

**Parishes of Stainton with Hemlington,
Hilton and Brookfield
Lent 4 14th March 2021
Mothering Sunday**

Welcome We invite you to worship with Mother Church.

Thought for the week

Glory comes wrapped in the ordinary.
A spider's web wearing the morning's dew.

An autumn tree letting go of her leaves.
A spring tree putting leaves on again.
A wound embraced and understood.

God's Springtime -Joyce Huggett

COLLECT

Merciful Lord, absolve your people from their offences, that through your bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the chains of those sins which by our frailty we have committed; grant this, heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

The book of Numbers.ch 21.4-9

The Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water,

and we detest this miserable food.' Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, 'Make a serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Psalm 107.1-3, 17-22

Give thanks to the Lord for his mercy.

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, and his mercy endures for ever.
2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
3 He gathered them out of the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; they were afflicted because of their sins.
18 They abhorred all manner of food and drew near to death's door.
19 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress

20 He sent forth his word and healed them and saved them from the grave.
21 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy and the wonders he does for his children.

22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

Give thanks to the Lord for his mercy.

The letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

ch2.1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved – and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God –

not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. 3.14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

PRAYERS :-

Based on prayers from the Mother's Union worship for Mothering Sunday

Father of mercy and God of all consolation, we praise you for your steadfast love and the nurture of all your children. We thank you for your church and we pray you will teach us how to console and cherish each other as followers of your beloved Son. Look on us as we humbly lift our prayers to you. **Lord abide in our hearts and teach us how to love**

May the voices of all Christians be united as one voice, proclaiming a gospel message of love and hope May your spirit of truth enrich our Bible reading and prayer with the light of your wisdom. . **Lord abide in our hearts and teach us how to love**

May the circle of your love close around our families, holding them safe against the troubles of this life. Lord we ask that you bless especially today all who offer mothering to those entrusted to their care. With sadness we pray for families where relationships are broken and in need of healing. May the light of Christ's love shine into the dark corners of each situation. . **Lord abide in our hearts and teach us how to love**

Teach us how to reach out in compassion to those in pain,

or in any kind of disease, distress or anxiety. Help us to show gratitude and support to all who offer selfless care and support to those who are ill, lonely, poor or in any way needy, in our communities and in the world. **Lord abide in our hearts and teach us how to love**

May the faithful departed know the fulfilment of their hope as you receive them into your Kingdom to live with you forever and ever. And may we receive the assurance that our prayers rising up to you will be received as a worthy offering. .

Lord abide in our hearts and teach us how to love.

Merciful Father

Accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime .

Martin Luther



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