding?

- **Relationship and Study Opportunity:** *Our reading from Revelation takes us to a different place, as "King" Jesus speaks to the churches, and to us from the throne. In fact, the book of Revelation takes its name from these verses, as Jesus "reveals" what "soon must take place." Discuss how different the setting for these words is from his words in the Sermon on the Mount. How do you reconcile the differences?*

## **Tuesday, November 19: Read 2 Samuel 23:1-7**

King David is almost universally recognized as the greatest earthly king Israel ever had, one with whom God made an everlasting covenant to preserve his bloodline as the rightful rulers of Israel. Christians recognize Jesus as part of that Davidic bloodline. Perhaps even more importantly, we recognize Jesus as the ultimate example of one who “rules over people in righteousness” – one whom all rulers are to emulate. As we read this description today, let us ask ourselves what messages there are for our rulers today and those who support and pray for them.

- **Relationship Opportunity:** *Describe rulers whom you believe have been “like the light of morning at sunrise on a cloudless morning” (verse 4). Do they still exist? What do they have in common?*

## **Wednesday, November 20: Read John 18:33-37**

Jesus was crucified by Roman and Jewish leadership because he was considered a threat to the establishment. He lost support among many Jews because he wasn’t enough of a threat to the establishment, since he didn’t try to physically overthrow the oppressive Roman government. Yet Jesus was still considered a king. How do you believe Jesus would be considered today? Would he win the popular vote? Would he have the endorsement of a major political party? Why or why not?

- **Study Opportunity:** *Research all the passages where Jesus talked about leadership (feel free to use ChatGPT). Then research all the passages where Jesus is described as a “king” or “prince.” What themes do you see?*

## **Thursday, November 21: Read Philippians 2:1-11**

How amazing it is that King Jesus knelt down from glory to serve us. This is the ultimate example of leadership for us today, and sadly, it is exceedingly rare. In addition to the description of Christ’s humility, look at the words used in this passage. Encouragement. United. Comfort. Love. Common sharing. Tenderness. Compassion. Joy. Humility. Relationship. Today, let us reflect how we reflect Christ’s style of leadership, and what fruits our leadership style yield. Are these the words that come to mind?

- **Discipleship Opportunity:** *Identify a few ways you can exhibit and support this style of leadership, and how you will measure good leadership, influenced by today’s scripture. Be specific.*

## **Friday, November 22: Read Psalm 132:1-12**

Today’s psalm is one of many that calls out to God asking for support and blessing for a righteous rule. Today we give thanks for the righteous rule of Christ the King and pray that we will continue to recognize Christ’s reign, honor it, and use it as an example for all leaders and citizens.

- **Discipleship Opportunity:** *Start a practice (or more intentional practice) of praying for all our earthly leaders alongside giving thanks and praise to the One who gave us the ultimate example of leadership and righteousness.*

## **Saturday, November 23: SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION: Revelation 1:5b-6**

“To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood,  
and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—  
to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.”

## **Sunday, November 24: Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship by praying our Prayer of**

**Common Confession:** *Sovereign God, we confess that although we willingly say that “Jesus is King,” we often fail to bow our knees before him. Instead, we grant our allegiances to the relationships and material goods of this world. In your mercy, hear our prayer of confession. Grant us the humility to bow before you, the Ruler of all nations, so that we may be loyal servants in your kingdom. Through your son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, Amen.*

*\*Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, June 1, 2004*