SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR: Proper 29B

Please refer to Guidelines for Children's Addresses in Worship document produced by the LCA Department of Liturgics and Grow Ministries - download guidelines <u>here</u>.

MAIN POINT

Jesus is the king who died for his people

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' John 18:33

AIDS

Pictures of kings, props (e.g. crown, cloak, jewels, scepter).

ADDRESS

What does a king look like? Show props

What do kings do? e.g. rule over people, tell others what to do, make important decisions

In the Bible reading today, Jesus is brought to Pontius Pilate, who asks him "are you the king of the Jews?" At that time it was a crime to claim you were a king when there were others in charge of ruling the country. In fact, it was Emperor Tiberius who was the ruler. I'm sure Pilate was thinking of a king with royal robes and ruling over people, with a kingdom, and throne and a royal crown.

The Jews were looking for this kind of king too. God had promised he would send a king for his people. But the Jews were looking for the wrong kind of king. They were looking for someone royal, who could rule over earthly lands, send armies to fight for their people. That was what *they* thought a king should be.

But the promise that God had made was to send a different king. This king was to be Christ the King. He wouldn't rule over earthly kingdoms, wear royal robes or have many servants. The king God sent was Jesus to save all people from their sins. Instead of sitting on a royal throne, Jesus hung on a dirty cross. Instead of wearing a crown of gold, he wore a crown of thorns. His sacrifice made him king. And that is someone we can truly worship, honour and adore.

PRAYER

Dear Jesus, thank you for being our King. Thank you for dying on the cross and saving us from our sins. Help us to worship, honour and adore you every day. Amen.

You may wish to hand out *Growing Faith at Home, Worship Notes* or another resource before the children return to their seats.

