

Stainton, Hilton and Brookfield
Trinity 18-- 11th October 20

WELCOME. It is good in the that we can
join in this way

Thought for the day

We are all invited to God's wedding
banquet: in accepting we must allow the
rags of our old life to be exchanged for the
freely given robes of holiness and right
living Susan Sayer

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your
commandments and win the crown of
everlasting joy;
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 the prophet Isaiah
ch. 25.1-9

*The images Isaiah uses emphasise
protection and safety in the middle of
turmoil 'shelter from the storm' 'shade
from the heat' . Then when the turmoil
is over God will provide a banquet for all
people.*

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I
will praise your name; for you have done
wonderful things, plans formed of old,
faithful and sure. For you have made the
city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the
palace of aliens is a city no more, it will
never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

For you have been a refuge to the poor, a
refuge to the needy in their distress, a
shelter from the rainstorm and a shade
from the heat. When the blast of the
ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the
noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you
subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will
make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a
feast of well-matured wines, of rich food
filled with marrow, of well-matured wines
strained clear. And he will destroy on this
mountain the shroud that is cast over all
peoples, the sheet that is spread over all
nations; he will swallow up death for ever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears
from all faces, and the disgrace of his
people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our
God; we have waited for him, so that he
might save us. This is the LORD for whom
we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice
in his salvation.

Psalm 23

I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

1 The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul
and guides me along right pathways for his
name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me

in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall
follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for
ever.

The letter of Paul to the Philippians.
Ch 4.1-9

*Paul is able to talk of rejoicing in the same
breath as suffering. He highlights themes
such as joy and glory. He also puts great
emphasis on how a Christian's thinking—
their attitude—affects the way they live out
their faith. Paul is very thankful for the
support of the Philippian church, but is also
concerned about the influence of various
false teachers.*

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and
long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in
the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of
the same mind in the Lord.

Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal
companion, help these women, for they
have struggled beside me in the work of the
gospel, together with Clement and the rest
of my co-workers, whose names are in the
book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice. Let your
gentleness be known to everyone.
The Lord is near.

Do not worry about anything, but in
everything by prayer and supplication with
thanksgiving let your requests be made
known to God. And the peace of God, which
surpasses all understanding, will guard
your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever
is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is

pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.
Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me,
and the God of peace will be with you.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.ch 22.1-14

The guest who came without wedding clothes seems to have been treated very roughly until we realise that Wedding clothes would have been provided. Not to wear them was a deliberate insult.

Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and Pharisees in parables, saying: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.” But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.”

Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him,
“Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?”
And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants,
“Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”
For many are called, but few are chosen.’
This is the Gospel of the Lord

PRAYERS (Prayer taken from the Church of Scotland Women’s Guild “A Worship Book” please add your own prayers)

Gracious heavenly Father we pray for..
*Those who feel they have no need of you..
*Those whose suffering and sorrow are too great for us to share...
*Those who wait and pray in patience during difficult life events...
*those who agonise over injustice...
*those who show mercy and compassion..
*those whose purity and grace inspire others...
*those who work for peace where no peace seems possible...
*Those whose witness to truth and justice has brought them suffering...

Lord teach us to pray with love and understanding: to try to enter into the real needs that are around us; to believe that through our prayers, you can heal and bless. Through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord .Amen

Let us join with Christians in many places and situations the world over as we say the Lord’s Prayer.

Each thing I have received, -
from you it came.
Each thing for which I hope, -
from thy love it will come.
Each thing I enjoy, -
it is of thy bounty.
Each thing I ask, -
is of thy disposing.

A prayer from South Africa
Father and friend, help us to learn
That goodness is stronger than evil
That love is stronger than hate,
That light is stronger than darkness,
That life is stronger than death,
And that every victory is ours,
Through your forgiving love
Amen

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