

Stainton, Hilton and Brookfield
parishes

15th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

20th September 20

**WELCOME- We are happy you
could join us today. The
Collect and readings will be
used at the Antecomunion
service at 11am**

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*We have no right to be envious at
the generosity and mercy God
shows to others.*

COLLECT

God, who in generous mercy
sent the Holy Spirit upon your
Church in the burning fire of your
love: grant that your people may
be fervent in the fellowship of the
gospel that, always abiding in
you, they may be found steadfast
in faith and active in service;
through Jesus Christ your Son
our Lord, who is alive and reigns
with you, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and for
ever. Amen

The book of Jonah.

Ch 3.10 – 4.11

*Jonah is angry and resentful. To his
mind the enemies of his people deserve
nothing less than total annihilation and
he is finding God's quality of compassion
irritating.*

When God saw what the people of
Nineveh did, how they turned from
their evil ways, God changed his
mind about the calamity that he had
said he would bring upon them; and
he did not do it. But this was very
displeasing to Jonah, and he became
angry. He prayed to the LORD and
said, 'O LORD! Is not this what I
said while I was still in my own
country? That is why I fled to
Tarshish at the beginning; for I
knew that you are a gracious God
and merciful, slow to anger, and
abounding in steadfast love,
and ready to relent from punishing.
And now, O LORD,
please take my life from me,
for it is better for me to die than to
live.' And the LORD said, 'Is it right
for you to be angry?' Then Jonah
went out of the city and sat down
east of the city, and made a booth
for himself there. He sat under it in
the shade, waiting to see what
would become of the city.
The LORD God appointed a bush,
and made it come up over Jonah, to
give shade over his head, to save
him from his discomfort; so Jonah
was very happy about the bush. But
when dawn came up the next day,
God appointed a worm that attacked
the bush, so that it withered. When
the sun rose, God prepared a sultry
east wind, and the sun beat down on
the head of Jonah so that he was
faint and asked that he might die.
He said, 'It is better for me to die

than to live.' But God said to Jonah
'Is it right for you to be angry about
the bush?'

And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to
die.' Then the LORD said, 'You are
concerned about the bush, for which
you did not labour and which you did
not grow; it came into being in a
night and perished in a night.
And should I not be concerned about
Nineveh, that great city, in which
there are more than a hundred and
twenty thousand people who do not
know their right hand from their left,
and also many animals?'

The letter of Paul to the Philippians.
1.21–30

For to me, living is Christ and dying
is gain. If I am to live in the flesh,
that means fruitful labour for me;
and I do not know which I prefer. I
am hard pressed between the two:
my desire is to depart and be with
Christ, for that is far better; but to
remain in the flesh is more
necessary for you. Since I am
convinced of this, I know that I will
remain and continue with all of you
for your progress and joy in faith, so
that I may share abundantly in your
boasting in Christ Jesus when I
come to you again. Only, live your
life in a manner worthy of the gospel
of Christ, so that, whether I come
and see you or am absent and hear
about you, I will know that you are
standing firm in one spirit, striving
side by side with one mind for the

faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well – since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Ch 20.1–16

In Jesus' story the owner of a vineyard sees the holistic needs of the men in the market place just as God sees the needs of all people and is concerned to provide for them all.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard.

When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went.

When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?"

They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

PRAYERS

. Pray for God's people everywhere that we may always be open minded and generous reaching out to all.

. Pray for guidance for churches against self-righteousness and rules that God would not own.

. Pray for governments especially where they run on corruption and fear, and for the people who live under their regime.

. Pray that we and our families and friends may encourage hospitality , never shutting others out.

. Pray for all whose lives have gone wrong - addicts, prisoners, the homeless, all who are unable to cope with the demands of life. Those who are ill, depressed or anxious . Pray for those who have died unmourned and unnoticed except by God- but all loved as his children.

. Ask our Lord to deepen our loving, our empathy and compassion that we may mirror the example of Jesus our Lord and Saviour.

. Give thanks for the lives of the faithful who are now in God's nearer care

JOIN WITH CHRISTIANS
EVERYWHERE IN SAYING THE
LORD'S PRAYER

STAINTON CHURCH IS OPEN for
SUNDAY SERVICES AT 11.00am
CHURCH WARDENS AT STAINTON

Vernon Clare 01642 592186

Colin Mason Tel: 01642 591667

CHURCH WARDENS AT HILTON

Barbara Sowerby 01642 591532

Sally Hamlin 01642 590385

If a priest is needed urgently please contact the Area Dean

Revd Clay Roundtree Tel 01642 760171