



GIVE ME YOUR EYES

Feast of Christ the King, Cycle A

November 26, 2017 – 10:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

1. In 2009 it won 2 GMA Dove Awards, and was nominated for a Grammy award for the best Gospel Song
 - Brandon Heath's contemporary song "Give Me Your Eyes" was written by he and songwriter Jason Ingram
 - they were having a conversation over Chinese food about wanting to have God's perspective on things
 - Heath said, "if we did have His perspective, we'd wish we could have it for longer periods of time, rather than just for a few seconds."
 - the lyrics are beautiful:
 - Give me your eyes for just one second
 - Give me your eyes so I can see,
 - Everything that I keep missing,
 - Give me your love for humanity
 - Give me your arms for the broken-hearted
 - The ones that are far beyond my reach
 - Give me Your heart for the ones forgotten,
 - Give me Your eyes so I can see
 - the song is about wanting to see the world as God would, and having a desire to view people with more compassion
2. Today's feast day is not just about Christ, the King
 - it's a day that we also remember that we help to establish that Kingdom
 - and it begins with our ability to see as God sees
 - the Kingdom of God describes that time when God's power and God's will extend to everything
 - when, as St. Paul says today in the second reading, God will reign over heaven and earth – when God will be "all in all"
 - when the Kingdom comes, everything will be as God wants it to be
 - everything will be good and just and perfect
3. There are two things to remember about this Feast Day
 - First, **The Kingdom of God is not the same as heaven**
 - we believe in heaven
 - we believe that our beloved dead are with Christ in heaven and that we will join them there one day
 - but the Kingdom of God is a step beyond heaven
 - when the Kingdom comes, the **perfection of heaven will extend to this world**

- when the Kingdom of God comes, all creation will share in the glory of God
 - everything and everyone will be caught up in the Spirit of God
 - each time we pray the Our Father, we pray that this become a reality
 - *thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven*
4. The second point is this: the Kingdom is already but not yet
 - the Kingdom of God has begun but isn't complete
 - through Jesus' death and resurrection, God has already begun to establish His kingdom in our world
 - but that work is not just complete
 - it will not be fully complete until Christ returns in glory
 - so the Kingdom is already begun, but not yet complete
 5. It's important for us to claim both of those truths
 - each time something good happens in our world, we believe it is a sign of God already at work to establish the Kingdom
 - every time science conquers a new disease, every time nations move toward peace, every time hope emerges out of chaos, or reconciliation happens in our families, or our children take a step toward maturity, or the hungry are fed, or the sick are comforted, or the poor are cared for, or the prisoner visited . . .
 - these are not simply random good things happening
 - these are part of God's action through Christ the King
 - that God is working in our world in that way, but there is much more to be done
 - much of our world is characterized by violence and greed, prejudice and injustice
 - we know they are not a sign that God has abandoned us, but that God's kingdom remains incomplete
 6. That incompleteness is our calling, our invitation
 - if we follow Christ the King, we participate in the building of God's kingdom
 - working to see that peace and justice occur, that the hungry are fed, the naked are clothed, the homeless are sheltered, the imprisoned are remembered
 - we do that at Holy Angels through our Giving Tree, our LEAF ministry to families of the incarcerated, our Angel Shoppe at Urban Community School, our Sewing dresses for girls in Africa, and giving hope to young people in El Salvador through our scholarship program, and dozens of other ways . . . in our care for each other, for the sick, for the dying, for the grieving, for the broken
 - we are establishing God's kingdom when we see the possible, when we see our role in helping to bring heaven to earth
 7. Give me your eyes for just one second
 Give me your eyes so I can see,
 Everything that I keep missing,
 Give me your love for humanity

Give me your arms for the broken-hearted
The ones-that-are far beyond my reach
Give me Your heart for the ones forgotten,
Give me Your eyes so I can see Yeah, Yeah, Yeah, Yeah