

**Parishes of Stainton with Hemlington,
Hilton and Brookfield
26th Sept –
17th Sunday after Trinity**

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT HOME

Thought for the day

Don't let your body lead you into sin and risk exchanging eternal life for eternal punishment Susan Sayer

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face;
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

A reading from the book of Numbers.

11.4–6, 10–16, 24–29

4 The rabble among the people had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, 'If only we had meat to eat!

5 We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic;

6 but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.'

10 Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased.

11 So Moses said to the LORD, 'Why have you treated your servant so badly?

Why have I not found favour in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me?

12 Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, "Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child," to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors?

13 Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, "Give us meat to eat!"

14 I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me.

15 If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once – if I have found favour in your sight – and do not let me see my misery.'

16 So the LORD said to Moses, 'Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.'

24 So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent.

25 Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

26 Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp.

27 And a young man ran and told Moses, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.'

28 And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, 'My lord Moses, stop them!'

29 But Moses said to him, 'Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people

were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!'

Psalm 19.7–14

R The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul.

7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes. R

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb. R

11 By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can tell how often he offends? Cleanse me from my secret faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offence. R

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. R

A reading from the letter of James. 5.13–20

13 Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise.

14 Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.

15 The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

16 Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be

healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

17 Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth.

18 Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

19 My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another,

20 you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. 9.38–50

After Jesus had finished teaching the disciples,

38 John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.'

39 But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me.

40 Whoever is not against us is for us.

41 For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink

because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

42 If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck

and you were thrown into the sea.

43 If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire.

45 And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.

47 And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out;

it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell,

48 where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

49 For everyone will be salted with fire.

50 Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it?

Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

PRAYERS

Lord our God,

On the way of goodness, if we stumble lift us up; On the way of holiness, if we stray bring us back; on the way of kindness, if we toughen soften our hearts; that we may draw others to you and your saving power; by our words and our example; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord, help us to treasure our freedom to worship, to live and speak openly and without fear; heal the resentment between people, and intervene in the world's conflicts. Help us to walk humbly with you at our side. When we come to the crossroads and have to choose which way to go lead us to the path of justice and righteousness whilst steering us away from the road that leads to selfishness and sin.

Mighty God we pray for those who you have called to the study and practice of medicine, healing and to the prevention of disease and pain. Strengthen them as they follow Jesus' example, that through their ministries the health of the community may be promoted and your creation glorified. We remember before you those who we know who need healing in their lives.....

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the love we share with our families and our friends. And we give thanks that despite our faults they love us still. We pray for them by name

Lead us into the coming week Lord. Help us to believe that you are close by us, keep us from making mistakes and help us never to disappoint you. When we face hard decisions or difficult work, when we enjoy ourselves and have fun with others may we know that you share these times with us. Amen

PLEASE PRAY FOR CHRISTIANS IN AFGHANISTAN

who are scared, waiting for the knock on their door.

*Pray for female believers who live with the fear of kidnapping, rape and forced marriage. As the Taliban begins to shrink women's rights nationwide, Christian girls and women are doubly vulnerable to persecution for their gender and faith..

*Pray for those Christians who are in hiding ; and for those believers who want to flee or who have been able to leave, that God will grant them safe passage as they become refugees in another land.

* There are no church buildings in Afghanistan and many Christians are cut off from underground networks of believers. They feel isolated and unsure whom to trust. Pray that the secret church there will be able to grow in unity and in numbers. Pray for Saul-to-Paul conversions of extremists and persecutors that they, like Paul, will see the power and love of Christ..

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