

## **Philippians 2:5-11<sup>iv</sup>**

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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## <sup>iv</sup> **About the Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11**

Verses 6-11 are generally considered to be a pre-Pauline hymn to Christ that Paul adopts to make his own point. The hymn contains a summary of the Christian proclamation that includes divine pre-existence (v. 6), incarnation (v. 7), death (v. 8), celestial exaltation (v. 9), heavenly adoration (v. 10) and Jesus' new title (v. 11).

The first stanza (vv. 6-8) recounts Jesus' own action. His equality with God is not a prize to be exploited for his own advantage. The second stanza (vv. 9-11) stresses the response by God to bestow on Jesus the name Lord (Greek, *kyrios*; Hebrew, *adonai*) and our response to honor him as God is honored.