

**Parishes of Stainton with Hemlington,
Hilton and Brookfield**

**4th July -- 5th Sunday after Trinity
Welcome to worship at home**

Thought for the day

Whatever we claim to believe, God sees and knows where our hearts really are. There is no point in trying to impress him, he knows and loves us just as we are.

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

The book of the prophet Ezekiel. ch 2.1–5

The heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God. When I saw this, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of someone speaking.

1 He said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.

2 And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me.

3 He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day.

4 The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.'

5 Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

Psalm 123

**R Our eyes look to the Lord our God,
until he shows us his mercy.**

1 To you I lift up my eyes,
to you enthroned in the heavens.

2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God, until he show us his mercy.

4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, for we have had more than enough of contempt,

5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, and of the derision of the proud.

**Our eyes look to the Lord our God,
until he shows us his mercy.**

**The second letter of Paul to the
Corinthians. ch12.2–10**

2 I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows.

2 And I know that such a person – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows –

4 was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat.

5 On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses.

6 But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool,

for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me,

7 even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated.

8 Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me,

9 but he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

10 Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

**Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark. Ch 6.1–13**

1 Jesus came to his home town, and his disciples followed him.

2 On the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands!'

3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence at him.

4 Then Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honour, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.'

5 And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them.

6 And he was amazed at their unbelief.
Then he went about among the villages teaching.
7 He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.
8 He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts;
9 but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics.
10 He said to them, 'Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place.
11 If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.'
12 So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent.
13 They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Jesus sends out his disciples in supportive pairs. Like Ezekiel they are to preach repentance whether people are ready to listen or not God had prepared Ezekiel for the likelihood of stubborn rebellious natures not taking kindly to the challenge, and now Jesus prepares his disciples in a similar way.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We lift our prayers to you, O Lord, for all people everywhere, those close to us and those far away. We pray for those who minister and preach asking that they may never find themselves rejected out of hand as our Saviour Jesus Christ was in his home town synagogue.
We pray for the worldwide church and for ourselves ; May we grow in faith. Help us also to respect the beliefs of others even if we do not share them, to celebrate what we have in common and accept our differences.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer
Creator God look with compassion on the whole human family; take away arrogance and hatred ; unite us in bonds of love and peace.
We pray for peacemakers throughout the world, may they bring hope out of despair, peace out of conflict and prosperity out of poverty.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer
Father God we pray for our families and friends and especially for our young people, that they may grow up knowing love and hope, valuing life and respecting others. We pray for those who are about move on to the next stage in their lives.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer
Merciful God we pray for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit and for those who care for them. We pray for the sick especially for those who like St Paul have been given "a thorn in the flesh".

We pray for any who are in special need of our prayers at this time, especially those known personally to us.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer
Heavenly Father, we pray for those whose hearts have been saddened by the death of someone close and dear to them, for members of our families who have died and whose anniversary we recall. Help us to experience the comfort of the Holy Spirit within us, and the fellowship of the church family around us until we are reunited once more in your heavenly kingdom

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer
Faithful God we pray for ourselves; as we go from our worship today to start the week ahead, we ask that in all we do we may walk more closely with you at our side safe in the

knowledge that your Fatherly love and care knows no bounds. Merciful Father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**

Let us end with the Lord's Prayer .

Throughout her history the Christian church has faced challenges

In England, in May 1648, laws were passed to deal with the problem of *abominable blasphemies and damnable heresies*. 'Denying the Trinity' or 'doubting that the books of the Minor Prophets in the Old Testament were the word of God' became *punishable by death, without benefit of clergy*. Spreading other 'heinous errors' such as '*man by nature hath free will*' or '*God may be worshipped in or by pictures or images*' was punishable by imprisonment. To prevent these and many other such scandalous ideas being spread, printing presses were only allowed in the City of London and the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, where the Company of Stationers could keep an eye on their output.

**CHURCH WARDENS AT STANTON
Vernon Clare 01642 592186
Colin Mason Tel: 01642 591667
CHURCH WARDENS AT HILTON
Barbara Sowerby 01642 591532
Angela Sayer 01642 594792
CHURCH WARDEN AT BROOKFIELD
Graham Wilson 01642 595597**